

One of the premium magicians' troupe from India, GILI GILI MAGIC has dedicated 2 generations and a combined experience of over 80 years to the art of Magic.

Prof. Shankar & Shankar Junior, the father-son duo have traveled widely across 12 countries (including USA, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, England, Ireland, Bahrain, UAE and Oman, Kuwait, Sri Lanka and Mauritius) with their magic ranging from Close-up to Grand Illusions.

The only magicians troupe from India to have represented the country in 5 International Magicians Conventions held abroad and have themselves organised 3 International Convention in their hometown, Udupi.

Shankars' World of Magic has used magic not only for entertaining packed audience with dazzling illusions, but also to create awareness among the people about national integration, spirituality, blind beliefs and to publicise various service / schemes of the Government and private sector.

Some of the unique magic feats of the Shankars include -

- Catching a bullet with the bare hand – 1966
- Politician disappears in mid air -1994
- Vanishing of live elephant in the open ground-1996
- Recreation of the legendry Indian Rope Trick – 1997
- Kargil Magic- 2000
- Death Sword escape-2000
- Vanishing of India Gate – 2001
- Catching of 2 Bullets (with the hand & teeth) - 2002
- Under Water Escape – 2002
- Enlightenment Through Entertainment (Spiritual Magic) – 2003

Shankars' World of Magic has been recognized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). The North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC) arranged their magic shows several times for special occasions all around North India.

The Shankars are known for their “Magic with an Intimate Touch”

Gili Gili Magic is a “Custom Made Show”, wherein a show is tailored as per the needs and expectations of the organiser.

It provides a variety of choice ranging from –

- Single person to 15 member troupe
- 12 minutes to 120 minutes show
- Close-up Magic to Stage Illusions
- Bare Handed Magic to A Truck Load of Equipment
- . . . and so on.

PROF SHANKAR (born on May 5,1951)

He did his graduation in Psychology from the University of Mysore. He gave his first public performance in 1965 at the age of 14.

He is a 'self taught magician' and the first person to start magic in his district of Dakshina Kannada.

He performed the catching of hot bullet fired by a gun in 1966 by which he became popular as The Bullet Proof Magician.

He is the promoter of magic & magicians, trains youngsters to encourage self-employment and also designs various kinds of magic to suit the occasion.

He performs magic shows for patients in the hospitals to help them recover faster. Among such performances are the ones at the Bronx Lebanon Psychic Hospital - NY USA, Gangaram Hospital - New Delhi, Unity Health Complex - Mangalore, Kasturba Hospital - Manipal and hospitals in the northern part of Karnataka. He also performs magic in old age homes and for the enhancement of education in schools and colleges.

In 1995, to create awareness against drugs and AIDS, he drove motor bike from Mangalore to Karwar blind folded.

In the year 2010, he joined hands with the SKDRDP and provided his service as a resource person in the Anti-Alcoholism camps. He presents special magic effects on the ill-effects of alcohol consumption.

He joined the Syndicate Bank and worked (1974 - 2001) as an INDUSTRIAL MAGICIAN - a designation that is considered as the first in the world and Syndicate Bank is the first bank in India to employ a magician to publicise its schemes through magic. He opted Voluntary retirement from the service on May 31 2001.

He is the recipient of The Life Time Achievement Award from Syndicate Bank and The National Award - Ugadi Puraskar 2000 from the Madras Telugu Academy.

Prof. Shankar is the recipient of "The Order of Merlin" (2000) from the International Brotherhood of Magicians (USA) for his service in the field of Magic.

Prof Shankar married Lakshmi in the year 1976 and is blessed with two children, son - Tejaswi (Shankar Junior) and daughter - Yashaswini.

SHANKAR JUNIOR

He developed interest in magic at the early age of 2 ½ years & gave his first solo performance in 1982 at the age of 4 at Manipal, Karnataka.

He was conferred the title "The Youngest Magician of the World" in the Society of Americans Magicians' Convention at Houston (1982). His name was also suggested to the Guinness Book of World Records in the category 'Achievements in the Young Age' by Magician Doug Henning, USA. At the tender age of 4, he performed 25 shows in USA including the one at Madison Avenue, New York for a gathering of over 50,000 people.

He won the first place in all the contests he took part in India since 1986 in both close up and stage categories.

Shankar Junior won the Special Award of the Jury for the best performance of close up magic in the 18th Convention of the Federation of International Society of Magicians' held in Switzerland (1991). He is the first Indian to take part in an international magicians' competition and to win an award competing with seniors.

The magic of Shankar Jr was telecast by leaders in electronic media like BBC London, Thames Television London, NHK TV Japan, Hans Klok Production Germany, Edenac Productions France, Shakti TV Sri Lanka, MBC(Mauritius), Doordarshan - Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai and Madras, Udaya TV, E TV, Kasturi and numerous radio channels.

Shankar Jr is also the first Indian magician to have performed and delivered a lecture on Indian Magic at Leewarden, Netherlands (1996).

Shankar Junior and his sister Yashaswini are the first Indians to perform in the youth show on the 70th Annual Convention of International Brotherhood of Magicians at Los Angeles, USA (1998).

He performed more than 15 shows in Germany (1999) which included special performances on the preaching from the Bible.

He was selected to represent India at the Federation of International Societies of Magicians Convention held at The Hague (2003).

Shankar Junior is the recipient of The National Award - Ugadi Puraskar from the Madras Telugu Academy (1991) and was one among the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of India Awardees (2002).

He married Maithili in the year 2004 and is blessed with a son – Varchasvi (30 Oct 2007).