



12-12-2014 - New age illusionist Oake headlines December 12th BOMA Holiday Luncheon

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In the season of giving, BOMA/NY always likes to give back to its members at the Annual Holiday Luncheon. This year, the program features the installation of BOMA/NY's officers and directors, and a continuation of the association's five-decade tradition of conferring the Civic Betterment Award, which honors those whose work has provided solutions that make New York a better place in which to live and work.

Civic Betterment nominees are: Bella Abzug Leadership Institute, Bill Dacunto, Chashama, Covenant House New York, DLandStudio, Dress for Success, Encore Community Services, Flatiron 23rd Street Partnership, Joseph Kelleher, New York City Fire Museum, Ronald Zeccardi, The Children's Aid Society and The Interchurch Center.

The program also gives back from the world of entertainment—a performance by a major new name in the world of magic—illusionist Darcy Oake, who held 200 million viewers mesmerized during the 2014 Britain's Got Talent finals.

Alone on a murky stage, Oake opened his heart-stopping illusion with his voice musing on the mind-blowing danger he faced...just to do what he loved. Then, the clock began ticking. Strapped upside down in a straight jacket and suspended below a bear trap flaming with fire, he had only 60 seconds to escape. His nervous breathing and audible struggles held the audience silent for 58 seconds—then he crashed to the ground. Exhausted, with only 2 seconds to spare between fame and the gruesome death he had devised himself, the bear trap closed harmlessly over the air above him. A global star was born.

A performance artist whose mystical style interprets nail-biting illusions with a new age edge, Oake has been pouring himself into magic since the age of eight, when his father innocently entertained him with a card trick. It sparked a fire within Oake, who became an international magic champion by the age of 16, and today, only in his 20's, tours world-wide. His illusions are often defined as defying logic and he is praised for defining a new era of an age-old art form. To that art, he has added his exhilarating visuals, his good looks and his signature charm, while proudly carrying on the tradition of classical illusionists including his fellow Canadian, Doug Henning.

The luncheon runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 12 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel; and since it is one of BOMA/NY's popular events, please register early at <http://www.cvent.com/events/boma-new-york-2014-holiday-luncheon/invitation-2a4cc63575e742e09992de96327ae741.aspx>

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