



Mr Klaassen on clogs: a shadow figure

Try it yourself? Another exciting activity from the Puppetry Museum. Add a bit of colour to the traditional Dutch Jan Klaassen. His hat and jack are red and his striped trousers are yellow with orange. Carefully cut Jan out. Use split pins to attach his arms and legs to his body. Attach a straw/small stick to his hand and another one to his body. Hang up a stretched white sheet or a sheet of paper. Add a light source. 'Slapperdemallemosterdpot', says this rascal to his audience. Mr Punch – Jan's English cousin – always says, 'That's the way to do it!', when he threatens his opponents with his stick before knocking them down mercilessly.

At the end of the play, his opponents are lying lifelessly on the puppet theatre stage.

Would you like to learn even more about international puppet theatre? Then make a journey through the wondrous world of puppet theatre on our Dutch-language website www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs. You will also have a chance of winning a jolly puppetry comic. On our multi-language www.poppenspelmuseum.nl and www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2 websites you will find information about the museum, theme-based exhibitions and the museum collection. The Dutch-language Poppentheater-abc (ABC of Puppetry) gives explanations for a wide range of puppetry techniques, objects, figures, and characters. Illustration: Gitte Clemens © (1997). 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 marionotet and trick puppet. Where the dupák swings his arms wide as he twirks 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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