

OWPT Building lots of Puppets!!!

This summer, the Olde World Puppet Theatre has contracted to build puppets for three different shows for three different theatres.

First up are the puppets for Tears of Joy Theatre's production of *Perseus, Hero of Ancient Greece*, which will be featured at Portland's Winningstad Theatre from February 22nd - March 10th, 2002, after touring to schools throughout the west coast this fall.

Second are puppet heads and hands for the Oregon Coast Children's Theatre production of *The Dreamweaver, the Stories of Hans Christian Andersen*.

CAP Meeting Thursday June 21st - 7:00 p.m.

Steve & Marty's Workshop at 906 SE Umatilla St. in the Sellwood District of Portland. An evening of fellowship and fun - bring something to eat or drink to share.

Directions to Steve & Marty's Shop from the **west side**:

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

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

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

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

Send your check to Kris at 5224 NE 18th Ave. Portland, OR 97211

Finally, there are six puppets for the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy for the show *Quilly the Quail*.

All of these puppets and parts are to be made from Neoprene, a rubber compound more technically called Industrial Latex (Chicago Latex 501). To create parts from this material, you must first carve the figure (15-20% larger than you want the final figure to be - to allow for shrinkage) in non-hardening clay (plasticene), then cast the resulting figures in #1 Casting Plaster, and finally cast the neoprene parts from the plaster molds.

What you end up with are parts that are rather easily machinable with sandpaper and Dremel tools, which harden over a short time to a rather indestructible consistency. Most of the Olde World Puppet Theatre's own characters have been built using this material, and some of them are now almost 20 years old and show no signs of deterioration. This month's meeting will showcase our progress to date on these projects. We hope you can attend and get a rare behind-the-scene glimpse of puppet building in progress. Our summer construction is being chronicled on our website, www.puppetmuseum.com. (Scroll down to Ping Pong's Puppet Workshop and click on the brown marble and you can see a detailed description of our successes and failures through the building process.)

Come join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.



Perseus' Head in Plasticene and a torso being cast in plaster.