



# Doepak

Doepak Doepak POPPENSPE(E)LMUSEUM NEWSLETTER AND SCRIBBLINGS NUMBER 20d Doepak Doepak



Een *dupák* (spreek uit: *doepak*) is een stang- en trucpop. Het nummer met de dupák wordt in het Tsjechische en Slowaakse volkspopentheater met marionetten en stangpoppen altijd als toegift opgevoerd. De pop maakt sprongen waarbij zijn lijf beurtelings lang en kort wordt. Het is een truc die overeenkomt met het uitrekken en weer inkrumpen van de hals van de *Dood van Pierlala* in de poppenkast. Pierlala is een stokpop en wordt van onderaf gemanipuleerd; de dupák wordt als stangpop van bovenaf bewogen. Terwijl het rijzen van Pierlala's hals heel langzaam en onder doodse stilte geschiedt, gaat het strekken en inkrumpen van de dupák razendsnel en met veel rumoer. Dupák betekent 'stampend'. De houten voeten zijn met lood verzwaard. Het lijf van de pop is een zak van stof. De stang waaraan de dupák hangt, gaat door de kop en het lijf heen en zit vast aan de houten heup. Het gat in de kop is iets wijder dan de dikte van de stang, waardoor de kop soepel op en neer gaat. Aan weerszijden van de kop van de dupák is een touw vastgemaakt. De touwtjes gaan omhoog en zijn bevestigd aan een speelhoutje. Door dit houtje op en neer te bewegen, rekt en krimpt het lappen lijf. De pop gaat als het ware door de knieën en veert west op. Behalve springen kan de dupák ook om zijn as draaien; daarbij zwieren zijn armen wijd uit.

## Dupák, Doepak

*Doepak* is the Dutch-language educational newsletter issued by the Puppetry Museum. In this newsletter, each individual letter from the word 'Doepak' is used as the first letter in a small text block. In this way, the letters form an acrostic. The name 'Doepak' is the phonetic transcription in Dutch of the Czech word 'dupák'. A dupák puppet moves just like a rod puppet, jumping and stamping across a tiny puppet stage. In a manner of speaking, the newsletter skips through the wondrous world of international puppet theatre. Just as a dupák jumps about and his body becomes taller and shorter, so the Doepak highlights greater and smaller puppet theatre subjects. Where the dupák flings his arms wide, Doepak embraces the international puppet theatre with small texts and pictures.

✂ Try it yourself? Add a bit of colour to the devil in the letter D. Picture: the Death of Pierlala (rod puppet, character from the old-Dutch puppet theatre) and Mephisto (hand puppet).



*Silence is the most powerful language  
'A puppet is soundless, silence is its most powerful language.  
But, because – from a pantomime viewpoint – it is not powerful enough, we tend to resort to texts.'*

## Old and young puppet lovers

In the Puppetry Museum, people of all ages – young and old – are introduced in a playful way to forms of puppet theatre from Europe, Asia and Africa. The museum is the only Dutch cultural heritage institution with a puppet theatre collection that is open to the public. The collection is unique from the point of view of its diversity and international orientation. The museum gives a truly representative impression of traditional and contemporary puppet theatre. It offers its visitors lots of fun looking at and associating with the vast museum collection, opens the door to people's imagination, and presents themed exhibitions in a cheery and informative way.

✂ Try it yourself? Add some colour to the object puppet in the letter O. Picture: Black Lola (washing-up brush) and moustached gentleman (hand brush).

The museum collection comprises hand puppets, rod marionettes, rod puppets and Jumping Jacks, marionettes, masks, shadow puppet theatre and shadow figures, wayang figures, paper theatres, paraphernalia, prints, photographs, and books. It also includes works by visual artists, such as Marjo van den Boomen, Anton Corbijn, Jean Dulieu, Ed van der Elsen, Martha and Matthias Griebler, Mitsy Groenendijk, Teun Hocks, Dirkje Kuik, Erwin Olaf and many others.

## Pick and DIY

*PAK* en *DOE*: the two Dutch verbs 'PAK' (Pick) and 'DOE' (DIY) in the Doepak newsletter and museum stimulate visitors to take their pick from one of the ideas provided to them and to do something with it. Doepak refers its readers to the museum's websites. Some Doepak editions are also published in French, German and English. Each newsletter contains assignments and questions. The correct answers to the questions can be found in the Dutch-language Puppetry Theatre ABC (*poppentheater-abc*), in the themed exhibitions, through the information pillars in the museum, in the multi-language and illustrated Puppetry Museum Pamphlets, in the bilingual museum newsletter (Dutch and English), and in the museum library. The information centre comprises over seven thousand works in Western and non-Western languages, including novels, poetry, children's books, documentation, comics, scripts, performance texts, sheet music, reference books, magazines, video recordings and DVDs on the subject of puppet theatre and related arts. All these works can be consulted and viewed in the museum by request.

✂ Try it yourself? Add a bit of colour to the puppet in the letter P. What is the name of this marionette that becomes human?

## Kindred puppet theatre figures

Stroll through the museum and have a look at the traditional Dutch Jan Klaassen and his wife Katrijn characters and kindred puppets, such as: Guignol from Lyon, Pulcinella from Naples, the Nose ('de Neus', one of the 'Voddebalen' – ragbags – from the 'poesjenellenkelder' cellar theatre from Antwerp), the Javanese clown Semar, the long-armed Karagöz from Turkey, the French Polichinelle with a cat, the English Mr Punch and his wife Judy, the baby and their dog Toby. But there are others to be seen: the hangman, the landlord, the general, the crocodile, Pinocchio, and foot and knee puppets. And don't forget to have a good look at our collection of items from the world of puppetry. For example, the jester's hat and a wide range of puppetry objects such as: the gallows, the little box, the puppet theatre bell, the club, the carpet beater and the puppeteer and organ grinder's collecting box. Applause!

✂ Try it yourself? Add a bit of colour to the crocodile (in Dutch called 'krokodil') in the letter K. Picture: monster (hand puppet after a figure by Misha Kluit – puppeteer on Dam Square in Amsterdam from 2001 to 2007).

## Endless information

The puppetry collection provides a good and comprehensive overview of the rich history and wide diversity of puppet and object theatre. Films and pictures of puppets, photographs and posters of puppeteers and puppetry troupes from the Netherlands and other countries, wayang figures from Indonesia, nineteenth-century penny prints and many other things can be seen on [www.poppenspel-museumbibliotheek.nl](http://www.poppenspel-museumbibliotheek.nl) and on [www.geheugenvannederland.nl](http://www.geheugenvannederland.nl).

✂ Try it yourself? Add a bit of colour to Eucalypta in the letter E. Picture: witch and friend of the Paulus de Boskabouter character – a creation by Dutch author, children's books writer, drawing artist and puppeteer, Jean Dulieu (1921-2006).



## Admission

The museum is open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. **Reservation is required.** Group visits can also be arranged on other days and/or at other times. Admission adults: € 5.50. CJP (young people's cultural passport, valid on regular opening days, not for arrangements) and children (3-12 years): € 4.50. Puppetry treasure hunts: € 1. Use of the multimedia library: € 6 (+ admission to museum). Admission in connection with a private tour, a demonstration or an activity (adults and children from age 2): € 8 per person (min. 10 persons, max. 25 persons). Children's party € 6 per person (min. 10 participants, excluding treasure hunt game). Refreshments from € 1.60. 'Friends of the Puppetry Museum' membership: minimum fee € 35 p.a. Cash only. No pin payment system available.

✂ Try it yourself? Add a bit of colour to the constable (in Dutch called 'agent') in the letter A. Picture: constable (hand puppet).

## Doepak solutions and acknowledgements

✂ Try it yourself? Illustrations of alphabet colouring letters: Elsje Zwart © (2012). Concept and text: Otto van der Mieden © (2013). The correct answer is: Pinocchio. 'Silence is the most powerful language': quotation by Feike Boschma – marionette puppeteer. Also refer to Poppenspe(e)ltechnieken en -figuren (Puppetry techniques and figures): a Dutch-language series of educational publications and an interactive program with texts, pictures and films. This presentation comprises explanations of terms and expressions, puppetry techniques, characteristic puppet theatre figures and people, see: [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/pamflet118a.pdf](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/pamflet118a.pdf) and [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/Pamflet27a.pdf](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/Pamflet27a.pdf).

Doepak Newsletter and Scribblings no. 20d on the internet, see: [www.poppenspel-museumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/DoepakXXd.pdf](http://www.poppenspel-museumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/DoepakXXd.pdf). Picture: Dupák resembling the traditional Dutch Jan Klaassen character: Hetty Paërl © (1994), after a design by the Slovakian folk puppeteer Anton Anderle (1944-2008).



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Kerkweg 38 8193 KL Vorchten NL T: +31(0)578 - 63 13 29 F: +31(0)578 - 56 06 21  
[www.poppenspelmuseum.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl) [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl) [info@poppenspelmuseum.nl](mailto:info@poppenspelmuseum.nl)