

Hawley Gang Show 1998

	No	Item Title	Stage	Cast
		Hocus-Pocus		

Number of Cast	JS	JG	S	G	Tot	Time	Chorus	Verse	Sketch	Total
	1		2							

STAGE	
LOFT	
HANDPROPS	A sack, a large cloth suspended on a pole
MAKE UP	
LIGHTING	
SFX	
AUDIO	
VIDEO	
WARDROBE	Appropriate costume for Doodit and the Assistant

THEME: - A magic act that, of course, goes wrong.

NOTES: - This is an act that builds up to a finale. It really needs to be performed in front of stage curtains. Just before the cloth is dropped after the second Abracadabra the victim and the sack are pulled through the closed stage curtains and out of sight of the audience. Words and phrases underlined can be changed to suit the location, subject or audience.

Assistant: - "Ladies and Gentlepersons!" Tonight I have the pleasure to introduce a feast of eastern magic and illusion, please welcome my master the great magician Doodit.

Doodit: - "Good evening everyone. *(Pause)* Hello lowly assistant."

Assistant: - "Howdy Doodit"

Doodit: - "Yes, son of camels, they often say *that* after my act."

Assistant: - "So what have you for us tonight?"

Doodit: - "Tonight I am going to present some astounding feats of prestidigitation, sorcery and mystic arts. However I must tell you that this is only our first week as a magic act so please bear with us if things don't always go to plan."

Assistant: - "You see last week we were a song and dance act, Musthafa Phagg and Musthafa Drynk." But then we found out I couldn't sing and he couldn't dance."

Doodit: - "So we swopped roles only to find out I couldn't sing and he couldn't dance!"

Assistant: - "Well it was a better act than our tap dancing."

Doodit: - "That would have worked if you hadn't kept falling in the sink." "But to work mes amis."

Assistant: - "Tonight we are going to turn one of the audience into something completely different." We will attempt to change completely the appearance of our subject without the use of wires or smoke and mirrors.

Doodit: - "Yes tonight we will attempt an illusion not performed since it went horribly wrong that fateful night at the Streatham Lucarno."

Assistant: - "In fact this trick is so unpredictable that it has never been attempted by any of the big names of stage or television." Paul Daniels, David Copperfield . . . "

OffStage: - "Matthew Corbett and Sooty."

Doodit: - "Shut up, stupid *boy* "

Assistant: - "So for this act we will require just one volunteer and complete silence in the auditorium."

OffStage: - "And maybe a doctor!"

Assistant: - "Just one more remark from you and "

Doodit: - "Yes tonight we will astound you with our incredible skill."

OffStage: - "Incredible stupidity more like it."

Assistant: - "Right, that's it, get that boy out here"

Doodit: - "Tonight, we will use you as our victim, I mean subject."

(Doodit makes the subject step into the sack and then pulls it up over his head.)

Assistant: - "And whilst we are getting the props ready I want to ask you a history question which I'm sure you've covered at school" "Is there anybody in the audience who knows where the great General Napoleon kept his armies?"

(If no-one answers then)

Assistant: - "Why, up his sleeve." "What a shower we've got in tonight."

(If some-one does call this answer out then)

Assistant: - "No silly person, in the barracks in Paris." "What a shower we've got in tonight."

Doodit: - "So that's why all those umbrellas were in the foyer."

Assistant: - "Right now ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls we want you to help us with this trick. We will make this cub disappear leaving just the

sack where he stood. On the count of three we want you all to shout out the magic words."

(Between them they raise the cloth on the pole so that the boy in the sack is hidden behind it)

Doodit: - "Hold on, hold on." "You are the lowly assistant, I am the great magician." "I do the magic words."

Assistant: - "But I am the senior lowly assistant, I should do something."

Doodit: - "Well, what is the magic word then?"

Assistant: - *(Thinking)* "It's, 'erm !!"

Doodit: - "Exactly." "You will assist I will magic. As everyone knows the magic word is Abracadabra."

Assistant: - "Ah of course, I'd forgotten that. So on the count of three we will all shout out the magic word Abracadabra."

Doodit: - "And to make it interesting we will count in French." "Lowly assisting person start the show."

Assistant: - "Ein, zwei."

Doodit: - "Hold it, hold it, I said French."

Assistant: - "A thousand apologies." Uno, duo."

Doodit: - "Stop, stop, stop." "That was Italian." "This is your last chance, in French or else . . ."

Assistant: - "Un, deux, trois, Abracadabra."

(Doodit taps the pole three times with his wand and the cloth is dropped to reveal the sack still in place.)

Assistant: - "Pathetic. The Beavers and Rainbows can shout louder than that." "Mrs Jones did you actually shout?" "I know you can do better than that, I've heard you call the kids in for their tea." "One more time."

All: - "Abracadabra"

(Doodit taps the pole three times with his wand and the cloth is dropped to reveal nothing on the stage at all. The sack and the boy have been pulled back through the curtain.)

Doodit: - "Quick get off, it's gone wrong again, the whole lot's disappeared."

Assistant: - "Don't worry ladies and gentlemen, a slight technical hitch, I assure you."

Doodit: - "Slight technical hitch?" "More like a giant cock-up."

Assistant: - "Bear with us ladies and gentlemen and we'll get back to you." "If the boy's mum would like to meet us around the back I'm sure we can come to some financial arrangement." "Go, go, go...."

(Doodit and his Assistant exit stage left/right with speed)

The sketch can be extended by making "the sack" appear at various intervals during the show. Hopping across the stage, rolling across the stage, being lifted across the stage by the stagehands. The finale can come when Doodit and the Assistant finally reveal what is inside the sack. We have put in a "frog" at the start of the act and pulled out a "Prince" or put in a Cub/Scout and pulled out a Brownie/Guide or put in a Cub and ended up with a Venture etc, etc.

END