

Logo



On the left-hand side of the museum logo you can see Jan Klaassen, the Dutch cousin of the English Mr Punch: he is wielding a club. On the right you see the cheerful descendant of the Italian Pulcinella, Jan's wife Katrijn (the equivalent of the British Judy). She is waving a carpet beater. She is playfully tugging the letter 'E' out of the name of the museum with a string wrapped around her foot, pretending she is the puppeteer who is holding all the strings. This extra letter 'E' is a play on words in Dutch: combining a play with

playing, meaning that this is not only a museum where you can look around, but specifically one where the visitor is himself asked: "Do you want to try it yourself?"

Folk puppet theatre figures

The figures in the logo also refer to various other distinctive leading characters from the tragi-comic nineteenth century folk puppet theatre, including the German Kasperl, the French Polichinelle and, of course, Mr Punch and his wife Judy. These comic archetypes, with their oh-so-recognizable homely ups and downs, in reality turn a mirror onto their esteemed audience.

Picture: Jan Klaassen with his club and Katrijn with her carpet beater.