

Felix Circle: Cabinet Séance in darkness—March 30, 2010

Conclusion so far:

Must suspend judgment for now. M's and CL's preference for lack of controls not inherently suspicious under the circumstances. Nothing specifically encouraged suspicion, but nothing discouraged it either.

I see this séance as an essential first step toward more thorough documentation.

1
00:00:05,720 --> 00:00:03,379
the session is physics sigh and

2
00:00:08,000 --> 00:00:05,730
interpretation the first speaker is

3
00:00:10,339 --> 00:00:08,010
Steven Brody stubborn brat Steven Brody

4
00:00:12,799 --> 00:00:10,349
and I want to mention that not only is

5
00:00:14,450 --> 00:00:12,809
Ian professor and chair of philosophy at

6
00:00:17,420 --> 00:00:14,460
the University of Maryland but is also

7
00:00:19,990 --> 00:00:17,430
we all know him as the editor of the jse

8
00:00:22,849 --> 00:00:20,000
but we should also note that this is a

9
00:00:25,580 --> 00:00:22,859
period of transition for the entire

10
00:00:28,730 --> 00:00:25,590
field because it's appropriate that a

11
00:00:30,500 --> 00:00:28,740
philosopher may the editor of the

12
00:00:32,389 --> 00:00:30,510
Jayasinghe because we have such a wide

13
00:00:34,670 --> 00:00:32,399

ranging interest that figure has matured

14

00:00:37,549 --> 00:00:34,680

in such a sitter in such a way that

15

00:00:39,979 --> 00:00:37,559

someone like Stephen body is literally

16

00:00:42,619 --> 00:00:39,989

perfect for shepherding us into the the

17

00:00:44,690 --> 00:00:42,629

new age of of our field so he'll be

18

00:00:49,029 --> 00:00:44,700

talking about preliminary investigation

19

00:00:51,830 --> 00:00:49,039

on the felix circle thank you very much

20

00:00:59,810 --> 00:00:51,840

it's very strange there's a phosphor to

21

00:01:02,330 --> 00:00:59,820

feel appropriate for anything as many we

22

00:01:04,189 --> 00:01:02,340

probably know the late nineteenth and

23

00:01:07,010 --> 00:01:04,199

early twentieth century was the heyday

24

00:01:08,630 --> 00:01:07,020

of the Spiritualist movement and during

25

00:01:10,630 --> 00:01:08,640

that time there is a great deal of

26

00:01:13,310 --> 00:01:10,640

mediumistic activity going on and

27

00:01:15,320 --> 00:01:13,320

mediumistic activity occurred in two

28

00:01:17,539 --> 00:01:15,330

primary flavors that would be mental

29

00:01:20,469 --> 00:01:17,549

mediumship and physical mediumship

30

00:01:22,940 --> 00:01:20,479

mental mediumship roughly had to do with

31

00:01:25,520 --> 00:01:22,950

channeling communications ostensibly

32

00:01:29,149 --> 00:01:25,530

from the deceased physical mediumship

33

00:01:31,249 --> 00:01:29,159

had to do with it was also thought of as

34

00:01:32,749 --> 00:01:31,259

dealing with a kind of communication

35

00:01:35,090 --> 00:01:32,759

from the deceased but it had to do with

36

00:01:37,580 --> 00:01:35,100

the production of observable physical

37

00:01:40,340 --> 00:01:37,590

phenomena like object levitations at

38

00:01:44,600 --> 00:01:40,350

porting one object from one location to

39

00:01:48,200 --> 00:01:44,610

another levitations materializations and

40

00:01:50,840 --> 00:01:48,210

rapping sounds in the sands table or

41

00:01:53,690 --> 00:01:50,850

around the room you don't see a lot of

42

00:01:55,219 --> 00:01:53,700

this anymore there are the reasons for

43

00:01:56,780 --> 00:01:55,229

that but we can't go into that now there

44

00:01:58,470 --> 00:01:56,790

are still spiritualist groups around

45

00:02:00,150 --> 00:01:58,480

most the spirits

46

00:02:03,030 --> 00:02:00,160

this groups are not particularly

47

00:02:04,980 --> 00:02:03,040

interested in being investigated however

48

00:02:08,540 --> 00:02:04,990

I found that there was a group in hanau

49

00:02:11,610 --> 00:02:08,550

Germany not far from Frankfurt

50

00:02:13,260 --> 00:02:11,620

consisting of spiritists more than

51
00:02:15,690 --> 00:02:13,270
spiritualist they didn't subscribe to

52
00:02:17,610 --> 00:02:15,700
the spiritualist religion but many of

53
00:02:19,380 --> 00:02:17,620
them were interested spiritists they

54
00:02:22,500 --> 00:02:19,390
believed that they were nevertheless

55
00:02:25,200 --> 00:02:22,510
communicating with the deceased and they

56
00:02:28,320 --> 00:02:25,210
were interested in being investigated so

57
00:02:30,180 --> 00:02:28,330
I got myself to hand out so let me tell

58
00:02:34,680 --> 00:02:30,190
you a little bit about the felix circle

59
00:02:36,060 --> 00:02:34,690
i was founded in 2005 originally they

60
00:02:37,970 --> 00:02:36,070
were interested in just the table

61
00:02:41,160 --> 00:02:37,980
tilting phenomena and they had been

62
00:02:42,510 --> 00:02:41,170
reading at least some of the key members

63
00:02:44,790 --> 00:02:42,520

of the group had been reading works by

64

00:02:48,270 --> 00:02:44,800

ken bachelor and others about conducting

65

00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:48,280

table tilting seances and they sought

66

00:02:55,050 --> 00:02:51,010

not so much as dealing with spirits as a

67

00:02:57,390 --> 00:02:55,060

kind of psychokinesis by committee there

68

00:03:00,900 --> 00:02:57,400

are two million people in the group and

69

00:03:02,580 --> 00:03:00,910

then a bunch of the regulars one is the

70

00:03:05,210 --> 00:03:02,590

medium the main medium and then the

71

00:03:08,340 --> 00:03:05,220

circle leader the medium is a

72

00:03:10,380 --> 00:03:08,350

documentary filmmaker the circle leader

73

00:03:12,120 --> 00:03:10,390

is a well-known cardiologist in Germany

74

00:03:15,180 --> 00:03:12,130

works at the Max Planck Institute in at

75

00:03:17,490 --> 00:03:15,190

several hospitals he's not ready to

76

00:03:19,979 --> 00:03:17,500

reveal his identity for pretty obvious

77

00:03:21,750 --> 00:03:19,989

reasons they're both very knowledgeable

78

00:03:25,020 --> 00:03:21,760

about the original mediumistic

79

00:03:27,900 --> 00:03:25,030

literature and the the basic bodies of

80

00:03:30,180 --> 00:03:27,910

evidence and they're also very familiar

81

00:03:32,070 --> 00:03:30,190

with the secondary literature in fact

82

00:03:36,090 --> 00:03:32,080

the circulator this is slightly

83

00:03:37,920 --> 00:03:36,100

embarrassing but I think apart from my

84

00:03:39,240 --> 00:03:37,930

early writings and temporal logic and

85

00:03:41,670 --> 00:03:39,250

the philosophy of time he's read

86

00:03:45,890 --> 00:03:41,680

everything I've ever written so what's

87

00:03:49,350 --> 00:03:45,900

not to love and he joined the group in

88

00:03:51,210 --> 00:03:49,360

2007 most of the other regular sitters

89

00:03:54,930 --> 00:03:51,220

and they range between five and nine

90

00:03:57,540 --> 00:03:54,940

they're more enthusiasts and they're

91

00:03:59,040 --> 00:03:57,550

relatively uncritical and they have two

92

00:04:01,650 --> 00:03:59,050

kinds of sciences they have some

93

00:04:03,570 --> 00:04:01,660

classical spiritualist seances where the

94

00:04:05,640 --> 00:04:03,580

medium sits in a curtain Dolph area

95

00:04:09,090 --> 00:04:05,650

the cabinet and then various things

96

00:04:12,030 --> 00:04:09,100

issue from there and then they do table

97

00:04:14,580 --> 00:04:12,040

sittings and i attended one of each and

98

00:04:16,380 --> 00:04:14,590

i want to describe them to you they're

99

00:04:19,470 --> 00:04:16,390

the cabinet seances the medium is

100

00:04:22,290 --> 00:04:19,480

apparently possessed by the personality

101
00:04:26,220 --> 00:04:22,300
of the lake parapsychologist hans bender

102
00:04:28,110 --> 00:04:26,230
I need to mention that the medium is

103
00:04:29,760 --> 00:04:28,120
pretty sophisticated about this he knows

104
00:04:31,290 --> 00:04:29,770
the hypnosis literature he's read my

105
00:04:33,990 --> 00:04:31,300
book a multiple personality he knows

106
00:04:35,700 --> 00:04:34,000
something about association he doesn't

107
00:04:38,280 --> 00:04:35,710
really believe it's Hans bender but he

108
00:04:41,460 --> 00:04:38,290
respects the entity or the side of his

109
00:04:43,950 --> 00:04:41,470
self that is nevertheless taking over at

110
00:04:45,900 --> 00:04:43,960
these times during the seance so who

111
00:04:47,580 --> 00:04:45,910
realize there's nothing evidential about

112
00:04:49,680 --> 00:04:47,590
Holmes bender that comes through the

113
00:04:53,160 --> 00:04:49,690

medium recognizes this really could just

114

00:04:55,050 --> 00:04:53,170

be a kind of alter ego so there were two

115

00:04:57,750 --> 00:04:55,060

investigators myself and Peter Mirage

116

00:04:59,270 --> 00:04:57,760

from Vienna we had the benefit of a

117

00:05:00,840 --> 00:04:59,280

grant from the Gilbert Raleigh fund

118

00:05:03,030 --> 00:05:00,850

administered by the pair of

119

00:05:04,980 --> 00:05:03,040

psychological association among other

120

00:05:07,470 --> 00:05:04,990

things the grant paid for a couple of

121

00:05:09,630 --> 00:05:07,480

Sony high-definition 0x infrared

122

00:05:12,390 --> 00:05:09,640

camcorders that we hope to use and

123

00:05:14,850 --> 00:05:12,400

documenting the phenomena the middle of

124

00:05:16,409 --> 00:05:14,860

a circle leader however were a little

125

00:05:18,270 --> 00:05:16,419

worried about this first of all they

126

00:05:19,800 --> 00:05:18,280

were concerned that introducing two

127

00:05:22,260 --> 00:05:19,810

investigators into the group would

128

00:05:23,550 --> 00:05:22,270

radically change the psychodynamics of

129

00:05:26,180 --> 00:05:23,560

the group and it might have an

130

00:05:28,650 --> 00:05:26,190

inhibitory effect on the phenomena and

131

00:05:31,890 --> 00:05:28,660

they had that kind of experience before

132

00:05:36,180 --> 00:05:31,900

and the thought that introducing

133

00:05:40,380 --> 00:05:36,190

camcorders even in zero light would be

134

00:05:42,510 --> 00:05:40,390

another negative factor so Peter I

135

00:05:44,040 --> 00:05:42,520

agreed with the medium and the circle

136

00:05:46,290 --> 00:05:44,050

leader that the most important thing

137

00:05:47,610 --> 00:05:46,300

initially was the first of all get

138

00:05:49,110 --> 00:05:47,620

familiar with the members of the group

139

00:05:52,020 --> 00:05:49,120

so that they feel comfortable with us

140

00:05:54,690 --> 00:05:52,030

and then to see a good example of the

141

00:05:56,520 --> 00:05:54,700

phenomena in the Norris robust way that

142

00:05:58,350 --> 00:05:56,530

they were accustomed to experiencing it

143

00:06:02,430 --> 00:05:58,360

we wanted to see what it was that they

144

00:06:04,170 --> 00:06:02,440

were so excited about and if they felt

145

00:06:06,120 --> 00:06:04,180

comfortable at any point in allowing us

146

00:06:07,970 --> 00:06:06,130

to document with our camcorders so much

147

00:06:09,890 --> 00:06:07,980

the better and we fell

148

00:06:13,550 --> 00:06:09,900

was an absolutely necessary first step

149

00:06:14,990 --> 00:06:13,560

in coming to grips with the phenomena

150

00:06:17,390 --> 00:06:15,000

that they were getting and we could

151
00:06:20,590 --> 00:06:17,400
always come back later if the situation

152
00:06:22,790 --> 00:06:20,600
warranted it and impose tighter controls

153
00:06:25,850 --> 00:06:22,800
this is the house where it all takes

154
00:06:27,320 --> 00:06:25,860
place this is the home of a mediums

155
00:06:31,400 --> 00:06:27,330
family the medium lives across the

156
00:06:33,440 --> 00:06:31,410
street the sales location is in the

157
00:06:38,740 --> 00:06:33,450
basement it's in what used to be a bomb

158
00:06:42,320 --> 00:06:38,750
shelter it's a small space this is the

159
00:06:44,210 --> 00:06:42,330
the area in the basement where the

160
00:06:46,430 --> 00:06:44,220
cabinet is and the cabinet again is just

161
00:06:48,500 --> 00:06:46,440
a skirt and off area it's closed when

162
00:06:51,200 --> 00:06:48,510
the mediums inside and at various points

163
00:06:54,440 --> 00:06:51,210

he lifts the curtains apart and things

164

00:06:56,000 --> 00:06:54,450

happen which I'll describe to you these

165

00:06:59,120 --> 00:06:56,010

are some of the objects used in the

166

00:07:01,550 --> 00:06:59,130

séances there's first of all this

167

00:07:03,980 --> 00:07:01,560

trumpet one of the things the old

168

00:07:06,050 --> 00:07:03,990

spiritualist Sciences is that trumpets

169

00:07:08,570 --> 00:07:06,060

were reported to float around the room

170

00:07:11,030 --> 00:07:08,580

this trumpet is made of paper covered

171

00:07:13,460 --> 00:07:11,040

with plastic tape there's a luminous

172

00:07:15,890 --> 00:07:13,470

strip on the end so you can see it in

173

00:07:19,010 --> 00:07:15,900

darkness see its movement anyway and

174

00:07:20,570 --> 00:07:19,020

this is a luminous plaque placed on top

175

00:07:24,410 --> 00:07:20,580

of the condo broom and various things

176
00:07:26,300 --> 00:07:24,420
happen there as well so the phenomena

177
00:07:29,090 --> 00:07:26,310
that I experienced during the cabinets

178
00:07:30,740 --> 00:07:29,100
and this was in total darkness first of

179
00:07:33,070 --> 00:07:30,750
all there was a wind chime hanging in

180
00:07:35,420 --> 00:07:33,080
the center of the circle and we heard

181
00:07:38,840 --> 00:07:35,430
after the medium was apparently

182
00:07:41,350 --> 00:07:38,850
possessed we heard some very mild

183
00:07:43,820 --> 00:07:41,360
tinkling of the wind chime and then rats

184
00:07:45,920 --> 00:07:43,830
were coming from all on the seance room

185
00:07:47,360 --> 00:07:45,930
from behind me from above me all sides

186
00:07:52,250 --> 00:07:47,370
of the room moving around quite quickly

187
00:07:54,320 --> 00:07:52,260
in a kind of ratatat tat quality there

188
00:07:57,560 --> 00:07:54,330

was no room to stand behind any of the

189

00:07:59,000 --> 00:07:57,570

sitter's to produce these sounds I felt

190

00:08:01,520 --> 00:07:59,010

various touches even though we were

191

00:08:04,010 --> 00:08:01,530

holding hands at the time I had on a

192

00:08:05,450 --> 00:08:04,020

short sleeve shirt and I felt on my arms

193

00:08:08,270 --> 00:08:05,460

something that didn't feel flesh like

194

00:08:10,160 --> 00:08:08,280

but it felt solid not sure what it was I

195

00:08:12,600 --> 00:08:10,170

make no claims about it other than that

196

00:08:15,809 --> 00:08:12,610

we saw a variety of theories on

197

00:08:18,480 --> 00:08:15,819

plak usually further like shapes at

198

00:08:20,879 --> 00:08:18,490

various ports handkerchief was placed on

199

00:08:24,029 --> 00:08:20,889

the plaque and the finger like shapes

200

00:08:25,619 --> 00:08:24,039

would pull the handkerchief off then we

201
00:08:28,559 --> 00:08:25,629
saw movements of the trumpet the trumpet

202
00:08:30,659 --> 00:08:28,569
was lifted off the floor it moved around

203
00:08:32,639 --> 00:08:30,669
the circle the large end with the

204
00:08:33,959 --> 00:08:32,649
luminous trip was porting individually

205
00:08:35,550 --> 00:08:33,969
toward each of the circle members

206
00:08:37,709 --> 00:08:35,560
because they each reported that it came

207
00:08:39,209 --> 00:08:37,719
toward them directly when it came to me

208
00:08:41,130 --> 00:08:39,219
it came right up to me I thought it was

209
00:08:42,240 --> 00:08:41,140
going to hit me in the face but it must

210
00:08:45,600 --> 00:08:42,250
have been only about an inch from my

211
00:08:48,360 --> 00:08:45,610
face and it stopped there and then you

212
00:08:50,220 --> 00:08:48,370
saw some ectoplasm okay which was

213
00:08:51,930 --> 00:08:50,230

material emanating ostensibly from the

214

00:08:53,280 --> 00:08:51,940

medium and I want to tell you a little

215

00:08:55,500 --> 00:08:53,290

bit more about that but let me first

216

00:08:57,540 --> 00:08:55,510

show you some drawings made by one of

217

00:09:01,170 --> 00:08:57,550

the sitters I couldn't have done this

218

00:09:02,819 --> 00:09:01,180

myself this is Russell what the finger

219

00:09:09,180 --> 00:09:02,829

like shapes look like on top of the

220

00:09:12,060 --> 00:09:09,190

luminous plaque then this happened so we

221

00:09:15,630 --> 00:09:12,070

were instructed by Hans bender to count

222

00:09:17,430 --> 00:09:15,640

backwards from 15 and then at five the

223

00:09:20,189 --> 00:09:17,440

circle leader would turn on a red light

224

00:09:22,230 --> 00:09:20,199

and the medium was supposed to lift the

225

00:09:25,530 --> 00:09:22,240

curtains apart and we'd see what we'd

226

00:09:27,960 --> 00:09:25,540

see so we kind of back from 15 at five

227

00:09:29,790 --> 00:09:27,970

the lot was turned on and we saw this

228

00:09:32,370 --> 00:09:29,800

hand coming out of the mediums mouth who

229

00:09:35,250 --> 00:09:32,380

was white it ended few inches down on

230

00:09:36,660 --> 00:09:35,260

the wrist and the light was left on for

231

00:09:39,660 --> 00:09:36,670

a few seconds then it was turned off

232

00:09:42,569 --> 00:09:39,670

again we counted backwards from fifteen

233

00:09:44,340 --> 00:09:42,579

one more time at five the light was

234

00:09:46,079 --> 00:09:44,350

turned on and we saw this at this point

235

00:09:50,449 --> 00:09:46,089

the thing coming out of the mouth had

236

00:09:52,769 --> 00:09:50,459

extended all the way to the floor and

237

00:09:54,780 --> 00:09:52,779

then we turned off the light again we

238

00:09:57,060 --> 00:09:54,790

try to one more time and what we saw the

239

00:10:00,090 --> 00:09:57,070

next time was nothing in the mouth but

240

00:10:02,819 --> 00:10:00,100

there is this white unrealistic hand

241

00:10:09,210 --> 00:10:02,829

moving on top of the mediums left

242

00:10:11,970 --> 00:10:09,220

shoulder okay now this was not taken on

243

00:10:14,840 --> 00:10:11,980

this occasion at a science shortly

244

00:10:17,319 --> 00:10:14,850

thereafter the circle leader tried

245

00:10:20,259 --> 00:10:17,329

photographing similar phenomena

246

00:10:22,210 --> 00:10:20,269

under the red light and this I show you

247

00:10:24,160 --> 00:10:22,220

I make no claims about this but this is

248

00:10:27,939 --> 00:10:24,170

roughly what it was looking like at the

249

00:10:29,769 --> 00:10:27,949

time so this is presumably some stuff

250

00:10:33,519 --> 00:10:29,779

some stuff coming from the mediums mouth

251

00:10:35,889 --> 00:10:33,529

with the aid of the medium this is a

252

00:10:40,869 --> 00:10:35,899

picture of a hand apparently just coming

253

00:10:45,309 --> 00:10:40,879

out of the the mediums mouth and this

254

00:10:47,109 --> 00:10:45,319

one as I understand it the hand here it

255

00:10:49,210 --> 00:10:47,119

doesn't quite look like a human hand and

256

00:10:51,429 --> 00:10:49,220

the understanding of those who are

257

00:10:54,189 --> 00:10:51,439

attending at seance was that this was a

258

00:10:57,910 --> 00:10:54,199

spear hand that was moving the curtain

259

00:11:03,309 --> 00:10:57,920

slightly aside now you probably have

260

00:11:05,139 --> 00:11:03,319

some concerns about all of this oh these

261

00:11:08,109 --> 00:11:05,149

are some efforts we can't talk about

262

00:11:10,449 --> 00:11:08,119

that now so let me do a kind of point

263

00:11:12,819 --> 00:11:10,459

counterpoint on some of the perfectly

264

00:11:14,979 --> 00:11:12,829

reasonable skeptical concerns first of

265

00:11:16,629 --> 00:11:14,989

all about the rapping sounds one thing

266

00:11:18,819 --> 00:11:16,639

you need to know is that the cities were

267

00:11:20,619 --> 00:11:18,829

asked to be noisy ostensibly to

268

00:11:25,090 --> 00:11:20,629

encourage the phenomena this was part of

269

00:11:27,970 --> 00:11:25,100

the bachelor door protocol to tell jokes

270

00:11:31,269 --> 00:11:27,980

sing songs keep it very light don't get

271

00:11:32,799 --> 00:11:31,279

too invested in success or failure or in

272

00:11:35,199 --> 00:11:32,809

assuming responsibility for the

273

00:11:36,759 --> 00:11:35,209

phenomena however of course the noise

274

00:11:38,229 --> 00:11:36,769

couldn't ask the movement of someone

275

00:11:41,079 --> 00:11:38,239

moving around trying to produce the

276

00:11:42,609 --> 00:11:41,089

wraps on the other hand there was no him

277

00:11:44,859 --> 00:11:42,619

to stand behind me and most of the

278

00:11:46,600 --> 00:11:44,869

others to produce the wraps and also the

279

00:11:48,999 --> 00:11:46,610

sounds moved quickly around the rule and

280

00:11:50,739 --> 00:11:49,009

the ceiling and as I mentioned making

281

00:11:52,780 --> 00:11:50,749

noise is a familiar technique for

282

00:11:53,919 --> 00:11:52,790

minimizing personal involvement and so

283

00:11:57,329 --> 00:11:53,929

on so there's nothing inherently

284

00:11:59,619 --> 00:11:57,339

suspicious in asking for the noise

285

00:12:01,869 --> 00:11:59,629

regarding the trumpet again the cities

286

00:12:03,519 --> 00:12:01,879

were asked to be noisy but of course the

287

00:12:05,769 --> 00:12:03,529

noise could mask the movement of someone

288

00:12:07,749 --> 00:12:05,779

carrying the trumpet around the circle

289

00:12:09,429 --> 00:12:07,759

and at that point the collar groom and

290

00:12:11,169 --> 00:12:09,439

the plaque had been moved away so there

291

00:12:13,569 --> 00:12:11,179

actually was room for someone to stand

292

00:12:16,659 --> 00:12:13,579

in the middle of the circle to move the

293

00:12:18,189 --> 00:12:16,669

object around on the other hand I take a

294

00:12:20,530 --> 00:12:18,199

reasonable question is how could someone

295

00:12:22,030 --> 00:12:20,540

have managed to come so close to each of

296

00:12:24,909 --> 00:12:22,040

the sitter's faces in total darkness

297

00:12:26,829 --> 00:12:24,919

without touching we saw no evidence of

298

00:12:31,470 --> 00:12:26,839

night vision goggles anywhere in the

299

00:12:35,230 --> 00:12:33,670

citizen also asked the type in their

300

00:12:37,000 --> 00:12:35,240

legs and not to reach out into the

301

00:12:39,220 --> 00:12:37,010

circle in order to avoid disturbing the

302

00:12:40,750 --> 00:12:39,230

force of the process of course that

303

00:12:42,280 --> 00:12:40,760

would prevent disturbing someone who is

304

00:12:45,220 --> 00:12:42,290

trying fraudulently to produce the

305

00:12:46,930 --> 00:12:45,230

phenomena on the other hand we heard the

306

00:12:49,030 --> 00:12:46,940

mediums heavy breathing and talking from

307

00:12:51,130 --> 00:12:49,040

within the cabinet throughout most of

308

00:12:52,510 --> 00:12:51,140

all of this and other sitters were also

309

00:12:56,170 --> 00:12:52,520

talking inaudible from their positions

310

00:12:57,610 --> 00:12:56,180

and no props were discovered and also

311

00:12:59,500 --> 00:12:57,620

it's a familiar thing if you read the

312

00:13:02,680 --> 00:12:59,510

old mediumistic literature it's very

313

00:13:05,280 --> 00:13:02,690

familiar to see reports of mediums

314

00:13:07,660 --> 00:13:05,290

crying out in pain when the material

315

00:13:11,110 --> 00:13:07,670

emanating from them is touched or when

316

00:13:12,280 --> 00:13:11,120

the force is disturbed so the medium in

317

00:13:13,930 --> 00:13:12,290

the circle leader were very much

318

00:13:16,240 --> 00:13:13,940

immersed in the literature they knew

319

00:13:17,740 --> 00:13:16,250

that that was a possible danger so again

320

00:13:20,320 --> 00:13:17,750

I don't regard that as inherently

321

00:13:23,010 --> 00:13:20,330

suspicious although it certainly leaves

322

00:13:25,450 --> 00:13:23,020

plenty of room for questions and

323

00:13:27,220 --> 00:13:25,460

regarding the ectoplasm I have to say

324

00:13:28,780 --> 00:13:27,230

there was no opportunity to inspect the

325

00:13:30,520 --> 00:13:28,790

cabinet after the sitting to see if

326

00:13:32,770 --> 00:13:30,530

there were remaining active plasmic

327

00:13:34,990 --> 00:13:32,780

props the medium after being possessed

328

00:13:36,490 --> 00:13:35,000

and coming out of trance is often we're

329

00:13:38,080 --> 00:13:36,500

told physically ill they brought in a

330

00:13:40,900 --> 00:13:38,090

bucket for him to environment into which

331

00:13:42,460 --> 00:13:40,910

he sometimes does we were not showing

332

00:13:45,820 --> 00:13:42,470

the contents of the bucket as far as I

333

00:13:49,210 --> 00:13:45,830

know he didn't vomit this this time on

334

00:13:50,560 --> 00:13:49,220

the other hand not a whole lot except

335

00:13:52,330 --> 00:13:50,570

that I can tell you that nothing was

336

00:13:55,060 --> 00:13:52,340

found in the room inspection prior to

337

00:13:57,130 --> 00:13:55,070

the science the medium was ostensibly

338

00:13:58,870 --> 00:13:57,140

controlled and observed by the circle

339

00:14:01,390 --> 00:13:58,880

leader and by another sitter both of

340

00:14:03,730 --> 00:14:01,400

whom I have no reason to distrust I'll

341

00:14:06,640 --> 00:14:03,740

also say just for the record that for

342

00:14:09,820 --> 00:14:06,650

what it's worth my gut reaction to the

343

00:14:12,910 --> 00:14:09,830

medium and the circle leader is to trust

344

00:14:17,680 --> 00:14:12,920

them on the other hand when I think

345

00:14:18,940 --> 00:14:17,690

about my marital history I have to be

346

00:14:24,970 --> 00:14:18,950

very careful about trusting my gut

347

00:14:27,250 --> 00:14:24,980

reactions so so the conclusion so far is

348

00:14:30,310 --> 00:14:27,260

that we have to suspend judgment about

349

00:14:32,320 --> 00:14:30,320

the cabinet settings the medium use em

350

00:14:34,840 --> 00:14:32,330

the circle leaders preference for lack

351

00:14:37,330 --> 00:14:34,850

of controls it's not inherently

352

00:14:38,770 --> 00:14:37,340

suspicious under the circumstances so

353

00:14:40,420 --> 00:14:38,780

I'd say nothing

354

00:14:42,460 --> 00:14:40,430

physically encouraged suspicion but also

355

00:14:45,220 --> 00:14:42,470

nothing specifically discouraged

356

00:14:47,140 --> 00:14:45,230

suspicion either so as I said earlier I

357

00:14:50,970 --> 00:14:47,150

see the seance as an essential first

358

00:14:55,540 --> 00:14:53,080

all right let me put a little bit about

359

00:14:57,940 --> 00:14:55,550

the table sitting there was first a 20

360

00:14:59,950 --> 00:14:57,950

minute meditation and then the table

361

00:15:02,080 --> 00:14:59,960

started to move in darkness as soon as

362

00:15:05,110 --> 00:15:02,090

all hands were on the table there were 2

363

00:15:07,030 --> 00:15:05,120

45 minute segments the original idea was

364

00:15:09,430 --> 00:15:07,040

to have no recording for the first one

365

00:15:11,290 --> 00:15:09,440

and infrared recording for the second

366

00:15:14,290 --> 00:15:11,300

one however it turned out that one of

367

00:15:16,210 --> 00:15:14,300

the cameras was on accidentally for part

368

00:15:20,680 --> 00:15:16,220

of session one and then deliberately for

369

00:15:22,990 --> 00:15:20,690

session too we got ematic we had two

370

00:15:24,280 --> 00:15:23,000

cameras for the second session one of

371

00:15:27,490 --> 00:15:24,290

them aimed under the table the other

372

00:15:29,680 --> 00:15:27,500

above the table there are dramatic table

373

00:15:31,810 --> 00:15:29,690

movements both times but we only had one

374

00:15:35,080 --> 00:15:31,820

full table levitation unfortunately in

375

00:15:37,510 --> 00:15:35,090

total darkness which and no recording

376

00:15:38,950 --> 00:15:37,520

which again seems to support the mediums

377

00:15:40,900 --> 00:15:38,960

and circle leaders concern that

378

00:15:44,350 --> 00:15:40,910

recording might slightly inhibit the

379

00:15:46,630 --> 00:15:44,360

phenomena so let me show you a little

380

00:15:49,540 --> 00:15:46,640

bit of the table movement oh I have to

381

00:15:50,860 --> 00:15:49,550

say about the table levitation this was

382

00:15:52,540 --> 00:15:50,870

quite distinctive for the other table

383

00:15:55,270 --> 00:15:52,550

movements the table movements were quite

384

00:15:59,170 --> 00:15:55,280

vigorous I think if the room have been

385

00:16:00,490 --> 00:15:59,180

any larger the table would have moved

386

00:16:01,930 --> 00:16:00,500

out of the room I don't have a lot of

387

00:16:04,570 --> 00:16:01,940

time left but I want to show you some of

388

00:16:06,730 --> 00:16:04,580

this stuff so bear with me if it you can

389

00:16:09,520 --> 00:16:06,740

always ask me questions later when the

390

00:16:11,110 --> 00:16:09,530

table levitated it rose straight up

391

00:16:13,180 --> 00:16:11,120

several inches off the ground stayed

392

00:16:16,420 --> 00:16:13,190

there for three or four seconds it was

393

00:16:20,110 --> 00:16:16,430

obvious to all of us that the table top

394

00:16:21,760 --> 00:16:20,120

remain parallel to the floor and there

395

00:16:23,470 --> 00:16:21,770

is no feeling of the table being pushed

396

00:16:24,760 --> 00:16:23,480

or lifted the movement was smooth and

397

00:16:26,980 --> 00:16:24,770

sudden as if the table had suddenly

398

00:16:30,430 --> 00:16:26,990

become weightless weightless it was

399

00:16:32,200 --> 00:16:30,440

quite distinctive this is the setup we

400

00:16:35,590 --> 00:16:32,210

use the darker table for the actual

401
00:16:37,150 --> 00:16:35,600
occasion oh I also have to tell you they

402
00:16:42,160 --> 00:16:37,160
were also looking for what they call

403
00:16:43,449 --> 00:16:42,170
spirit lights I know what you just read

404
00:16:46,780 --> 00:16:43,459
okay so

405
00:16:48,850 --> 00:16:46,790
so they hope to see lights around the

406
00:16:50,439 --> 00:16:48,860
seance room and in fact some lights were

407
00:16:51,790 --> 00:16:50,449
absorbed around my feet and around my

408
00:16:55,840 --> 00:16:51,800
testicles which was a source of

409
00:16:58,569 --> 00:16:55,850
considerable hilarity and it tells that

410
00:17:00,220 --> 00:16:58,579
we there's any lights we saw when we

411
00:17:02,379 --> 00:17:00,230
look at the video afterwards I'm not

412
00:17:05,439 --> 00:17:02,389
going to have time to show you that but

413
00:17:08,500 --> 00:17:05,449

we saw some other anomalous phenomena on

414

00:17:10,240 --> 00:17:08,510

the high-definition video which I'd be

415

00:17:30,450 --> 00:17:10,250

happy to show you later but let me show

416

00:17:58,180 --> 00:17:35,019

yeah we're joking about my testimony I'm

417

00:17:58,190 --> 00:18:06,150

I

418

00:18:06,160 --> 00:18:57,290

ah

419

00:19:03,000 --> 00:19:00,930

okay I think that's probably a good

420

00:19:12,120 --> 00:19:03,010

place to stop and I'm happy to take some

421

00:19:13,890 --> 00:19:12,130

questions when people who want to ask

422

00:19:20,370 --> 00:19:13,900

questions please come up here and speak

423

00:19:22,080 --> 00:19:20,380

into this Mac absolutely fascinating

424

00:19:24,360 --> 00:19:22,090

please tell me you're going to publish

425

00:19:28,080 --> 00:19:24,370

this no I'm not going to publish this

426

00:19:30,090 --> 00:19:28,090

yet I want to wait until we've done a

427

00:19:31,560 --> 00:19:30,100

follow-up investigation where we can do

428

00:19:33,390 --> 00:19:31,570

some more infrared recording because

429

00:19:36,810 --> 00:19:33,400

that's obviously essential for the

430

00:19:38,850 --> 00:19:36,820

cabinet seance I don't recall reading

431

00:19:40,410 --> 00:19:38,860

any literature on cabinet sciences

432

00:19:42,360 --> 00:19:40,420

percent I mean unless you're going back

433

00:19:50,610 --> 00:19:42,370

oh yeah that's what I have to go yeah

434

00:19:54,450 --> 00:19:50,620

great thank you I assume that they under

435

00:19:56,070 --> 00:19:54,460

the table video camera was there among

436

00:19:57,780 --> 00:19:56,080

other things to make sure that nobody

437

00:20:00,740 --> 00:19:57,790

was pushing on the underside of the

438

00:20:03,210 --> 00:20:00,750

table during these antics correct yeah

439

00:20:06,030 --> 00:20:03,220

what I haven't had time to do that is to

440

00:20:08,640 --> 00:20:06,040

coordinate the above camera shots with

441

00:20:11,520 --> 00:20:08,650

the the under camera shots but nothing

442

00:20:13,050 --> 00:20:11,530

untoward was observed and I think next

443

00:20:14,610 --> 00:20:13,060

time they'll try the room is very small

444

00:20:15,960 --> 00:20:14,620

so it was hard to get the kind of angle

445

00:20:21,060 --> 00:20:15,970

we wanted obviously you can't see

446

00:20:22,470 --> 00:20:21,070

everybody's hands so funding print if we

447

00:20:24,570 --> 00:20:22,480

get sufficient funding maybe we can

448

00:20:26,910 --> 00:20:24,580

introduce a third camera so i have two

449

00:20:31,200 --> 00:20:26,920

cameras above the table one underneath

450

00:20:35,880 --> 00:20:31,210

let's see what we can do hi hi um what

451
00:20:38,970 --> 00:20:35,890
are you familiar with other research on

452
00:20:41,010 --> 00:20:38,980
on deceptive methods of doing this type

453
00:20:43,710 --> 00:20:41,020
of thing yeah I know the literature

454
00:20:45,210 --> 00:20:43,720
pretty well again in total darkness

455
00:20:46,410 --> 00:20:45,220
there's not a whole lot you can say

456
00:20:48,210 --> 00:20:46,420
which is why I don't want to reach any

457
00:20:52,730 --> 00:20:48,220
definite conclusions at this stage about

458
00:20:54,570 --> 00:20:52,740
the cabinet seance table levitations are

459
00:20:56,070 --> 00:20:54,580
obviously much more

460
00:20:57,659 --> 00:20:56,080
press of them these kinds of table

461
00:21:00,710 --> 00:20:57,669
movements I don't regard this is

462
00:21:04,409 --> 00:21:00,720
strongly evidential this is just a

463
00:21:06,720 --> 00:21:04,419

genuine interest as a curiosity so it

464

00:21:08,250 --> 00:21:06,730

doesn't prove anything because you know

465

00:21:10,110 --> 00:21:08,260

it's very hard to tell looking at this

466

00:21:12,210 --> 00:21:10,120

what's what the difference is

467

00:21:13,980 --> 00:21:12,220

observational II between the muscular

468

00:21:16,380 --> 00:21:13,990

movement involved in trying to move the

469

00:21:19,080 --> 00:21:16,390

table and the muscular movement involved

470

00:21:21,600 --> 00:21:19,090

or tension involved in trying to keep up

471

00:21:25,680 --> 00:21:21,610

with the table the table tilting

472

00:21:27,600 --> 00:21:25,690

phenomenon is is is has been done in you

473

00:21:29,430 --> 00:21:27,610

know for real by a number of people

474

00:21:31,769 --> 00:21:29,440

however i'm going to say that this

475

00:21:33,779 --> 00:21:31,779

particular video of the table tilting

476
00:21:35,490 --> 00:21:33,789
phenomenon to me as a person who's

477
00:21:37,500 --> 00:21:35,500
familiar with fraudulent methods and

478
00:21:40,970 --> 00:21:37,510
stuff looks like there could be

479
00:21:44,039 --> 00:21:40,980
potential areas that could be absolutely

480
00:21:45,389 --> 00:21:44,049
that I mean it's fascinating by all

481
00:21:47,460 --> 00:21:45,399
means but I'd love for you to talk to me

482
00:21:48,779 --> 00:21:47,470
afterwards well I'll just say I agree

483
00:21:53,190 --> 00:21:48,789
that this is not even remotely

484
00:21:54,899 --> 00:21:53,200
evidential the circle readers hands were

485
00:21:57,060 --> 00:21:54,909
not placed as I would have liked them to

486
00:21:58,950 --> 00:21:57,070
be these people over here had their

487
00:22:01,350 --> 00:21:58,960
hands very lightly on the table the

488
00:22:03,060 --> 00:22:01,360

circle leader allowed is his wrist to

489

00:22:04,830 --> 00:22:03,070

drop so you can't tell whether he's

490

00:22:07,080 --> 00:22:04,840

doing this I think if you study the

491

00:22:09,810 --> 00:22:07,090

video carefully and we have quite a lot

492

00:22:12,149 --> 00:22:09,820

of it it's hard to explain some of the

493

00:22:14,159 --> 00:22:12,159

table movements in terms of the hands

494

00:22:15,629 --> 00:22:14,169

that you can see but there's a lot more

495

00:22:26,460 --> 00:22:15,639

needs to be said thank you very much