



Behavior at Climax

Juan Tamariz has the ability to ask questions that no one has asked before.

In one of our sessions he asked me, “Roberto, how do you behave physically and emotionally at the moment the climax of a trick occurs?”

Maybe you want to take a moment and try to come up with your own answer before reading on.

Pause to think.

Welcome back, and here is Juan’s answer to the question, which came after we had discussed the situation in all its details: You mirror the spectator’s astonishment!

But you do not do it the way a salesperson learns in a sales seminar. Instead, simply and sincerely become aware of how wonderful what you just did is, as if it was a real miracle.

Although you may also try to remember the last time you were astonished, and then recreate that, à la Stanislavski, refrain from “acting.”

Sincerity, empathy and authenticity are the key words here, in contrast to an approach that sees you faking something you have learned and are using opportunistically.

This is superb advice, as it is also an excellent way to avoid coming over as a smart aleck, who just did something clever your spectators do not understand because you know something they do not, and have thus outwitted them. Any display of a superior and condescending attitude should be avoided at all costs.