

Puppetry Museum websites: information

Try it yourself? Another exciting activity from the Dutch *Poppenspe(e)lmuseum* (Puppetry Museum). Explore *www.poppenspelmuseum.nl* and discover a site with pictures of *puppet theatre characters* and information about our museum and *theme-based exhibitions*. Select a language of your choice on the starting page. On this website the traditional Dutch *Jan Klaassen* character will greet you with 'Welkom' while the German *Kasperl* will say 'Willkommen'. The English *Mr Punch* says 'Welcome' and the French *Guignol* calls 'Bienvenue'. For a change, click on *Katrijn* (Jan Klaassen's wife), the *cat* and the *objects* in the *puppetry scene*. The *book picture* will lead you to the Dutch-language ABC of Puppetry (*poppentheater-abc*) with explanations on puppetry techniques, objects, figures and characters. In this way you may also discover *Pulcinella*, the Italian ancestor of many European clown puppets.

Would you like to learn even more about national and international folk and mainstream puppet theatre? Make a journey through the wondrous world of puppet theatre on our Dutch-language website www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs and you may win a puppetry comic. On the bi-lingual (Dutch and English) www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2 and www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl sites you will find information about the international collections of books, prints, photographs and puppet theatre, our educational publications, a variety of documentation, and information about artists who were inspired by puppet, figure and expressive theatre. Moreover, you can also watch film fragments.

The title descriptions of the books in our *library* contain a number of *key words*. Via our library site you can find some seven thousand publications by using the Dutch language 'trefwoordenlijst' (subject list). You can also search by 'titel' (title), 'auteur' (author) or 'vrij zoeken' (free search). Our *information centre* is open by appointment. Literature can be found via the *computer* and the *shelf mark stickers* on the spines of book covers. Visitors are invited to help themselves to the documentation on the shelves and to replace it. Video recordings of national and international puppetry performances and films can be shown by request. Jolly postcards and colourful posters of puppetry characters can be bought at the *museum shop*. Concept and text: Otto van der Mieden © (2011). Have lots of fun looking and searching. 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 arns 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 swings is called Paprika Jancsi.