



# DOEPAK

DuP<sub>AK</sub> DoeP<sub>AK</sub> POPPENSPE(E)LMUSEUMKRUIJELKRANTKRABBEL DoeP<sub>AK</sub> DuP<sub>AK</sub>  
Newsletter and Scribblings No. 208d



## Semar: the mask of a wise, Indonesian jester

One of the *punakawan* (comical characters, meaning 'servants of royalty' in wayang) is the Javanese wise fool and divine clown Semar. Together with his sons Nala Gareng and Petruk he tackles problems in many *lakons* (wayang stories). Semar is the servant and adviser of gods and aristocrats. He has a fat bottom and belly, a large face and only one or two teeth in his mouth.

Would you like to learn even more about wayang puppetry figures? In our museum shop we have family board games, postcards, posters and documentation in Dutch, French, German and English, such as Semar, the old-Dutch Jan Klaassen and Katrijn and their English cousins Judy and Mr Punch. You will find more information about the museum collection on [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl), [www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2](http://www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2) and [www.poppenspelmuseum.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl).

Hyperlinks: klik on the **bold printed** words. Illustration: Elsje Zwart © (2013). Concept: Otto van der Mieden © (2013). **Applause!**

Doepak presents some unusual theatre forms, far beyond the confines of our own fantasy! Doepak is a cheerful, educational and colourful Dutch-language newsletter packed with background information about folk and mainstream puppet theatre. In this newsletter and scribblings you can also read about all kinds of activities in the Puppetry Museum such as which exhibitions are on show, whether new books were issued, and how the website is developing. The Dutch verbs of 'doen' (do) and 'pakken' (take) are hidden in the name of the Doepak newsletter. This name was composed for good reason, because you are supposed to 'do' and 'take' things yourself. The name 'Doepak' is also the phonetic transcription in Dutch of the Czech word *dupák*. A *dupák* is a rod marionette and trick puppet. Where the *dupák* swings his arms wide as he twirls around. Doepak embraces the international world of puppetry and related arts with its hints and tips, questions and answers, illustrations and DIY activities. In Slovakian and Hungarian puppet theatre the *dupák* is called *Paprika Jancsi*.



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One of the *punakawan* (comical characters, meaning 'servants of royalty' in wayang) is the Javanese wise fool and divine clown **Semar**. Glue the Semar mask (*wayang topeng*) on a thick piece of paper if you want to make it stronger. Cut out the mask around the edges. Also cut out the eyeholes and the mouth. Pull a small elastic band through the holes on either side of the mask and fasten them with a loop. Put on the mask and pull the elastic bands around your ears. Take a photograph of yourself or of someone else wearing the mask. Send the photo with your name and address or email address to [info@poppenspelmuseum.nl](mailto:info@poppenspelmuseum.nl) and you may win a free admission ticket to the Puppetry Museum. The nicest entry will be published on [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/Wayang.aspx](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/Wayang.aspx) (general information about wayang from Indonesia). Hyperlinks: click on the **bold printed** words. Illustration: **Elsje Zwart** ©.

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