If you follow my thinking its probably no surprise to hear that my Christmas Gift to you is another way that you can perform a Drawing Duplication. This does have other uses too, but we'll talk about those at the end. Since April of this year, this and a handful of variations have kept my attention and seen a lot of flight time. I think you will like this as much as I do.

I should mention that what I'm sharing here is the initial phase of a slightly more complex and layered sequence that I teach as part of my Drawing Duplication Masterclass *Echo*, which came out last month with The 1914. So if you do like this and want to learn how much further I expand upon it, you can always search that out.

This is fairly impromptu, super flexible and very easy. You need a business card, scrap of paper or if you're like me and love to use index cards - those work perfectly. Plus something to write with (of course).

The appeal this has for me is primarily the feeling it creates. Which is that you and your friend are building towards something interesting together. I think that the physical actions of tearing and dropping are visually compelling, obviously random and feel different. I like that about this.

I'll write it up here in a more skeletal way, so that you understand it quickly and can add whatever presentation you prefer. I usually finish by either verbally revealing their thought or by drawing it somewhere on something.

What Happens:

You might be in a coffeeshop or bar with some friends who ask if you can show them something. You go to grab a loyalty card and pen from the bar or waitress. You return with both in hand and add some vertical lines and one horizontal line to the card, creating 8 rough squares of negative space. You then ask the group to nominate some simple ideas, specifically images. Something they could draw in 5-10 seconds. As they are called you draw them openly, one per section. By the end of this, you have something that resembles this in layout though the images will differ.

You tear it in half and hand half to a friend. And keep half for yourself. You both tear out each image and throw them into a messy pile in the centre of the table. Some face up, some face down.

You show your friend what they should do first before turning away completely. They take the torn pieces and shake them in their hands and let them flutter to the table. Any that land face down are eliminated and are pushed off to one side. This is repeated by them till only one is left.
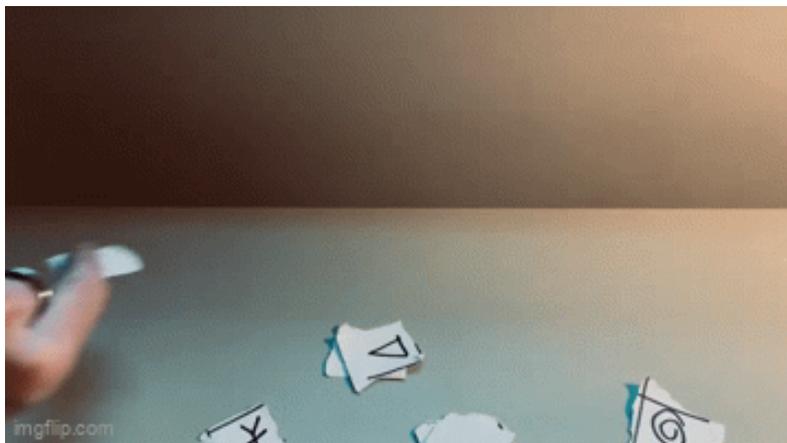
You ask them to look at, then think about that image. Leaving it where it is, they are asked to place all the face down pieces on top of their random image. Then place their hand on top of everything. Only then you turn around.

You now know exactly which image they are focussed upon and can use that information accordingly.

How?

This is possible because of a few simple and very special things. Firstly Martello Truzzis *Heads Up* effect from Bacom Jones *Magick* Magazine. This was a trick I always liked and one that I was reminded of by a friend when I was working on a trick of my own called *Flutter* back in 2011. Also Michael Weber & Tim Trono shared an amazing prop and approach along those lines in *Real Secrets:* Issue One. Which was also included within *Ten*, an incredible collection of Poker Deals and routines from Michael. All of the above have strong connections with what is at play here and alongside my own trick *Flutter* are undoubtably what lead me to this discovery.

Whats funny is that my trick (*Flutter)* that I really grew to love (and still do) needs an impression pad for optimum performance. Though I have always wanted a non pad version of that trick, it has taken me many years to connect the dots in this specific way and arrive here. Back in April whilst working on updating *Flutter* and trying to remove the use of a pad - I realised that I could use the core method with simple images and one torn index card, it felt like a big realisation. It has now become one of those things that I do as much as possible because I enjoy it so much. Through performance and talks with friends I've been able to develop many variations of this more general idea I'm sharing here. On the *Echo* project I share a whole three phase building sequence that only needs one index card. This is the first phase of that sequence. Though by itself it is really strong, different and in my opinion, special.

Start with a simple image like a Sun or House drawn in a known location on the back of the card. If you are borrowing the card from wherever you are, simply add this to the card before you head back to the table you'll be performing this at. Openly draw the lines to divide the grid and be sure to know where the force image is secretly located underneath as you look at the card blank side up. Obviously, the existence of the pre drawn image is a secret. You can cover it with your thumb easily.

Now ask for suggested images and draw them in random squares for all to see. If you force a House, Sun, Flower etc you will always get it named at some point. When your force image is named, draw it in the same location it already exists on the other side of the card. I let them suggest 4 images and if my force hasn't come up by then, I nominate a couple (one being the house or whatever force I am using) and then let them decide on the final two images. That way you always get where you need to. Most of the time they name all the images used and when they do this becomes even stronger.

I like to tear the card so I keep the dirty half and give out the clean half. Now we both tear but I cover the backside image with my thumb again, allowing for a subtle display of the back of the paper/card. You have now made one double sided force piece (House or anything) that cannot land face down and therefore cannot be eliminated.

Think about how this looks from their perspective… everything is open. They choose the images. They help tear them, mix them and with you facing away and via a truly random process they arrive at one. All from one piece of card or paper.

I make a point to tell me when they get down to one remaining image and to leave it where it lands, put all the other face down pieces on top and then cover everything with their hand.

Then, reveal accordingly.

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What might be a surprise is that this is also a simple and very practical way to force anything.

Maybe a gift, a destination, a person or anything you like. You don't always have to start with a blank card, it can be pre written, even printed.

Finally, you don't have to do this with a blank piece of card or paper, it works great with a postcard, business card or coffeeshop loyalty card. Just be sure the space where you draw the force image (or thing) on the reverse looks the same on both sides. The rest of the card/paper does not have to.

This can be pushed much further in really logical and interesting ways and I explore some of that in _Echo._ Some of the other ways I'll probably keep to myself forever.

I hope you try it.

Happy Holidays.

*Good things that I spend a lot of time, effort and money to produce, that I really use and I am proud of can be found here: https://c-r-products.yolasite.com/Store.php