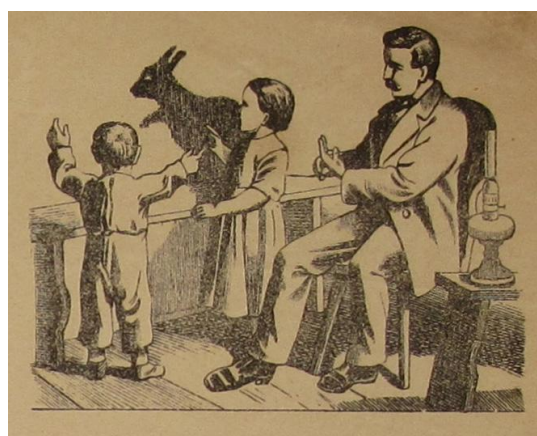


DOEPAK



Du **P**AK Doe **P**AK POPPENSPE(E)LMUSEUMKRUIJELKRANTKRABEL Doe **P**AK Du **P**AK
 Newsletter and Scribblings No. 170d



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Hand gymnastics: shadow puppetry

Try it yourself? Another exciting activity from the Dutch *Poppenspe(e)lmuseum* (Puppetry Museum). Shadows and silhouettes encourage fantasy! The art of *hand shadows* is an ancient form of entertainment. A hand shadow is created by positioning the fingers of one or two – gloved or non-gloved – hands in a certain shape between a bright light and a wall or screen. In this way, a shadow image of a snail, a horse, a bunny rabbit, a dog, a camel, a swan, a goat and other figures can be depicted on the wall or screen. In *shadow puppetry*, flat figures are moved between a light source and a semi-transparent screen that is made of a sheet or white drawing paper. If a shadow figure is held further away from the screen, the shadow it casts will become larger and out of focus. During a shadow puppetry performance, the audience is seated on the side of the screen where only the shadows can be seen. Performances are usually given in a dark room, which makes it more exciting!

Illustrations: [no. 2] picture from *Poppenspe(e)ltechnieken en -figuren no. 17* (Puppetry techniques and characters), a Dutch-language educational series that highlights folk and mainstream puppet theatre. Illustration: Elsje Zwart © (2010). ‘The Glove Theatre’ [no. 3], partial picture of photo work by Maria Stijger © (2007), winner of the 2010 photo competition organised by Dutch magazine *Hollands Diep*. Theme: fashion. Camel [no. 1] and goat [no. 4], partial picture of a *centsprent*, a full-size print named after the price – one cent – that was paid for it, the Netherlands/Germany/France (circa 1800).

Would you like to learn more about hand shadow play or shadow puppetry and 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 www.poppenspelmuseum.nl and www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2 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. Extra information: audiovisual presentation *Traditionele volkspoppentheatertechnieken, -figuren en -attributen* (Puppetry techniques and figures). See: vimeo.com/27862356 and www.youtube.com/watch?v=T30HWwHZmZE (deel 1), deel 2, deel 3, deel 4 and deel 5 (parts 1 to 5). Hyperlinks: click on the **bold-printed** words. Have lots of fun viewing and reading. **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 arms wide as he twirls 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 Janosi*.

