



# POPPELSPELMUSEUM PAMFLET



*Puppet Pamphlet: an information memo from the Puppetry Museum  
Number 1d*

## □ Welcome

We are proud to welcome you to the Puppetry Museum in *Vorchten*, an exciting and unusual museum about puppet theatre. *Vorchten* is a small town near the centre of *The Netherlands*.

*Mr Punch, Judy* and all their friends will be staying with us again this year in between their other engagements. The illustrious *Punch* family and others of their circle look upon the museum as their Dutch country estate. *Judy* sometimes calls it 'Punch's annex'. And *Punch*, in a stage whisper, calls it 'Judy's hovel'. But nonetheless they are as proud as punch (forgive the pun) of the 'leisure palace' close to the banks of the river *IJssel* between *Deventer* and *Zwolle*. *Wijhe* is on the opposite side of the river if you need to look it up on a map. We can rightfully speak of a miraculous *fata morgana* museum, surrounded with mist, cornfields, windmills and molehills.

In colourful, characteristic rooms and display cabinets we have a display of unusual (photographic) work by contemporary artists. There are surprising, cheerful rooms and a fascinating cellar full of mini-displays about various aspects of puppet theatre. Embark on a voyage of discovery, a return to childhood innocence; come and enjoy yourself.

## □ Exhibitions

### **Fascinating exhibitions for young and old**

#### *\* Puppetry Pastiche*

Under the name "Puppetry Pastiche", we are exhibiting a series of cardboard table-top theatres with scenes which are a pastiche - i.e. an imitation of the style of an artist or a period - of illustrations and photographs from the Puppetry Museum's collection. In addition to the themes which are highlighted in the pastiche theatres, the exhibition also includes illustrations and photographs.

#### *\* Pulcinella - illustrations and puppets*

A glimpse of the most important figure from the Italian *Commedia dell'Arte*, with cut-out theatres, photos, illustrations, puppets, video and a photo-CD.

#### *\* A lot of theatre at very little cost*

Shadow theatre as it was being played around the turn of last century, with 'ombres chinoises animées' and hand-shadows.

#### *\* A hall full of fiery characters and a gallery with a reprobate*

The vandals of the rod puppet theatre.

#### *\* Playful photography*

Three-dimensional and set-piece photos which have had colours added, about *Marjo van den Boomen*, *Teun Hocks* and *Henk Tas*.

#### *\* In focus: two Royal portraits*

Photographs taken by *Erwin Olaf*.

#### *\* Save your pennies, or you won't have a penny to your name*

A mini exhibition of savings pots and money boxes, and going round with the hat.

#### *\* Pantin and Buffoon, Jumping Jacks on every step*

Stairs and a landing full of Jumping Jacks from all over the world.

#### *\* Smutty and sleazy, in the puppet theatre and behind it*

Visit a loo totally lacking in decorum but full of prints of impropriety (some erotically flavoured).

#### *\* Heavens above, good Lord, I'm dead!*

An exhibition about folk puppet theatre and Death. With an artists book, a paper theatre, penny prints, puppets, literature, music and a moving-picture book.

#### *\* Holodesk*

A modern mini peep-show of an imaginary - virtual - world.

## **The book collection**

The *book collection* contains more than seven thousand editions, in many different languages and covering a wide variety of subjects connected with puppets, puppetry, shadow and object theatre.

## **Museum shop**

The *museum shop* stocks a selection of postcards, mini puppet theatres, books and many other things connected with puppetry and puppet theatre.



## **Aunty Judy**

Take a break and enjoy a cup of coffee and a snack from *Aunty Judy (Trijntje Peterselie's kitchen)*.

## **Try it out for yourself**

Under the motto *Try it out for yourself* we offer our visitors the chance to become acquainted with the various puppetry techniques and the history of (folk) puppet theatre, with the aid of games and playthings.

## **Opening days and times**

The museum is open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 5 p.m. **Advance booking is required.** Opening days and times can be extended on request.

## **Websites**

Would you like to learn more about puppetry and expressive theatre?

The [www.poppenspelmuseum.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl) website in four languages and the bilingual [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl) website provide information about the museum, puppetry and the museum library. The Dutch-language and abundantly-illustrated *ABC of Puppetry* gives explanations for expressions, words, puppetry techniques, characteristic theatre and puppet theatre figures, and persons.

The bilingual [www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2](http://www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2) provides a wealth of information about the varied puppet theatre collection. On [www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs) a playful journey can be made through the wondrous world of puppet theatre.

Illustration: Mr Punch, Judy, the baby and Toby the dog. England (190-?). POPMUS OvdM 2013.

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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 www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2*  
*www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs www.poppenspel.info*  
*www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl info@poppenspelmuseum.nl*