

# A NEW Experience!

**T**ravel back over 100 years to a time "before the movies," when the spell-binding drama and humor of the Showman and the spectacular projected images from his "Magic Lantern Show" dazzled audiences across America. The stunning brass triple-lantern, glorious hand-painted illustrations, a giant screen, the showman's legendary storytelling skills, rousing music and sing-alongs, dazzling 19th century "special effects"—all combine to create this spell-binding entertainment of the Victorian age.

The Amish Experience  
presents



# MAGIC-LANTERN SHOWS

at the Plain & Fancy Theater ♥ Bird-in-Hand, PA

## The Only Permanent Magic Lantern Theater in the World

Magic Lantern shows are a re-creation of the performances of the late 1800's, when literally thousands of Magic Lantern Showmen traveled from town to town with unforgettable productions that both educated and entertained, shows that were the equivalent to modern movies.

These very special Magic Lantern Shows were almost lost in the sands of time, but now you can experience them at the only permanent magic lantern theater in the world, through a collaboration of The American Magic-Lantern Theater and The Amish Experience.

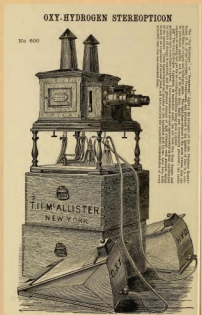
## A Unique Entertainment Experience

With antique hand-painted pictures on glass, combined with widely-recognized stories, the Showman interacts with his audience, bringing multiple characters and voices to life, magically manipulating artistic images against a backdrop of music, sound effects, and sing-alongs.

Then as now, spectators loved special effects. The rare triple lantern (an authentic Victorian wonder) will amaze one and all with its unusual visual effects. The spectacular lantern projects stunning images using tank slides, dissolves, chromatropes, and other unexpected mechanical "tricks" seldom seen in the 21st Century. Audiences today experience both surprise and enchantment, just as they did over 100 years ago.

## Did You Know?

- By the 19th century, the magic lantern was widely used in theaters, churches, fraternal lodges, and homes. In 1895 there were over 30,000 lantern showmen in the United States alone, giving well over 75,000 performances a year.
- The Magic Lantern was invented in the 1650's, probably by Christiaan Huygens, a Dutch scientist, and was originally lit by candles.
- The name "magic lantern" comes from the experience of the early audiences who saw devils and angels mysteriously appear and disappear on walls.
- The earliest known Magic Lantern Show on American soil was in Salem, Massachusetts in 1743.
- Until electricity came along in the 20th century, the lantern was lit by "limelight," created by heating a piece of limestone in burning gas until it became incandescent. Although dangerous, it could project images large enough to be seen by thousands of people.
- Over 100,000 toy children's lanterns were sold each year.





AMISH EXPERIENCE PRESENTS

# MAGIC LANTERN SHOWS

AT PLAIN & FANCY THEATER

“A Living National Treasure”

— National Public Radio

## All-New Productions!

**Bible Stories Magic Lantern Show** - The Perfect Complement to any Sight & Sound Production! Journey with us through the Bible and stories inspired by Scripture. See the spectacularly illustrated Creation. Help Noah load the animals aboard the ark. Travel with Moses, Jacob, and Joseph to the Promised Land. Stand with David as he confronts Goliath. Be inspired by the Magic Lantern version of the Passion Play. Experience the uplifting story of BEN-HUR as his life intertwines with that of Jesus. Sing along with hymns like “Old Time Religion” and “Amazing Grace.” Be moved, entertained, and heartened by a presentation, truly like no other!

**Christmas Magic Lantern Show** This authentic 1890's visual extravaganza features classic Christmas stories and poems including “The Night Before Christmas,” and “Little Britches,” the gripping story of a little boy lost in a Christmas snowstorm. Marvel at Scrooge's transformation in “A Christmas Carol,” and beware the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come! Sing-along to “Joy to the World” and “Angels We Have Heard on High.” Enjoy the excitement of an animated “Parade of Christmas Toys,” with dancing dolls, rubber-faced clowns, and a twirling monkey. You'll be swept back to a joyous celebration of the Victorian age that rekindles fond Christmas memories of friends and family.

**Patriotic Show** Come with us as we travel through the early days of our Nation's history in story, song, and comedy. Join the patriots in their struggle for independence. Salute them with a rousing chorus of “Yankee Doodle.” Hear stirring stories like “The Man Without a Country.” Experience a Nation torn apart by Civil War. Laugh out loud at the animated Uncle Sam, and marvel at the Fourth of July “Fireworks” through the magic of the triple lantern and its moving images. Proudly wave your flag and join with us as we celebrate America's story!

**Book Your Group!** You'll want to include a Magic Lantern Show at the Plain & Fancy Theater for your groups visiting Amish Country (show duration: approx. 45 minutes). Remember, it's the only permanent theater in the world where they can delight in these shows of another time, produced in cooperation with The American Magic-Lantern Theater. In the words of National Public Radio, the shows are “a Living National Treasure.”

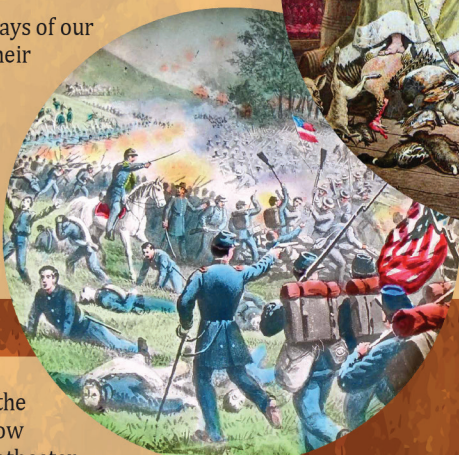
**Add Jacob's Choice, a Meal, and Sight and Sound** We've long been a partner with Plain & Fancy Farm, Amish Country's original family-style restaurant right beside the theater, as well as other area dining venues. Likewise, we conveniently offer reservations for groups at Sight & Sound Theatre. So call us for totally professional, one-stop bookings for the exciting new Magic Lantern Shows, all things Amish including the spectacular “Jacob's Choice,” tours of the Amish Country Homestead, step-on guide service, and exclusive theme tours for a most memorable day in Amish Country.

**Magic Lantern Shows at The Amish Experience**  
PO Box 414  
3121 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505  
AmishExperience.com  
800.555.2303 • 717.768.8400

Clinton Martin • Ext.217  
clinton@AmishExperience.com

Caleb Bressler • Ext.214  
caleb@AmishExperience.com

Brad Igou • Ext.218  
brad@AmishExperience.com



The Amish Experience Presents

# MAGIC-LANTERN SHOWS

at Plain & Fancy Theater • Bird-in-Hand, PA

the  
Amish  
Experience

plain & fancy  
farm to table since 1959