



FISMTM

Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques
International Federation of Magic Societies

FISM Newsletter

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**To all Presidents of the FISM member societies
and Delegates in the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of the FISM**

Dear Delegate, dear Friend in Magic,

The Corona virus has now reached practically all continents of the world and it has its impact on all sectors of society. Among them cruise companies have come to a stand-still, theaters and restaurants have been closed and all corporate events, all shows have been canceled, all till further notice.

Even if various governments are providing financial help, even if a lot of economic sectors are receiving press coverage, there is a group of professionals that are receiving less attention: the so-called self employed you may belong to as a professional magician. Many of you are facing a sudden loss of income, whereas you have to continue to pay your general fees (mortgage, rent, taxes, insurance, etc.) Also, you have to live and take care of your family!

As International President of FISM I am not well versed in the local tax or subsidy systems in your home country, neither do I know what kind of financial assistance is being provided, if at all. Several governments have provided emergency financial assistance, but it is not always clear how and where to apply. So try to be active, try together with the fellow magicians in your country to organize yourselves in order to find out as soon as possible. Together you present a stronger case and – be aware – there are much more contenders dancing around this “honey pot” than that there is “honey available”.

Be not only active but also pro-active! By that I mean that you yourself can already take mitigating actions, for example contacting your bank about the possibilities to temporarily change the conditions of your relationships, contacting your landlord about the rent, contacting your tax inspector, checking your insurance policy and see if there is any coverage for income lost. In the legal world there often exists the possibility to appeal to a Material Adverse Change (“MAC”), in legalese called “an act of God”. Circumstances that change the legal relationship or cancel it because of severe circumstances that suddenly arise and could not reasonably be foreseen.

Besides the risk of this crisis is that it turns ourselves numb, reducing us to an attitude of “wait & see”, waiting for better times. That is of course completely human and therefore understandable, however, I realize that this is extremely difficult as the crisis is very distracting.

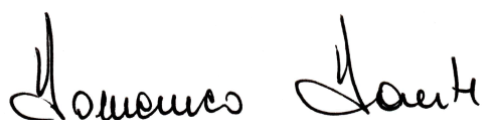
A wonderful act of solidarity from the magic community, the opposite of the “wait & see” attitude, is being given by the **Austrian Magic Circle (M.R.A.)** that has just started a fund to help full time professional magicians who are now facing severe financial problems. Thanks to the many donations they have got from magicians, **they have now already collected 7'000 Euro** and it is just the beginning. The M.R.A. will also help their members and all subscribers of the magazine ALADIN. **I congratulate them and thank them warmly for their initiative.**

Dear friends, just a few words of friendly advice. There exists no “magic” that can cure the current crisis, but we ourselves can take several measures to sail safely through this tempest. Join forces, exchange tips and ideas, be creative! In other terms, think outside the box! A quality that we magicians possess more than anyone else. Produce the DVD that you had in mind already a long time ago, prepare for your next lecture tour, teach magic tricks via internet to kids that are currently confined to their homes, etc. Use the extra free time the crisis is giving you to work on a new act, to get your administration up-to-date, to design new advertisement materials and/or to up-date your network of valuable contacts.

From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank those Continental Presidents (Asia: Satoru Yamamoto, Europe: John Pye, North America: Bradley Jacobs, Latin America: Hector Carrion) who are working very hard for the organization of the Continental Championships in spite of the huge difficulties created by the coronavirus and who are facing, with an enormous sense of responsibility and love for Magic, financial problems together with the organizers of these Championships.

My thoughts are with you all and let us hope for a soonest normalization of our private and professional lives.

With kind regards,



Domenico Dante
International President



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