Silent Telepathy

THE TRICK: The magician tells the audience that while he is out of the room it is to choose one of its number. He then tells the group that he will identify that person by reading the thoughts of his assistant. The magician leaves while the audience chooses and then he returns. After staring intently at the assistant for a minute or so, as if he were indeed reading the assistant's mind, the magician makes the correct identification.

THE SECRET: Before the magician returns, the assistant crosses his legs with the toe of the upper foot pointing directly at the chosen person. When the magician enters the room he quickly glances at his assistant's foot and then pretends to be lost in contemplation before making the identification. This trick works best in a small group, so that the magician can be sure exactly where the foot is pointing. If the person chosen is sitting right next to the assistant, it may be hard to point a foot at him. In this case, the assistant leaves his legs uncrossed and crosses his arms instead, with the upper hand pointing directly at the person to be identified.