

# PERFORMING IN A COVID WORLD

*A checklist of possible issues for magicians  
returning to live performance*

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## OVERVIEW

When we start back performing, the landscape will be different. There will be fewer gigs and more competition. Many corporate bookers will be looking for confidence building reassurance that potential performers will be taking infection control measures seriously - whether YOU believe in the importance of coronavirus control measures or not, there will be bookers who do, and they will be measuring you against other performers who have made it a priority.

This checklist is not exhaustive and does not represent any form of advice, legal, medical, whatever - it is a starting point to help performers address some of the possible issues that might be worth considering. The first time you think about this should NOT be when a potential booker asks you about it.

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## BEFORE THE GIG

- If you book a gig but are instructed to isolate due to testing positive / interacting with a positive testee, what arrangements are made to cover that gig?
- How is your public liability insurance affected by the pandemic? What advice is your insurance provider giving and to what extent are your interactions covered?
- Public transport may be restrictive, and there may be additional traffic or restrictions on travel due to lightning lockdowns: How will you get to the gig?

- Will bookers require that you perform in PPE / masked, and CAN you?
  - Do you have a reliable source for quality PPE?
  - What requirements do you have of the venue in terms of safety?
  - How are the additional necessities of maintaining PPE etc going to affect your pricing?
  - What changes do you need to make to your booking contract / terms and conditions of performance?
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## AT THE GIG

- How will you deal with punters who aren't taking the pandemic seriously?
  - When you approach a group there may be an extra barrier to overcome - how will your approach change?
  - What is your strongest non-contact opener?
  - What effects that you already perform do NOT require the audience to touch anything?
  - What effects that you already perform do not require anything to happen on the table?
  - How can you change routines that currently happen in the hands to happen at a distance?
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## CLOSING A PERFORMANCE

- How will you disinfect your hands or props between performances?
- Is it possible to create a magical moment using the COVID processes - card reveal on hand gel bottle for example. Can this integrate with an existing finale / closer?
- How will you hand out your business cards in a clean and safe way?
- Can you use a non-contact way to get your details out? Get email / get them on a list?
- If you offer a Zoom show, how can you convert / upsell people in live

performances?

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## AFTER THE PERFORMANCE

- What is your legal obligation to the booker if you test positive after an event?
  - How will you sanitise / replace your props between events?
  - How will you be paid? Will you still accept cash payments?
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Again, this checklist is not intended to be a comprehensive list of possible issues, nor is it intended to be alarmist or overly concerned. The issues raised are merely intended to begin a conversation about how we as artists can return to performances safely as possible.