



MUSEUM & SPECIAL EXHIBITS

1404 Spring Street at 18th • Atlanta, GA 30309 • www.puppet.org • Administration: 404.873.3089

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PUPPETS: THE POWER OF WONDER

DESCRIPTION: *PUPPETS: The Power of Wonder* is a hands-on museum displaying more than 350 puppets from various time periods and countries around the world. All provide an exploration of puppetry as an international, ancient and popular art form.

OPENING DATE: September 5, 1995

BARBARA AND BILL WYLLY Vincent Anthony
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

EXHIBIT CURATOR: Dr. Michael Malkin, Professor of Theatre, California Polytechnic State University

ARCHITECT: Roy Frangiamore, Frangiamore Architects, Inc. of Atlanta

INFORMATION: The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 9am to 5pm and Sunday from 11am to 5pm. Reservations are required for guided tours of *PUPPETS: The Power of Wonder*. For tickets, call 404.873.3391.

HIGHLIGHTS:
Trashcan Phoenix As visitors enter the exhibit, a trashcan rises into a nine-foot Phoenix (the symbol of Atlanta) to introduce them to the wonder and power of puppetry as an art form. The Trash Can Phoenix was designed by animatronics artist Michael Curry, who has worked to animate several figures for Walt Disney World, as well as Broadway's *Lion King*.

The Puppet Storeroom This area replicates a puppet storage room, where performance puppets are found covering walls, ceilings and floor. Eleven puppets in the storeroom move periodically (electronically) to demonstrate a basic element of puppetry—the animation of inanimate objects.

Theater Area A video of the late Jim Henson interviewing six of his favorite puppeteers from around the world provides an overview and frame of reference for visitors.

Animation & Imagination The concepts of animation and imagination in the art of puppetry are explored using interactive exhibits. Puppet styles range from very abstract to detailed realism.

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- The Sacred & The Profane In this room, the ancient art of shadow puppetry is featured in a re-creation of a shadow puppet theater of Indonesia, including a video presentation on a traditional shadow puppet screen. The room also explores the usage of puppets as sacred objects to be revered, and profane objects, which exhibit irreverence or satire.
- Adults Only Video of performances by Wayland Flowers and Madame (with sound accessible to adults only) exemplifies the use of adult humor in puppetry. Madame herself is also on display, along with three other adult puppets.
- The Puppet Arcade Visitors can learn to create shadow animals and go under sea with a huge octopus and clam. This display also introduces visitors to newer technologies in puppetry via radio-controlled puppets, which were designed and built by Michael Curry.
- Strange & Beautiful Objects Major objects from the Center's permanent collection are on view. From Jim Henson's "Pigs in Space" to puppets from Africa, China and Asia, this selection provides a historical and cross-cultural perspective of puppets as art objects.
- Discovery Boxes Placed throughout the museum, these bright yellow doors hide more puppets and museum secrets.
- Exit Gate A full-body interactive puppet of a Praying Mantis, special lighting and mirror effects transform visitors into human puppets as they exit the museum. This exhibit was also designed by Michael Curry.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

SPECIAL EXHIBIT GALLERY

- TITLE: PUPPETRY IN FOCUS: Treasures from our Global Collection
DATES: January 24, 2003 – June 18, 2006
CURATOR: Susan Kinney & Bradford Clark
DESIGNER: Bradford Clark
DESCRIPTION: Drawing from recent acquisitions and never-before-seen pieces in the Center's permanent collection, this exclusive showing of puppets from more than 50 countries spotlights the vital cultural role puppetry plays in communities around the world.
- TITLE: GODS AND DEMONS, MONKEYS AND MEN
DATES: July 7, 2006 – June 17, 2006
CURATOR: Dr. Kathy Foley
DESIGNER: Bradford Clark
DESCRIPTION: Vibrant, hand-carved masks from Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia and more reveal the spiritual and social dimensions of one of the oldest forms of theatre in Southeast Asia.

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ATRIUM

TITLE: ART CLOKEY'S *GUMBY*: The First 50 Years
DATES: August 4, 2006 – March 4, 2007
CURATOR: Susan Kinney
DESIGNER: Susan Kinney
DESCRIPTION: Fifty years old and still without a wrinkle, Art Clokey's famous green clay character, Gumby, and his amiable horse, Pokey, are here in photographs, scripts, storyboards, props and more.

WALLS

TITLE: POSTERS INTERNATIONAL: A Puppet Perspective
DATES: August 31, 2001 – present
CURATOR: Susan Kinney
DESCRIPTION: Colorful, bold graphics characterize these posters from Centers and Festivals of UNIMA (Union Internationale de la Marionnette), the world's oldest theatre organization.

ADMISSION

Each full-priced performance ticket includes admission to the museum and special exhibits. When purchased individually, admission to the museum and special exhibits is \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior & students, \$6 for children. Please contact the Ticket Sales Office at 404.873.3391 for reservations and group tour information.

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The Center for Puppetry Arts is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts; the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly (the Council is a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts); and contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations. Major funding for the Center is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council. Major support is provided by the City of Atlanta Bureau of Cultural Affairs. The Center is a constituent of TCG and member of the Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts. The Center also serves as headquarters of UNIMA-USA.