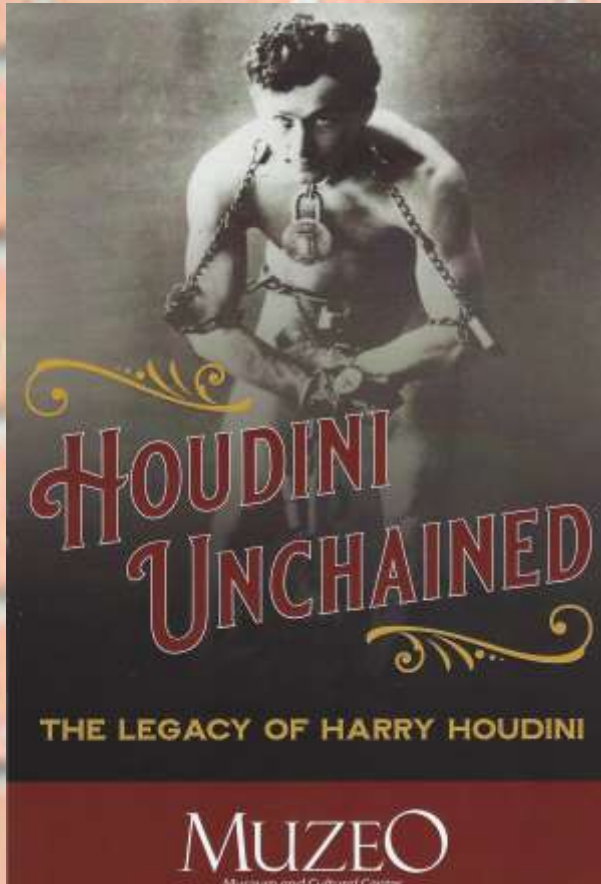


# THE CHAINLETTER

AN E-NEWSLETTER BY AND FOR THE  
ESCAPE COMMUNITY

December 2022  
Volume 13  
Issue 126



**Anaheim California  
through January 2023**

## This month's Chains...

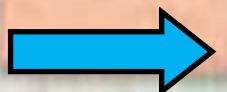
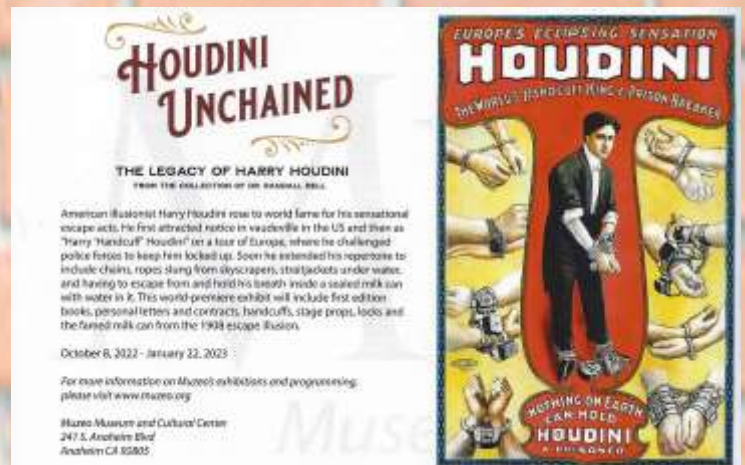
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## Houdini Unchained

### The Legacy of Harry Houdini!

It was an amazingly exciting October 8th when nine magical people of various backgrounds gathered at Muzeo. Muzeo is a small museum in Anaheim California that caters to different cultural exhibits. For the next few months the exhibit will feature accoutrements of the late Harry Houdini.

Houdini experts and blog publishers John Cox and Joe Notoro were there. Handcuff collector Joe Fox. Escape Artists Cliff Gerstman and Kerry Ross. Magic Castle magicians Mark Willoughby and Brian Verkuylen added to the group. Illusion builder John Gaughan and expert and publicist Jeff Abraham rounded out the group.







We walked around the fairly small museum looking at one exhibit after the other. What was truly amazing was how many lay people were stopping to listen to the discussion of some of the experts in our group. Your editor personally enjoyed the discussion as I too have much to learn.



After we left the museum, the

discussion spilled over to a nearby restaurant. It always amazes me how gregarious most of the people in the magic world get when surrounded by like minded people. It makes me miss the conventions we used to have so much more.

The exhibit will run through mid January. If you are near the Anaheim California area, come check it out!







**Tickets on sale now!**

**Remember, there are only 40 available...**

**Full Ticket**

<https://bit.ly/3UHUpyc>

**Day Ticket**

<https://bit.ly/3TmH0ul>

**Deposit**

<https://bit.ly/3TloZwk>




**How fast can  
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David De-Val



<http://www.daviddede-val.com/>



# Canadian Shims

Got some shims from a Canadian company called Sparrows (2 hours from my home) to try out for escape needs. They are nice and tiny allowing palming easily and the teeth on the hold really allow for a great grip. They also are sturdy which most shims are not. They have some other styles to try so will keep you updated.



Thanks Chris!



**This site is well worth the time to study if you want to learn about lock picking**  
[www.lockpickguide.com](http://www.lockpickguide.com)

# Begging Box!

**Your input is our output!**

This is the part of The Chainletter where the editor begs for you to give him some material to publish. No idea what to write?



Well, How about...

- ◆ Your first escape.
- ◆ How did you learn to escape?
- ◆ Your creative process.
- ◆ Your last escape.
- ◆ Who is your hero? Why?
- ◆ What makes a good escape.
- ◆ Your escape bio.
- ◆ An escape you saw on TV.
- ◆ An escape you saw live.
- ◆ Anything escape related.



**If you are interested in occult escapology, you want S. Rob!**  
<https://www.srob.co.uk/>

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# Helen Coghlan: 5 Time Fooler!

Last month, Helen Coghlan, daughter of Arthur Coghlan became the first person in history to fool Penn & Teller 5 times. She must have quite a collection of FU trophies at this point.

While this particular effect was not an escape, Helen still held her own and doing a

deceptively simple sold rod though a glass of milk trick, she managed to fool the highly experienced duo. We of TIES take out hats off to the amazing Helen Coghlan.



# Can Gabriella Lester Fool Penn & Teller



18 year old Gabriella Lester appeared on Penn & Teller "Fool Us" on Friday 18th. She performed an exciting upside down straitjacket escape that was an homage to Teller's own upside down work in which Penn reads the poem "Casey at the Bat." Gabriella had Penn reading flash cards and solving math equations while she struggled to escape from the clutches of the entangling entrapment device. Gabriella escaped like a trooper, even adding a surprise ending to the bit. I have a feeling she is going to grow up into one hell of a force to be reckoned with. Break a chain Gabriella!



Have the lads at  
Guinness turned down  
your world record?  
**Online World Records**  
can help...  
**Contact Fenyx Fyre**  
**info@fenyxfyre.ca**



# Straitjackets

Let's take a look at some of our escape artists in straightjackets





# Andy Robertson

Scottish escape artist and welder  
Modern Medieval Gibbet Cage





