

COMING SOON:

## 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY

28-30 APRIL 2017

Jeremy Brooker

The Convention is now just three months away and if you have not yet registered, the AGM will offer a perfect opportunity to do so before reduced prices end on 28 February.

We are justly proud of our past Conventions, and have not changed the basic outline of a winning formula. We will be returning to the historic Birmingham and Midland Institute in the centre of Birmingham, a vibrant city famous for its thriving art scene, shops and other attractions, with excellent national and international transport links. As always, you will find three days of great entertainment, the latest research and developments, and international perspectives on the magic lantern. There will be a Saturday night dinner in the opulent banqueting suite of the Grade II listed Birmingham Council House, an auction of lanterns, slides and related items, and a market where you are sure to find those vital bargains to complete your collection. No Convention would be complete without an exhibition of rare and historic magic lantern material, and we will also be producing a limited edition publication to treasure for years to come. This will be exclusive to delegates and will not be available commercially to the general public.



Sergi Buka

We have also introduced a number of new elements which will make the weekend even more attractive, with more live music than ever before. Among the highlights will be our very own Magic Lantern Cabaret, featuring the internationally renowned Spanish magician Sergi Buka, Dick Balzer, and a very special surprise entertainment devised by Martin Gilbert.

We also have a unique entertainment in the wonderful Crescent Theatre, open to the paying public but included as part of the Convention



Cloak slides



fee to delegates. This will feature both a biennial and a triple lantern, professional musicians, an actress and projections on people using the original slides once used by Peter Sellers' parents in the act they toured for many years in music halls around the country (see Issue 4). Also new for this year's Convention is our very own *Cabinet of Curiosities* with expert guides to take you through a secret chamber of marvels and wonders, and a changing programme of sideshows which will ensure there is never a dull moment. We are hoping that Tony Lidington 'The Raree Man' (see Issue 8) and his peepshow will pay a visit on the opening day.

The Tenth Convention marks a very special moment in the history of the Society which we would like you all to share. We have created a rich and varied programme to satisfy all tastes and hope that you will come along and perhaps bring family and friends to share what promises to be a truly unforgettable weekend. To encourage as many of you as possible to attend, we have substantially reduced the price to delegates. Coupled with the special discounted rates we have arranged at the Copthorne Hotel, I hope you will agree that this is remarkable value for money.

I look forward to welcoming you in person to our Birmingham Convention!

Jeremy Brooker

Jeremy Brooker  
Chairman, Magic Lantern Society



Richard Navarro

