



TAEWON KIM

FOR CHILDREN

## Wizards Without Wands

**'SNAP' AT THE NEW VICTORY THEATER** (Friday, 2 p.m.; Saturday, 2 and 7 p.m.; Sunday, noon and 4 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 2 p.m.; through April 28) Sometimes objects seem to have minds of their own. There's no mistaking their contrariness in this amusing show from South Korea, which combines polished illusion, Chaplinesque comedy and old-fashioned circus arts into a 70-minute whirl. A scarf zips through the air, zooming in and out of various containers; a paintbrush reappears in a performer's hand as soon as he puts it away; a closed umbrella stubbornly attaches itself to its owner's finger. Performed wordlessly, the acts occasionally incorporate magnificent sleight of hand: The Florist (Chang-min Lee) appears to make infinite numbers of glittery cards materialize, multiply and dematerialize, while the Alchemist (Young-min Kim, above) seems to produce a metal hoop from sand particles and then dissolve it into the same. Other routines clearly depend on lighting effects and technology, but that didn't faze children at a recent performance. For them, magic was magic, whether produced by fine-tuned dexterity or digital wizardry. **LAUREL**

GRAEBER

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