

# THE BOTK

ISSUE

И БОТКИ СЫТЫ, И ОБЦЫ ЦЕЛЫ.

Manuela  
Ekaterina  
Kaitlyn  
Deguzman  
Alix  
Justine Ko  
Grewdahl

ALL GIRLS ISSUE



Written by Biz, Alix Beclé, Ekaterina, Justine Ko, Kaytlin Chen,  
Julia Grewdahl, Anna Deguzman and Manuela Rud.  
Edited by Biz  
Cover featuring Anna Deguzman  
Pagination and Design by Biz  
Released by BizandFriends  
2018



Hey guys! We see each other in yet another release of the Beginning of the World Magazine. This one took especially longer because I wanted to take my time.

So, what's been happening the past month, eh? Did you know, according to a recent study of the "Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care", 259 people have died taking selfies since 2011? On October 3rd this month Romanian Parliament tried banning same sex marriage but failed with a 20.4% of votes. On Oct 12 Banksy's work "Girl With Balloon" automatically shreds moments after being sold for 1 million pounds in London, re-named "Love is in the Bin". On Oct 17 Canada legalized the sale of recreational cannabis, the second country after Uruguay. On Oct 23 the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, the Hong Kong Macau Zhuhai bridge at 55km, was opened by Chinese President Xi Jinping. On Oct 25th the first work of art produced by artificial intelligence "Edmond de Belamy" and conceived by Obvious sells for \$432,500 at Christie's in New York.

Pretty fascinating, right? The world moves on with or without us. That's why I keep making dem projects boys! I would really love to see part of the cardistry community team up and create art, short movies... you know, something more than just performance clips (which are great, but...c'mon, is that all?). Shoutout to Cardistry Touch for always pushing it and coming up with DOPE apps, moving pictures and even publishing books!

Well, that was my time. Imma pass it over to the girl now. Hope you guys enjoy this issue of BOTW and may you have a wonderful rest of the month, you pretty flackos.

Biz loves you.





# ANNA DEGLUZMAN

I remember when I started doing cardistry I used to be so embarrassed because I didn't see any girls doing it, so I thought I would be made fun of for doing this nerdy thing. Over time I owned it, and people thought it was cool. No one actually thought it was lame or said that to me, it was all in my head.

Eventually I started making videos of myself online doing cardistry videos. I just had an interest in videos and card and put them together. These videos garnered the attention of more and more people. It helped me find a community by watching other's videos. We would Skype and chat all the time. I would come home from school and take to a bunch of people that I had never met but preferred talking to than real life people I knew. Fast forward, now most of my friends are other creatives. Back then, it seemed like I would isolate myself to talk to online friends instead of going outside but this actually made me closer with more genuine people that I have connections with. The cardistry community was huge in keeping me involved in cardistry. It's how I made most of my friends now and I owe everything to those people that support me.





1) Tell me what got you into cardistry.

I saw a deck of cards and associated them with magic. I looked up tutorials and then stumbled upon cardistry videos and it was much cooler than any magic I'd ever seen. So I just started teaching myself.

2) If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?

I honestly have no idea where I'd be without finding cardistry. I owe a lot of my life, friends, opportunities, etc. to having found this passion. It's become a huge part of my life. More than I could ever expect.

3) What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?

I get inspired by other people. Watching and learning from others and new videos.

4) Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or you not?

There are so many favorites of mine. I know I'll forget some names but... Aviv, Noel Heath, Patrick Varnavas, Tobias Levin, Birger Karlson, so many more!!! The list just goes on.

5) What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?

I never expected that cardistry would take me this far. I always just did it for fun. I am now realizing how possible it is to pursue doing cards professionally. Performing it live and sharing it with others. I don't know how long I'll continue to do it, but I'm having fun with it still and don't plan on slowing down.

6) Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?

Cardistry will only continue to grow and become a bigger community. My goal has always been to inspire more people to get into it.

7) How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

In the beginning there were no other girls doing cards. Not many people to look up to. Now I see more and more girls getting into it. It's incredible. Felt like I always stood out being one of the only girls at jams, conventions, etc. I don't think it should be that different to be a girl doing cardistry, but it is super rare. And with that extra distinction I definitely used that.

8) Tell me what you think of the current status of the cardistry community. What is good, what could be better?

The community is young boys. There's so much to learn.

9) If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment.

I appreciate Biz for putting this together. Can't wait to see where cardistry goes. It's changed since I started and will only evolve over time. People are creating the most crazy movements I couldn't even imagine and are making them possible. Cardistry will always be my passion and is a huge part of my identity. I know that this is true for a bunch of people. So, for those of you who might have someone who doesn't get it, I'm telling you that it's totally possible to pursue doing cardistry and turn it into something. That's what I'm doing atleast. Most people in my life don't get what I do and how I'm able to do it by just playing with paper.





interview  
*Alix Bècle*

My name is Alix Bècle and I'm a 21 year old French Cardist and magician. I'm 1,70m tall, but my hands are smaller than a 9 year olds. How odd. My life is full of travels, friends and great simple moments. Biz asked me to tell you my favourite movie, but I don't have any, although, my favourite movie theme is WW2. Last movie I've seen : The imitation game.  
Best WW2 movie : Life is beautiful (1997) (how odd, again).

1) Tell me what got you into cardistry.

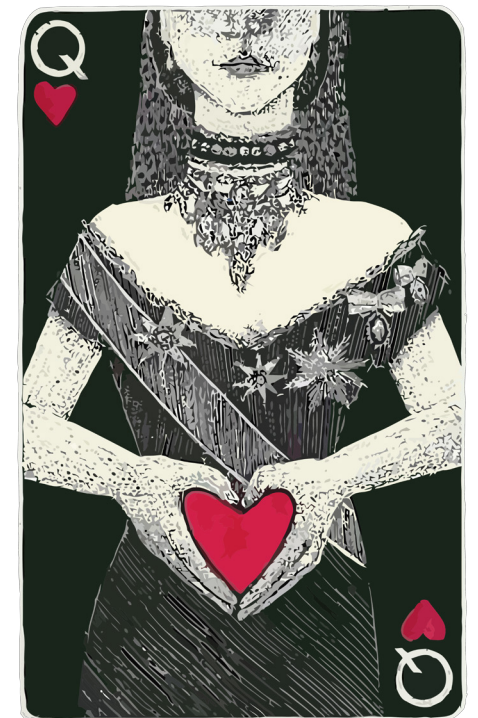
I got into cardistry like any cardist who started as a magician : Youtube. I thought card manipulation or XCM (as it was called) was cool! It still is. What kept me doing it was the satisfaction of getting a move – like really getting it!

2) If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?

Great question. I would be bored. I've learnt to relax, slow down my pace and be more mature when having cards in my hands. I'm a girl, and that means I multitask, and it's frustrating to only do one thing at a time. This means I can't watch a movie, study, and chill without a deck in my hands. I guess I'd be like a normal 21 year old girl : random.

3) What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?

Music and watching old cardistry videos inspire me. Oh! and I don't have a creativity process lol. It's random.



“you will never fit or feel legitimate in this community if you're a girl...”



4) Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or you not?

I don't have A favourite flourisher, but a list in no particular order (because I like their style and flow) : Tobias, Patrick, Franco, Zach, and so many others whom I don't even know their names because I only know their usernames (what a shame). I like someones style for so many reasons: the way they bring out a move and value it, the flow, the pace.

5) What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?

I don't even know what I'll be doing next year; how can I tell you what my hobby is going to look like 10 years from now? But, cardistry might be a small part of my future. To be continued...



6) Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?

I have no idea. It keeps surprising me.

7) If flourishes could fall in love with one another, which flourish would fall in love with Phobos Deimos, Jackson 5 or The Spring?

The spring : It will amaze me at first sight and I'll still love it after the milionth time.



8) How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

Don't tell me about it. You will never fit or feel legitimate in this community if you're a girl. People follow you because of your gender and not how good you are at cardistry. In the beginning it feels weird, because you get so much attention you think you're actually good : I was TERRIBLE at it. You, as a girl, just need to be aware of that. To explain, here's two kind of people in the cardistry community:

- The one sucking your ass to get your attention, telling you you're the best, even though you're bad at cardistry.
- The ones who will never accept you in this community because I only get attention due to my gender.

So extreme, but so true. Though, of course, there's also all those kind people who treat you as you really are, and those are the best - it's the community I love!

“It will amaze me at first sight and I'll still love it after the milionth time.”



10) Tell me what you think of the current status of the cardistry community. What is good, what could be better?

What's good is all those friendships created thanks to cardistry and all those amazing moments I lived with people I now consider as my good friends. What could be better is how beginners are treated, and all the hate in the community. It's tiring.

11) What are your thoughts regarding this years' CCC? Do you agree with the judges decisions? Who would you like to see in the next years championship?

I have to admit, I didn't really follow CCC this year because I had important exams and stopped being active in the community for a while. But, the last videos were amazing. The finals were tight, I believe both Dabi and Mecalco deserved to win.

“the hate is tiring.”

12) If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment.

I don't like hypocrites, so this means I'm the most honest person you will meet, although I never mean to hurt people, I sometimes do. Therefore, this is an honest interview and I would be happy to talk with any of you about any matter you don't agree with :)



## KAITLYN CHEN

My name is Kaitlyn Chen (@themagiccentre) and I am 18 years old. I'm 4' 11.5", so yeah that kinda explains my tiny hands, but even then, my hands are still too small for my body. I've been doing cardistry for about 2 years now and that's not counting the years when I did small flourishes to enhance my magic performances (I never considered that to be proper cardistry, as I never really understood the concept of cardistry until later on).

Fun Fact: my spirit animal, if I had to choose, would have to be a penguin. It's mainly because I love penguins, but most times, penguins are super clumsy and awkward (surely you've seen at least one funny penguin video). Anyways, I'm hoping to go to cardistry con one year (maybe I'll be at the next one...who knows aha) so I can meet a bunch of cardists and card-lovers like myself. Just praying for one in Toronto one year so I don't have to overspend on plane tickets #relatable.



1. Tell me what got you into cardistry.

Mine is the typical story about how I found it through magic. To be more specific, I have always wanted to keep my card movements when doing magic very smooth and visually appealing, so that was already a step into the cardistry direction.

2. If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?

I actually have several other hobbies other than cardistry, so I'd likely be doing those as I love learning new things. I'd most likely be playing a lot more guitar and basketball.

3. What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?

Honestly, any type of movement I see through everyday things. Since these are natural movements, I think of how I can apply them into a flourish, so that it makes it seem more natural and flowy. My creative process actually takes no effort, to be honest. I just stay up as late as I can, until my brain is completely fried, and I let my hands do its job. My brain has no control over what happens, so I have to record it in order to be able to replicate it the next day when my brain is fully functioning again and I can start fine tuning the moves.



4. Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or you not?

I have always liked Tobias' style and was actually inspired by him to start cardistry. I've recently also been enjoying Nikolaj and Bas' styles, as all of their moves. Although they are difficult, they make it look super comfortable in their hands and have a super smooth pace to it. I usually like styles that resemble the older classic moves. If you can define a move as elegant, then that's the kind of style I enjoy. Nothing too complicated, but rather smooth and has a nice flow.

5. What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?

I doubt I'll be able to make a living with just cardistry. I'm hoping to be a dentist in the future, however, I know for a fact that cardistry will continue to be a huge part of my life, either to help relieve stress or just as a fun hobby.



6. Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?

I think that cardistry is just now becoming such a big deal for a lot of people. Just within the last two years cardistry has become such a huge platform for people to express themselves and it is now becoming to be known to people outside of the community. Right now, not many people are aware of the difference between magicians and cardists, but I think that in the next 10 years, cardistry will start to become known as its own separate thing by laymen and many of them will likely be open to try it.



7. If Flourishes could fall in love with one another, which flourish would fall in love with Phobos Deimos, Jackson 5 or The Spring?

"Phobos Deimos" would fall in love with "Flicker", using the single card at the end. "Jackson 5" would fall in love with "The Werm" and "The Spring" would fall in love with "Sybil", as they are both classic flourishes.

8. If you could design a city with cardistry, what flourishes would you use to build the streets, to build the homes, make the city hall and all?

I would definitely use the "Waterfall" to create a cascade (as the tourist attraction of this city). "Squeeze" would be the streets, "Pandora" would be city hall, and the homes would be "Pomelo" (since it is so comfortable to do).

9. How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

It was very different. I felt extremely left out sometimes and would always question whether certain people were only following me "because I'm a girl".





10. Tell me what you think of the current status of the cardistry community. What is good, what could be better?

I think that the cardistry community is pretty good so far. Definitely easy to talk to a lot of the people in the community, which is great in order to help people feel more welcomed, especially if they are just joining the community. Though, this may be the case, I can definitely tell that there is an "inner circle" in the community, which can make some people feel isolated. I'm hoping that the bridge between higher known cardists and those who are not as known can be eliminated so everyone can just acknowledge the fact that we all share this common hobby/interest.

11. What are your thoughts regarding this years' CCC? Do you agree with the judges decisions? Who would you like to see in the next years championship?

I think the judges had their reasons for their choices. I personally think that there should be some sort of online poll to help with the voting process, just to make it easier. I would definitely love to see more from Adam Sharp, Azlan Valentine and Kyle Tran for next year's ccc. Just this past year they have come up with some of the craziest stuff I've seen.

"Never let anything stop you from doing what you love."

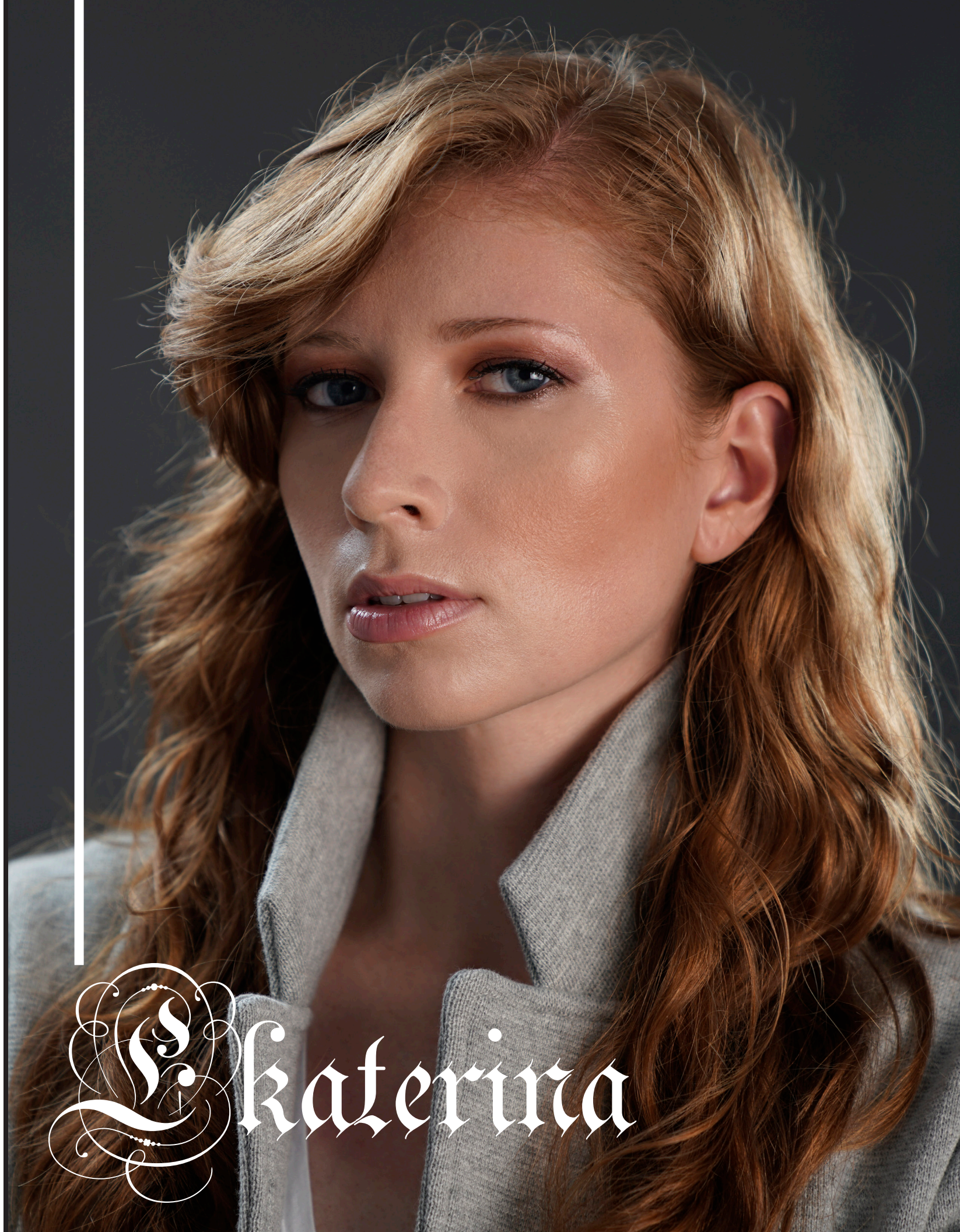
"I'm hoping that the bridge between higher known cardists and those who are not as known can be eliminated..."

12. If you would have 4 hands, what sort of flourishes would you create?

I really love flourishes that require single cards and I also really love cascading moves, so I will likely like to combine the two where two hands are focusing on a cascading move and the other two are doing some sort of packet cut that incorporates the use of single cards. I think that doing these two simultaneously together will look extremely cool.

13. If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment.

Never let anything stop you from doing what you love. Whether or not it has anything to do with cards or not, it's a good motto to follow. Also, if you think your hands are too small to do cardistry, my hands are small haha. Just kidding. Just try your best and find moves that suit your hand sizes or make variations to the moves you like. There's an endless possibility that you can experiment with. Ps. Potatoes are cool #taterlife.



Skaterina



**1. Tell me what got you into cardistry. I remember you from the Decknique days. Remember seeing you participate in XCM tournaments. You're really badass! Tell me a bit about that period as well.**

I started Cardistry back in 2007, when it was not called Cardistry yet. I knew the term 'flourishes' and 'XCM'. About both exciting worlds I learned via Youtube. I started my Youtube channel in 2007 with magic, but ended finding out about these crazy 'XCM' videos and fell in love with the artform. I never gave up on magic, but those who know my story about how I became a magician know that I was obsessed with the circus and my entry point was juggling – no different here with Cardistry, I felt like this was in the juggling category. As a girl youtuber and magician, I wanted people to respect me and I felt like flourishing gave me that respect.

I was also dating a magician/cardist Jay at the time and we would make the most epic cardistry collab videos. They are still available on his channel: [xxgobxxbluthxx](#). Unfortunately, Jay passed away due to his diabetes. It was a tough period in my life, but he is part of the reason I became so obsessed with cards.

Back in the day, there was no cardistry-con, they had XCM tournaments, and I did quite well in those. I participated twice until I got banned because I didn't do exactly everything the 'master' instructed. Yes, I am referring to De'vo. I mean I have to give him credit, he was part of what ignited my love for cards as well as ring magic, but his attitude needed some work. I mean, everyone who disagreed with him was getting 'banned' from his forums.

Which leads me to Decknique forums, love that place... had so many friends... but then it got sold to Theory11 and it wasn't that special anymore.

I remember my buddy Jamie Hall from there, unfortunately we don't talk as much, but he used to push me to practice and perfect flourishes. Loved his discipline and self-drive. That's what cardistry is really... an artform... a discipline. You feel rewarded when you learn to execute a move.

Cardistry is a term coined by my friend Andrei Jikh. He filmed my first ever cardistry DVD with Theory11 as well. I can't thank him enough for his influence in my work. He is so talented. It's ridiculous. :) We russians get along. On a serious note, I admire his passion and dedication to the artform.

**2. If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?**

I love flourishing on my downtime, i.e. when I don't need to think and when my hands are free or just one hand is free. It's like a nervous thing – I must do it. My hands are itching to manipulate something. I can't help it...right now, I am much more a magician than I am a cardist, but I can't stop learning cardistry and practicing – it's just part of my nature now. If I didn't have that... I'd probably be an athlete or a musician, because the discipline required is similar.

**3. What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?**

I love music and movies. Story-telling and aesthetics are important to me too. I don't have much rhythm unfortunately, but I try and free-style :).

**4. Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or you not?**

I have too many to name.

**5. What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?**

I will never stop cardistry, but it has never paid my bills, and I don't foresee that changing.

**6. Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?**

Cardistry is a mini niche sport. It will grow. There is no end to creativity. I can't wait to see where the next generation takes it.



11. If you would have 4 hands, what sort of flourishes would you create?

Is that a challenge?

12. If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment.

I just launched my own e-commerce store: [www.ekatmagic.com](http://www.ekatmagic.com). I strongly believe now in teaching cardistry for free on Youtube, BUT if you are interested in my original magic, visit my store ;)

Thank you guys, cardistry and magic has been my second family...part of my identity.

7. If Flourishes could fall in love with one another, which flourish would fall in love with Phobos Deimos, Jackson 5 or The Spring?

Pandora would fall in love with Jackson 5.

8. If you could design a city with cardistry, what flourishes would you use to build the streets, to build the homes, make the city hall and all?

Let's not get into that.

9. How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

Of course it's different, but the good kind where everyone wants to help you. Take advantage if you can, BUT put in the work. People should still be honest. If it wasn't good, I want people to say so. No sugar coating.

10. Tell me a bit about your experience performing cardistry for people.

I love performing cardistry live, but that's because I have a personality besides just being a cardist. Cardists and magicians need to try the following: Go out one evening, don't mention cards, magic or cardistry...are you still a cool person to talk to? ;)

11. How do you think the community could take the art of Cardistry forward? Do you have any ideas what people could do besides what they are doing right now?

I love the idea of cardistry-con, but it's once a year and due to my schedule, I miss it every year. We need smaller meet-ups throughout the year





# MANUELA

# RUD

My name is Manuela Rud and I'm from Uruguay (South America).

Now I'm 18 years old and I've been flourishing since 2014. I am very keen on all sorts of music, but my favourites are trap and cumbia in Spanish, obviously.

I love doing sports and eating delicious foods, such as meat and milanesas (my two favourite foods in the world).

To be honest, I'm not very into movies, but one which I REALLY like was an Argentinian movie called "A boyfriend for my wife",. If you didn't see it, I highly recommend it.

In order to improve my English I end up reading a lot of books. The last one I've read was "Zero to one" by Peter Thiel.

My dream travel would be to go to Italy someday.



1) Tell me what got you into cardistry.

First, I started with magic (like most of us) and I recall that I watched some crazy video, which I don't remember exactly, but because it was really crazy, I gave it a try.

2) If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?

To be honest I have no idea, now I don't imagine my life without cards. I would say that I would be playing an instrument or learning a new language like French or Chinese.

3) What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?

For me, going to Cardistry Con is very inspirational because you get to know people from all over the world with the same interest in the same place and that's phenomenal. About the creative process, I just try to find a new grip and then to expand the concept as far as I can, and then just finish. Personally, I look at cardistry as a way of having fun, so I don't care that much of what I'm doing.

4) Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or not?

My favourite cardist is Noel. He's just from another world! I think that liking or not a style depends a lot on who is watching, but generally speaking, I believe that to be smooth while cutting is one of the most important qualities that someone needs to have in order to have a great style.

5) What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?

At the moment, I really want to finish with my English studies and then to get a degree in Economics. Nevertheless, cardistry is definitely in my future plans. I want to expand the community in the Hispanic world and to help to grow the art.

6) Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?

For me, in 10 years, cardistry will be something that at least everybody knows of. I imagine it as popular as skate boarding.

7) If flourishes could fall in love with one another, which flourish would fall in love with Phobos Deimos, Jackson 5 or The Spring?

I have no idea. Most of the time I'm very heartless.

8) If you could design a city with cardistry, what flourishes would you use to build the streets, to build the homes, make the city hall and all?

9) How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

That's a very complex question to answer – I would come up with the perfect combination between spreads, fans and "Padiddle".

At first, I used to not like it much because I felt like the odd one.

From my experience, the only difference I felt for being a girl in the community was that I got far more attention only because I was a girl (that's only great up to a certain point). For female cardists it's far more difficult to get an honest opinion about a flourish, because most people tell you that the move is "perfect", but, in reality, the move is pretty horrible. Without a sincere opinion, it's much more difficult to improve.

Last but not least, girls tend to have much more hateful and disrespectful comments than boys and that's annoying because that could hurt your feelings; this was really not my case because luckily I have a very strong personality, but I know that this has happened.

10) Tell me what you think of the current status of the cardistry community. What is good, what could be better?

At the moment I believe that the community is doing well.

11) What are your thoughts regarding this year's CCC? Do you agree with the judges decisions? Who would you like to see in the next years championship?

This year CCC was wild! I totally agree with the judges decisions, the competition was definitely exciting. I would love to see Sebastian Gonzalez participate – a guy from Venezuela which is crazy good!

12) If you would have 4 hands, what sort of flourishes would you create?

Probably padiddle in 4 hands ;)

13) If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment

Don't give up on your dreams.





# JUSTINE

## KO ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

I am 20 years old from Michigan, USA. My life is just a never ending game of 52 pickup.

### 1. Tell me what got you into cardistry.

I learned about cardistry through YouTube, back in middle school, when I was into magic. I learned a lot of the basic flourishes like "The Spring" and "WERM", but since I had no one to discuss cardistry with, I didn't really get too into it. A couple years ago, I met Billy M. who I have to thank for getting me back into cardistry. He taught me "Sybil", "Riffle Fan" and other flourishes. I haven't put down a deck of cards since.

### 2. If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?

If I wasn't flourishing I would be doing other things like juggling, diabolo, tennis, and staring at nature.

### 3. What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?

My creative process as a cardist comes from other activities that I do such as juggling. I like to incorporate a lot of aerial moves in cardistry that are inspired by juggling.







4. Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or you not?

I don't really have a favorite flourisher, but I really like cardists who's style can be described as comfy.

5. What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?

My plan for the future is still to carry a deck wherever I go, even if I don't do cardistry anymore.

6. Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?

In the next 10 years I see the cardistry community flourishing (haha). There will be many new innovations in moves and accessories. I'm excited to see what it will be like then.

7. If flourishes could fall in love with one another, which flourish would fall in love with Phobos Deimos, Jackson 5 or The Spring?

The flourish that would fall in love with "The Spring" would be the dribble. For some reason I always associate those two moves together.

8. If you could design a city with cardistry, what flourishes would you use to build the streets, to build the homes, make the city hall and all?

If I could design a city with cardistry, I would make the city hall a "Charlier Cut", because I feel like that is one of the core basics of cardistry. The homes would be one handed triangle displays, because it looks like tents and the streets would be "Ribbon Spreads".





9. How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

In the beginning when I started cardistry, most people didn't understand it. They expected to see magic and never heard of cardistry before. I don't believe it was too different being a girl since there were not that many people doing cardistry to begin with.

10. Tell me what you think of the current status of the cardistry community. What is good, what could be better?

I think the current status of the cardistry community overall is good. There is a good sense of community – cardists helping each other in creating and learning.

11. What are your thoughts regarding this years' CCC? Do you agree with the judges decisions? Who would you like to see in the next years championship?

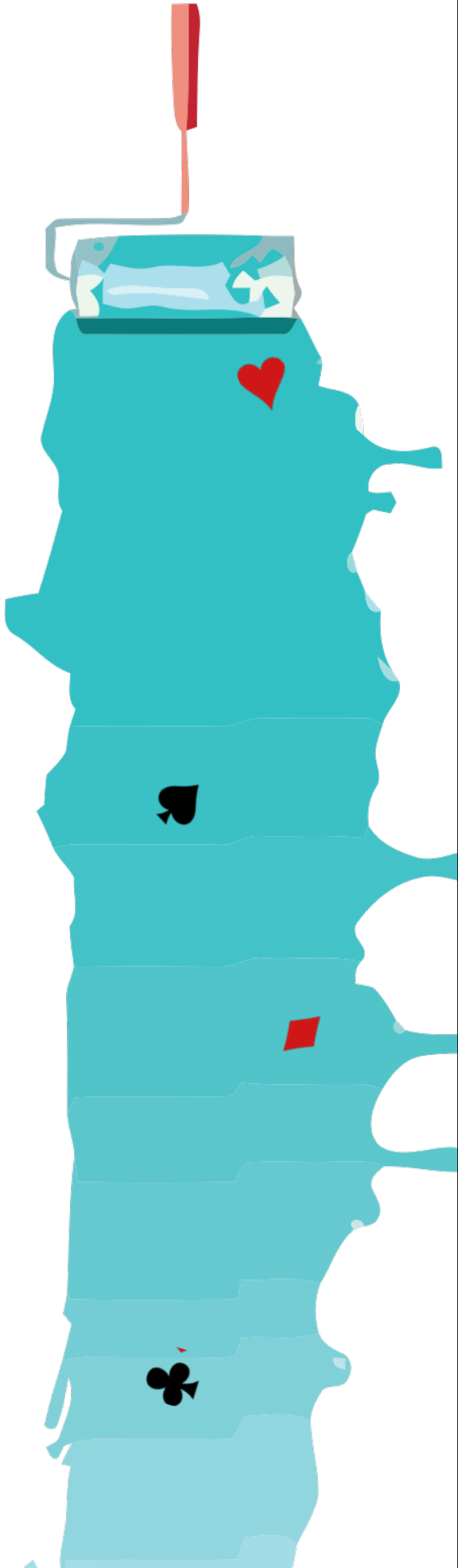
I thought this years CCC was insane! I don't understand how they can get better each year. I'm just glad that I am not judging, because that would just be too difficult. Next year, I would definitely like to see more girls participating and hopefully make it to the championships.

12. If you would have 4 hands, what sort of flourishes would you create?

If I had 4 hands I would make a cut with 20 packets.

13. If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment.

Thank you Biz for this opportunity to share my thoughts!



# JULIA GREWDAHL

My name's Julia Grewdahl, born '01 so I'm 17 years old. I'm 160cm short and live in Sweden. I've been doing cardistry for around four to five years. My dream destination is China, because I was born there. My favorite movie is "Loving Vincent" and I'm currently reading "Of mice and men". The music I listen to varies a lot, but I'd say I listen mostly to indie-pop and my favorite animal of all time is the red panda.





1. Tell me what got you into cardistry.

I was one of those that started with cardistry through magic, which I was pretty terrible at. I put little effort into making the tricks I performed look good and when I found out cardistry existed, I was pretty quick to just dump magic. The first flourish I saw was “The Werm”, on Instagram.

2. If you wouldn't be flourishing, what do you think you would be doing with your time?

I think I would be spending a lot of time on arts and music. I’ve been playing guitar for six or seven years now, so it’s a big part of who I am, I suppose, and I’m currently studying arts, so that’s a big part of my future as well. I spend relatively much time on both now too, but I think the way I think about them would be a lot different if I wasn’t also invested in cardistry.

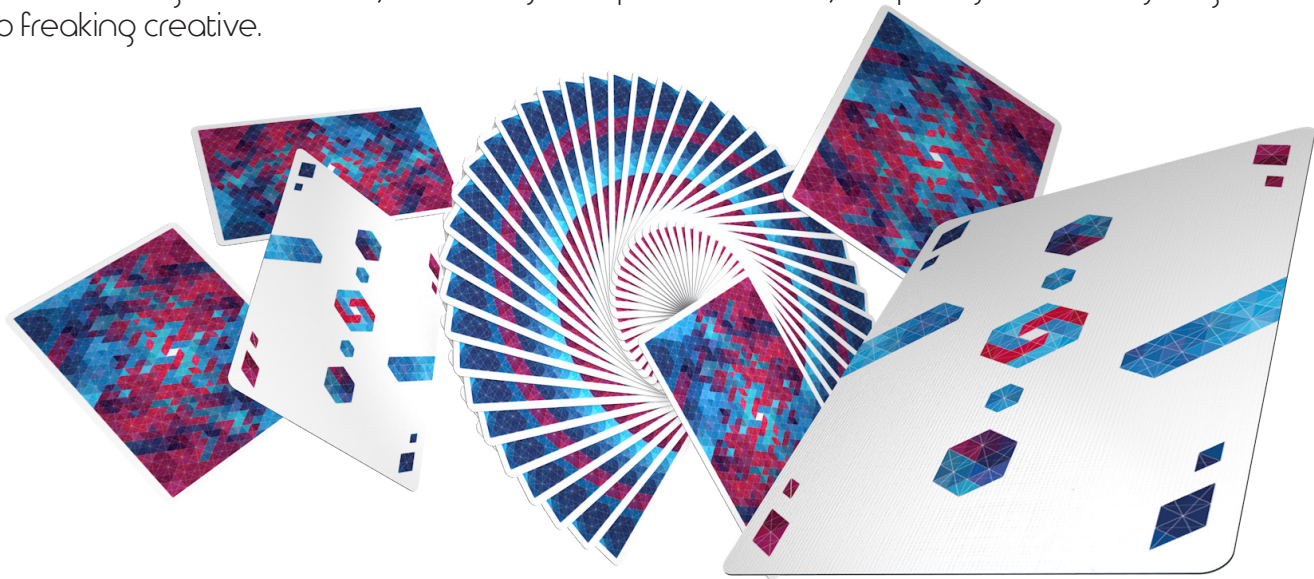
3. What inspires you as a cardist? What is your creative process when it comes to coming up with moves?

I have a really hard time getting inspired when it comes to anything creative. In all honesty, cardistry hasn’t always been close to the heart for me. Of course, I love cardistry, but it has been more about connecting with people around the world. I may not be the most active in the community or really talkative, but I just enjoy seeing other cardists wholeheartedly love it. So, maybe that’s what inspires me, seeing people genuinely love cardistry.

I haven’t had an easy time when it comes to creating my own moves, I easily get stuck and have been mostly focusing on not forcing creativity but when I have succeeded I think it is when I just see ideas. When I see someone in the process of coming up with something, that’s when I get the most motivated and start experimenting.

4. Who are your favorite flourishers? How do you decide you like someone's style or not?

Two of my favorite cardists are Kevin Ho and Ali Abdelgadir. I am generally really bad at picking favorites regardless of what it is, but what makes Kevin Ho one of my favorites is not just his [amazing] cardistry, but his personality. I’ve only met him a few times and I can’t say how close we are or if we are close, but he’s one of those guys who are just really easy to like. Ali Abdelgadir is in my humble opinion really underrated. He always has something new to show, not always complete flourishes, but pretty much everything he does is just so freaking creative.



“  
developing  
my art  
STYLE  
”

5. What are your plans for the future? Is cardistry in the future for you or will it be something that will keep you company while you're leading a more normal life?

As I previously said, I’ve been doing stuff like drawing and playing cards previously and simultaneously, so I think cardistry will always have a special place in my heart and life but more as a side thing. I don’t think I’d ever be able to completely give up cardistry, but, at the same time, it isn’t central in my life. I’m trying to focus on improving and developing my own art style, which is just as difficult as creating cardistry moves for me.



6. Where do you think Cardistry is headed? Where do you see it be in 10 years?

I'm honestly terrible at keeping up with the community, so I can't, with confidence, try to predict the future of cardistry, but seeing so far how it's evolved through the years that I've been a part of the community, I feel like cardistry might broaden more so laymen recognize it as its own thing. Or at least I hope that in ten years cardistry will be known as cardistry and not as something that "belongs" to magic or poker.

7. If you could design a city with cardistry, what flourishes would you use to build the streets, to build the homes, make the city hall and all?

The first flourish that comes to mind is "Pandora" as the city hall. A city hall is pretty central in municipalities, so it makes sense because "Pandora" is one of those iconic flourishes.

The streets would be "Five Faces of Sybil", because there are so many combos that can be done with it, and like flourishes connect through combos - the streets and roads connect cities and people. Plus, it's one of the basics.

The people would be "Flicker" and the public transit would be a bunch "Springs". The homes would be "Acridid" and the hospitals "Bowtie".

8. How was it in the beginning when you started cardistry? Did you feel any different because you were a girl?

I 100% felt a difference being a girl compared to the male cardists, nothing overly negative though. What I noticed was that I got just a little extra attention for being a girl, not necessarily on purpose by everyone. I remember thinking "why did I have so many followers when there were so many others (male cardists) who were way better". I mean I had as many followers as, or more, than others who had been doing cardistry for more than five years and were way more creative than me when I had been doing it for one or two and was only good at like waterfall. I still see a difference, maybe it's just me being an over thinker, but I see a difference in comments and who gets praised for what. I once got a comment from a guy asking me to suck his d\*\*k, which doesn't exactly offend me, but it's just weird.

9. Tell me what you think of the current status of the cardistry community. What is good, what could be better?

I'm, as I said, terrible at keeping up with the community, but the best thing about it is how everyone in it are so welcoming. Of course, you might not be best friends with everyone, but cardistry somehow connects us all to one another. Cardistry has changed so much through the years, both for the better and the worse. What I think could be better is, even though everyone is welcoming, that it's become this need to constantly be active and constantly produce something to be relevant. Of course, I get that you need to be active to keep up and so on, but I also feel like if you're not producing good enough content then you're not a good enough cardist. Be it good enough to be featured on @bestcardistalive or good enough to be in this or that group.

10. If you would have 4 hands, what sort of flourishes would you create?

I love flourishes with spinning packets, so I'd try and create stuff that would look super spinny - like Antoine Cormerais' "Squall".

11. If you want to tell the readers anything, this is your moment.

I just want to say that I love the people in the cardistry community. I've met really good friends through it and I couldn't be more grateful!





Thank you for tuning in for this issue of BOTW. If you wanna sponsor the magazine, destroy it, participate in it, send me nudes, contribute material or just hit me up with some of 'dem good vibes, here is my instagram and e-mail, folks!

INSTA @bisisnowback  
elisavbizau@gmail.com