

## The Jason Bishop Show



**QolorFLEX™**

All photos provided by Jason Bishop



Jason Bishop is an American illusionist and magician, and performs one of the largest touring magic and illusion shows in the United States. City Theatrical was given the opportunity to interview [Jason Bishop](#), while he was performing at The New Victory Theater in NYC. Jason told us about his experience incorporating our [QolorFLEX™ LED Tape](#) and [B4 Dimmer](#) into one of his illusions. We also got to speak with [Main Light Industries](#) John DiEleuterio, the dealer who worked with Jason in acquiring the LED tape.

### CTI : How was working with City Theatrical in acquiring [QolorFLEX™ LED Tape](#)?

**John:** City Theatrical is the best! Jason contacted me with his needs; I sent the information to your team and within minutes they had a quote for me. [City Theatrical](#) broke everything down and even included a few different data options. The team is very knowledgeable, which helps out a great deal. Along the way there were a few modifications, which [City Theatrical](#) was able to handle, again within minutes. I cannot stress enough how much of a pleasure it is to work with City Theatrical Team.

### CTI: Can you please tell me about the trick that you needed the LED tape on? What did you want to accomplish?

**Jason:** The illusion was a teleportation of my assistant from one upright chamber to another instantly. This was a totally new illusion using a very cutting edge magic technique designed by famed magic designer Jim Steinmeyer (Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast, David Copperfield etc) and the illusion was fabricated by perhaps the best illusion fabricator in the world, Willie Kennedy Enterprises.

(continued) The illusion did have a bit of a lineage from a very old illusion called "television" actually. That illusion would use just a light bulb in each cabinet to show the assistant had traveled instantly from one cabinet to the next. When Jim and Willie and I discussed the design for this new illusion we agreed that LEDs would make the piece stand out, have greater versatility and make it feel current.. today.

We wanted to have precise control of the lighting. Whether through intensity, color changes, or strobing. Also, each cabinet needed to be individually controlled but the light source needed to be luminous enough to be the only onstage lighting within the cabinets and capable of illuminating the performer who would be inside of the cabinet.



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**CTI: Was the tape and dimmer easy to use and test?**

**Jason:** I did find the tape easy to use and to test. The fabricator was not proficient in DMX so I wired the power, DMX and LED's and sent them from PA to CA for him to install in the illusion. But I put them in one of the B4's preset modes so that he could just plug in the power and be able to make sure the cabinets were lighting up correctly. Once he shipped the completed piece back to me I returned the units to DMX mode and easily programed them into the routine on our ETC Ion. The self adhesive backing stuck to our illusion's aluminum surfaces well but the builder also hot glued them in place in several spots to insure there would be limited movement due to abuse of props and cases on the road. The tape had no performance issue with the hot glue.

**CTI: What was your overall experience working with QolorFLEX LED Tape?**

**Jason:** We liked the tape a lot. The tape turned corners well. In making tight corners where you might be concerned you'd damage the tape and cause down line issues the tape proved to be robust enough to not cause performance issues. It was very easy to wire and we found the directions simple to follow. I'm actually not super proficient in matters dealing with electricity and wiring. So I took the wiring very slowly to make certain I was doing everything correctly and wouldn't damage anything. Even at my slow pace I had the tape up and running on DMX in a very short amount of time. The DMX programing proved very easy as even with just 4 channels there are nearly unlimited combinations of intensity and color that we could utilize to routine the illusion. Also the flexibility and thinness of the tape proved useful because the area we had available to install the tape for the illusion was very small/tight. The dimmer and power were also small enough to conceal pretty easily. It's not magic if the audience sees chunky power and dimmer boxes hanging off of the illusion.

**CTI: Can you tell me about the show and what people can suspect from the show?**

**Jason:** Our show is a very modern magic show. I make a goldfish come out of an iPod touch. I interact with a Plasma screen, making smoke and objects come from it and go into it. We use a GoPro focused on my hands to broadcast sleight of hand magic onto large screens. I interact with the audience. It's really a dynamic magic show. From sleight of hand to huge illusions, levitations and vanishes or appearances, every type of magic is represented.

**CTI: Do you use lighting in most of your illusions?**

**Jason:** This is the only illusion that utilizes lighting as an integrated element to the illusion itself. I'd say that's pretty rare in magic. Of course we use a range of conventional and intelligent fixtures for the show, for washes, specials, and punch etc but the teleportation is the only one that utilizes lighting internally and to such a precise and necessary degree. I honestly believe our new illusion (we call it Speed of Light) is a standout in magic. That's in no small part to your LED tape. It helped bring this illusion to today's entertainment standards and was paramount in helping us achieve the vision of how this illusion would look, act and feel. I would love to use your LED tape in another illusion sometime.



Photo provided by Jason Bishop



**Jason Bishop Biography**

Jason Bishop is an international award-winning illusionist who was the youngest person to win the Magician's Alliance of Eastern States Stage Award and one of the youngest people to compete in the Society of American Magicians World-Class competition. Bishop's interest in magic ran throughout his youth, truly taking shape in his mid-teens. In college Jason studied theatre and then went on the road performing at resorts, amusement parks and later colleges.

The Jason Bishop Show now tours the most dynamic illusion and magic show in the US. The show currently features exclusive large illusions, award winning sleight of hand and "close-up" magic that is captured live and projected onto large screens for the audience to have a clear view of every detail. Bishop is currently the only illusionist in the U.S. to tour with the rare Double Levitation, Plasma illusion and Op-Art. His performance abilities have led him from California to Maine and Florida to New York, as well as every state in-between and over 20 countries and 4 continents.

Jason has entertained celebrities like Chris Penn, Jennifer Aniston and Bam Margera, who after seeing a performance said, "Jason Bishop is the best magician I've ever seen." Bishop's combination of modern costuming, music, fast paced illusions, sleight of hand and audience participation has landed him in notable venues, including Celebrity Cruise lines, Cabaret Du Monde in Paris France and LiveNation's Bamboozle Festival. More recently Jason been featured in various Performing Arts Centers and theaters throughout the United States. You can see why he's called America's Hottest Illusionist.