

The Robot Inventors

Scene: Table, covered with old sheet or cover reaching to floor at front. Fishbowl or other glass bowl, test tubes, flasks, etc., are on table. Six scientists in lab jackets (women's blouses, collars turned inside, put on backwards) stand at each end and back of table. Scientist 2 is reading a book, plainly titled, "How to Invent a Robot." Scientist 3 is looking over his shoulder. Scientist 4 is stirring liquid in bowl with wooden spoon.

SCIENTIST 1: It doesn't seem to be working.

SCIENTIST 2: I can't understand it.

SCIENTIST 3: We'll have to change the formula.

(Scientist 4 adds soda to vinegar water in bowl, mixture fizzes)

SCIENTIST 7: *(Enters from stage left, carrying top hat)* I've got it! I've got it! A friend of mine told me just how to do it *(places hat on table)*. You just say "Abracadabra 1 – 2 – 3," reach in, and...

SCIENTIST 4: Wait a minute. What did you say your friend's name was?

SCIENTIST 7: Magisto the Magician. He says he's pulled a robot out of a hat lots of times.

SCIENTIST 5: That's *rabbit*, you idiot!

(Scientist 2 raises book, Scientist 4 raises spoon, Scientists 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 chase Scientist 7 offstage left. Scientist 6 starts to follow, stops, and looks at hat.)

SCIENTIST 6: *(Shrugging shoulders)* It might work. "Abracadabra 1 – 2 – 3" *(Takes hold of hat with left hand, tips it toward himself at edge of table, reaches "in," [really reaches behind table] grabs "robot" who has been hidden behind table and pulls him out of hat)*. Hey it worked! Now I'll just push this button *(pushes button robot, robot drops to all fours, hops offstage, showing bunny tail bobbing at back)*.