



MEMBER NEWS

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A NEW VERY OLD IDEA WHAT IS A CABARET?

AS A WRITER I LOVE WIKIPEDIA. HERE'S THEIR ANSWER:

Cabaret is a form of theatrical entertainment featuring music, song, dance, recitation, or drama. It is mainly distinguished by the performance venue, which might be a pub, a restaurant or a nightclub with a stage for performances. The audience, often dining or drinking, does not typically dance but usually sits at tables. Performances are usually introduced by a master of ceremonies or MC. The entertainment, as done by an ensemble of actors and according to its European origins, is often (but not always) oriented towards adult audiences and of a clearly underground nature.

Wikipedia offers fascinating history as it once existed. Our Montecito cabaret concept is based on the cabaret entertainment that blossomed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in Europe. Singers, actors and variety acts were known to perform in theatre and concert halls and then hang out with their friends and fellow cast members at a popular eating and drinking establishment after their shows.

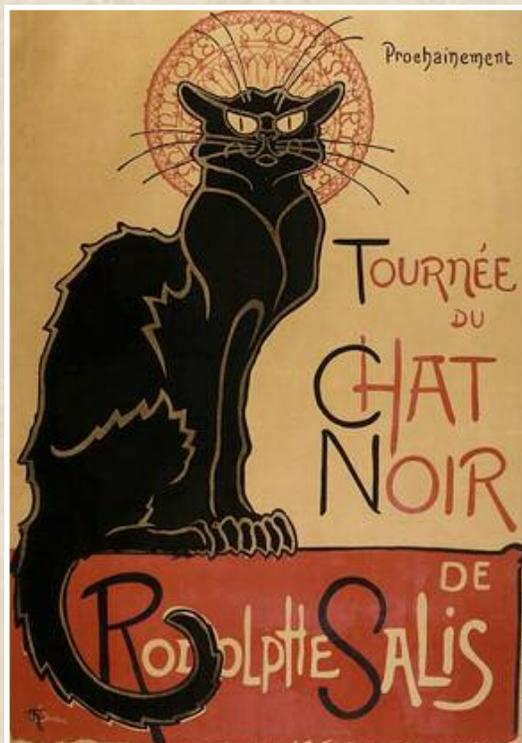
An evening at the Magic Castle Cabaret will feature a close-up magician of the Academy of Magical Arts from the Magic Castle in Hollywood and a variety entertainer such as a singer, ventriloquist, comedian, juggler, mime, tap dancer and

stage magician as you might have found in the cabaret floor shows. There will always be a personable Master of Ceremonies to make sure the party atmosphere prevails throughout the evening.

Like the cabarets of the past the main entertainment may come from the guests themselves.

My personal memories go back to my Mayfair Music Hall in Santa Monica when legends like Cary Grant, Jimmy Cagney and Ray Bolger made impromptu appearances just for the fun of it.

This is your private club. Only members in good standing receive this newsletter. Special events and show schedules will be announced in future monthly newsletters.



1896 advertisement for the first French Cabaret Show in Paris, Le Chat Noir.

THE GRAND EXTRAVAGANZA STAGE

OUR STAGE IS DESIGNED FOR OUR EXTRAVAGANZAS

Our stage, in the grand lounge, was designed to give the impression of a typical lavish concert stage that might have been found in a European opera house. Honestly it's very tiny. However it will fill the need for the shows like we presented at the Mayfair Music Hall and the Variety Arts Theater



that required nothing more than a piano, a spotlight, and enough space for four performers to display their talents. In addition to variety acts we will present Mini-revues – we call them “Stool Shows” because

usually it was for very talented performers on four barstools.

We had a lot of fun doing the shows and that's what we intend to do from time-to-time for special shows at the Magic Castle Cabaret and that, my dear friends, is why we have such a small stage. You will

not see the Rockettes or a symphony orchestra but you will see most talented people from Hollywood having a really great time.

INVISIBLE IRMA STAYS IN HOLLYWOOD!

HER SISTER ISABELLE-INVISIBLE IZZY-WILL PLAY COCKTAIL PIANO NIGHTLY
UNLIKE IRMA, IZZY DOES NOT PLAY REQUESTS.

One of our very dearest friends lived next door to us when we had our home on Edgecliff Drive in Montecito. Linda Schimberg and her late husband Henry were remodeling their beautiful home, that once was the Montecito Beach club back in the 20s and 30s. It was a very beautiful home but needed remodeling. At one point their architect decided to install all new doors in this beautiful home. One day I was outside of our house and all those brand-new hand-carved doors were sitting in the driveway next to our storage garage. I asked Linda what the story was and she told me that she didn't like the doors and asked if I wanted them. I said of course and asked her what she wanted for them? She said they're yours, I'd love to see them have a home in your Magic Castle.

Those hand hewn walnut doors are the paneling you'll see when visiting the Peller Theatre at the Hollywood Magic Castle. I had a few doors left over that are now the facade of the new bar at the Magic Castle Cabaret in Montecito courtesy of Linda Schimberg. Linda also found out that we were going to have a little concert stage and donated a Yamaha Grand piano. Since our club is devoted not only to Close up magic and Variety but also to musical acts and to our members like Richard M. Sherman, Ian Whitcomb, and others who love to join in the spirit of cabaret evenings, the Yamaha Grand piano was perfect.

Our special thanks to the generosity of Angel Member Linda Schimberg.

IF CASTLE WALLS COULD TALK

As you enter our new club you will find yourself in a beautiful hallway. One side of the walkway is what members of the Magic Castle Hollywood may recognize as the ornate pressed tin decorating the wall across from the Palace Bar in the Hollywood Magic Castle. It's interesting that our tin wall was once part of the upper ceiling of a saloon in San Pedro, California. It was really a great old-time waterfront saloon dating back to the early 20s, maybe even before that. They were tearing it down and we were able to salvage the tin at the same time we were building the lounge of the Palace of Mystery theatre at the Magic Castle Hollywood in 1976.



FRIENDLY FEELING FUN FURNITURE FROM FRANSEN

In today's world of computers, radio and television we wanted to create the atmosphere of the wonderful European cabaret from a bygone era. When you come to the Magic Castle Cabaret you will find yourself seated on the antique furniture that might have come from a castle in Spain or a local thrift store. Whatever the source, every chair and table will be a little different and feel like it is from another world.

One of our member, Dr. Paulette Fransen, was about to sell her beautiful home in Moorpark California. The home was filled with museum quality furniture. She hadn't decided what she would do with these treasures when an idea came to her, where she would still be able to enjoy the furniture as well as others. Her furniture could find a new home at the Magic Castle Cabaret. In addition to Paulette's generous gift of furniture she also donated beautiful art glass, fantastic chandeliers, lighting fixtures and all sorts of treasures.

Our special thanks to the generosity of Angel Member Dr. Paulette Fransen.



HAPPY EASTER: WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Lyn Proctor Kathryn Dahlman
Angelo Mozilo Marvyn Roy
Joe Fazio

We will be working the month of April to complete the finishing touches; carpeting, lighting, draperies and air conditioning, so we can start our activities in May.