

Columbia Association of Puppeteers
April 2001 Newsletter

Day of Species Parade Workshops Began March 24th We Still Need Your Help!!!

CAP will be celebrating the National Day of Puppetry this year by participating in the *Procession of The Species*, to be held on April 28th. What better way to celebrate the National Day of Puppetry than with a parade which includes giant puppets.

Guild President, Steven M. Overton, has once again volunteered to be the Giant Puppet Coordinator, as he was last year.

Learn how to make giant processional puppets - help us finish building the Giant Puppets for this year's Procession of the Species, April 28th in Portland. There are two more Saturday workshops - April 14th and 21st

CAP Meeting Thursday April 26th - 7:00 p.m.

The theme of the April and May meetings will be "Works in Progress". The April meeting at Steve Overton & Marty Richmond's Olde World Puppet Theatre shop will feature puppets in progress that their shop is building for the Ojai Land Conservancy and Tears of Joy Theater's upcoming Fall/Winter production *The Adventures of Perseus*.

Directions to Steve & Marty's Shop:

1. Find the Sellwood Bridge on any map of Portland.
2. Go over the bridge on SE TACOMA St.
3. Go three blocks on Tacoma Street and turn RIGHT on SE 9th.
3. Go down two blocks to SE Umatilla St.
4. Shop & House are the big white building on the corner of SE 9th & SE Umatilla.
5. Phone # if you get lost: 503-233-7723

If you are coming from the east side, turn left on SE 9th from SE Tacoma before you go over the bridge.

The May CAP Meeting, Thursday May 24th at 7:00 p.m., will be held at Tears of Joy Theatre's NE Wygant Street space in Portland. It will feature a Performance in Progress by Susan Prindle.

from 2-6 p.m. at Dayna McErlean's **Itisness Studio, 3016 NE Killingsworth** in NE Portland. Phone: (503) 288-1189. (I-84 to first exit (33rd St.) Turn Left on 33rd and go to Killingsworth (3 miles or so) turn left on Killingsworth - go to 30th and park. Studio is in Storefront at 3016.)

Last year's puppets created such a stir that they were later featured in the Portland Rose Festival Parade. This year should be no different, except that with the added benefit of help from more CAP members, the giant puppets should be even better!

CAP members are encouraged to volunteer their time at these workshops. Please come and help us. They are fun, and will stretch your abilities in puppet building as you help the other volunteers build giant puppets from all sorts of found objects, scrap, and new ideas. Like last year, all of the puppets will be constructed mainly of recycled materials

The Procession of the Species is an artistic celebration created by the community using art, music and dance to give the natural world a greater presence in our streets. Weeks of creative preparation in schools and community arts workshops culminate in a colorful parade through downtown Portland and a community celebration in the South Park Blocks.

Come on out and help us finish these puppets. They will be a feather in CAP's hat as they parade through the streets of Portland.



The Perfect Gift for the Puppeteer who has Everything!!!

The collection listed below is for sale and is made up of various original pieces of the period dating from the late 18th century to the early 19th century.

All the items listed are in perfect condition and are from the far south of Italy, Sicily.

These sophisticated marionettes, "Pupi di Palermo", are 90 to 120 cms tall and weigh up to 40 kgs. Beside the marionettes of Palermo, they include knights, ladies and fantastic creatures.

The collection also includes additional items that as a group represent the context of the myths and popular traditions of Sicilian marionettes.

All of these elements make up for a collection that is perfectly suitable for an entire museum of Sicilian marionettes.

The complete collection is presented exclusively as a block and includes:

- 110 -- "Pupi Palermitani" - Palermo marionettes
- 1 -- "Caretto Siciliano" -
- 86 -- Various carved elements and panels
- 30 -- Various Manifests
- 8 -- Stage backdrops painted on canvas
- 50 -- Caltagirone ceramics
- 271 - Old hand-carved kitchen utensils

Total price **\$240,000!!!**

Please do not hesitate to contact us, we will be happy to answer to your questions.

Davide D'Ambrosi
19, Bd Suchet
75016 Paris FRANCE
Tel. 33 6 64 12 30 71

The American Puppet: A New Documentary to air on OPB in Fall 2001 - if you help!!!

After five years of extensive research and filming the much awaited documentary on the history of American puppetry is completed. The American Puppet is the first documentary to chronicle this arts' fascinating and colorful evolution. This landmark documentary takes viewers on a journey through time, examines the lives and recounts the significant contributions of the men and women who have helped to shape the American Puppet.

Archival film, rare photographs, historical re-enactments and engaging interviews from some of the most influential puppeteers of the 20th Century help bring the story of American puppetry to life. Never before seen footage of Tony Sarg's work with shadows and marionettes along with Remo Bufano's spectacle at the '39 World's fair is quite a treasure. The Yale Puppeteer's Turnabout Theater shows are invaluable pieces of history and come to life with wonderfully documented footage and photos.

And for the first time released from the Library of Congress, watch hundreds of government trained puppeteers during the Federal Theater Project entertain American audiences with marionette performances ranging from variety shows to great literary works.

Viewers will delight in seeing classic puppet characters from television's golden age including Howdy Doody, Rootie Kazootie and Jerry Mahoney. Young and old alike will marvel at incredible performances by American puppet masters like Bil Baird, Shari Lewis, Burr Tillstrom and Jim Henson as they bring their time honored characters to life.

Who were the early pioneers of puppetry in America? How did the development of television change the art of puppetry? What does the future hold for this ancient art form? These questions and more are explored in this entertaining, nostalgic and family-friendly documentary on the history of American Puppetry.

PBS will offer this show in the fall. Local PBS stations can choose whether or not to air the show. A phone call, or letter, or e-mail to OPB requesting to see "The American Puppet" will encourage them to broadcast this excellent program. Your call can help give everyone in our area the opportunity to learn more about puppetry.

CAP is the *Puppeteers of America* Guild proudly serving Oregon & Southwestern Washington

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Vice President-Membership: **KRIS BLUETT-WOOLEN**

CAP Dues: Individual: \$12.00 per year or Company: \$20.00 per year.

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