

SHOWMAN LIVE

JAMES PHELAN: THE MAN WHO WAS MAGIC

Office address: 167-169 Great Portland Street
Fifth Floor, W1W 5PF
E: hello@showmangroup.com
T: 0203 576 5309

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Internationally acclaimed magician continues unprecedented five-star tour.

James Phelan, as seen on *Britain's Got Talent*, **brings** *The Man Who Was Magic* **to theatres across the UK.**

Dare to believe in magic.

There's a lovely kind of hush when an entire theatre realises it's just seen something it **can't explain**. James Phelan is touring *The Man Who Was Magic*, a dazzling, enigmatic one-man show now playing theatres around the country. Dates and tickets: **manwhowasmagic.com**.

Phelan is best known for **jamming the BBC switchboard** when he revealed his **lottery prediction live on air**. He'd tweeted the winning numbers **the day before**. He was also the **first magician to sell out a two-week solo run at The Magic Circle**.

His uncle, **Paul Daniels**, taught him **one trick** and told him to learn the rest from books. So he did. Somewhere on those shelves he found Paul Gallico's novel *The Man Who Was Magic* and thought, **"One day."**

When James was four, a teacher told him he'd **never make anything of himself doing magic**. This year, Phelan has had success on *Britain's Got Talent*, the **biggest magic show at the Edinburgh Fringe for the third year running** and played **203 sold-out shows** in theatres around the world.

That teacher bought a ticket to his sold-out West End debut (Sep 2025) at the Adelphi Theatre and waited afterwards to apologise.

The Man Who Was Magic follows Phelan's 2024 to 2025 tour, *The Dreamer*, in which he told the story of his parents' **twelve-year journey through IVF**. Before James had a dream of his own, his parents had spent years dreaming of him. Now, every night, he asks a child from the audience to tell him **what they dream of becoming**.

We aren't going to tell you exactly what happens next. That would spoil it. But the child gets to see something they've only ever imagined become **real enough to hold in their hand**. Irrefutable evidence that **those who believe in magic will always be the ones who find it**.



SHOWMAN LIVE

JAMES PHELAN: THE MAN WHO WAS MAGIC

Office address: 167-169 Great Portland Street
Fifth Floor, W1W 5PF
E: hello@showmangroup.com
T: 0203 576 5309

"I want people walking out with the same feeling I had when I was younger. That the world just got a little bigger, and if you dream hard enough, you can make things happen. Come sceptical. Stay curious. Leave with a story you can't quite explain and a reason to believe that impossible dream might actually come true." **James Phelan*

"Utterly magnificent from beginning to end" . **LondonTheatre1** . *"A perfect night of wonder"* . **HELLO!** . *"Joel Dommett meets David Blaine"* . **The Sun** . *"Hugely entertaining"* . **The Guardian**

James has put everything he's learnt into a new book ***How to do Magic: Tricks, showmanship and secrets with things you already own***, which comes out internationally on 1 December.

James was the boy who thought, 'One day.' That day is here, and he hopes someone in the audience goes home believing theirs will come too.

Reviews invited. Sceptics welcome.

Running time Approximately **140 minutes**, including a **20-minute interval**. Recommended for **ages 12 and over**.

For press: complimentary review seats, a short interview, and high-resolution images from Emma Whitfield, press@showmangroup.com.

Tickets manwhowasmagic.com.

ENDS

Media contact: Emma Whitfield • press@showmangroup.com • 0203 576 5309
Office address: 167-169 Great Portland Street, Fifth Floor, W1W 5PF

THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN MAGIC ARE ALWAYS THE ONES WHO FIND IT