



Puppetry in the Netherlands,

The NVP / UNIMA, present for 55 years

We are all looking forward to the *next councillors meeting and extra congress of the UNIMA at Dordrecht, Holland from 21st to 24th June 2010*. The international meeting will be organized during the year of the 55th anniversary of the foundation of NVP/UNIMA

www.poppenspelers.nl. The NVP, the Dutch Association for puppeteers, was founded in 1955. Since 1982 the NVP has been known as the UNIMA-Centre in the Netherlands.

At the same time we will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the 'Internationaal Poppentheater Festival Dordrecht' (IPF) which will be held from 19 – 27 June 2010. www.poppentheaterfestival.nl The IPF ends yearly with a Masterclass this year by Norbert Goetz from 29th of June till 2nd July 2010, 'The language of the shadow'.

Some other puppetry highlights of the year are

- * 10th 'International Poppenspelfestival Meppel',
8 – 12 september 2010, www.poppenspelfestival.nl
- * A new production house for puppeteers Feikes Huis,
www.Feikeshuis.nl
- * Continuation of Basic Course for puppetry, www.poppenspelers.nl
- * Traditional Dutch puppetry Jan Klaassen, www.pantijn.nl
- * 50 year Kooman poppentheater at 20-10-2010,
- * Publication Pocket 'Puppetry in the Netherlands'
- * Publication International issue of WP-magazine
- * Alongside the Museum specializing in the field of puppetry,
collection of books and puppets in Vorchten,
www.poppenspelmuseum.nl, another museum opens at Blijham,
www.poppentheatermuseum.nl * 25th
anniversary POPU on 09092010, the Provincial Consultation of
Puppeteers from Utrecht and surroundings

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The Association does its utmost for puppetry in the broadest sense of the word, from the traditional puppet show to the most experimental puppet theatre for children as well as for adults. The members of the Association are puppet enthusiasts, amateurs and professionals, all interested in puppetry and puppetry activities, such as performances, workshops, education, lectures, research. Mostly the members are autonomous in organizing the activities. NVP-UNIMA supports by providing knowledge, experience and giving them a boost. The members of the Association – there are more than 250 members - assemble twice a year in order to meet each other and discuss association policy etc. We are now working on our policy plan for the period 2008 – 2011, with emphasis on a professional and growing association. In addition to these two annual meetings, puppet shows are organized, lectures are given and other meetings take place. The Association also organizes other activities across the country throughout the year. It has its own website, a magazine, and an extensive library.

Website

The NVP-UNIMA has its own website: <http://www.poppenspelers.nl> . On this website you can find information about the Association: the members, the board, the agenda and minutes of the meetings, performances, workshops, the library, education, news, the magazine WP (World of Puppetry) international UNIMA and the Dutch councillors. Here you can also find information about more than 40 theatres specializing in puppet-performances and the two museums in Vorchten and Blijham.

Magazine WP, 'World of Puppetry'

The magazine WP appears six times a year, and is free of charge for Association members. The editor works together with different contributors, The number 5 of 2009 is a special issue about education, and number 3 of 2010 a special issue about International contacts. Contact through our website www.poppenspelers.nl or directly redactie@poppenspelers.nl and redactie@poppenspelers.nl

Library

The NVP-UNIMA has an extensive library of more than 1,200 books in Haarlem, Brouwersvaart 70, 2013 RB, tel 023 5317713. This library can be visited any day by appointment. The Association is also busy preparing a video- library and making the catalogue accessible from the website.

Centre for Puppetry

The NVP/UNIMA supports plans to create a Centre for Puppet theatre to preserve the traditional heritage, to make the heritage accessible for the public, to offer a meeting place for everyone involved in puppetry and create an atmosphere for research, change and development.

Education

The NVP-UNIMA organizes a basic puppetry course and also a continuation of the basic course. In addition the NVP-UNIMA is exploring the possibility of a pilot

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course for the use of puppetry in education. In conjunction with other groups, the NVP/UNIMA also organises workshops in areas such as vocal training, scriptwriting, making puppets, administration, publicity, etc

Talented puppeteers and graduates from art- or theatre schools can get support in creating a new production at 'Feikes Huis' (named in tribute to one of the oldest Dutch puppeteers still performing, Feike Boschma) www.Feikeshuis.nl
Each year the International Puppet theatre Festival (IPF) at Dordrecht organizes a master class of a week at the end of the Festival. This year a master class by Norbert Goetz from 29th of June till 2nd July 2010 'The language of the Shadow'

Annual autumn tour

There are three reasons for this annual tour of the small, permanent puppet theatres in The Netherlands. Firstly the tour introduces Dutch audience to small puppet theatres from other countries and in different languages, secondly it provides the puppet theatres with an opportunity to vary their normal programme, thus gaining extra publicity, and thirdly it publicises NVP/UNIMA to a general audience. In 2007 the Italian puppet theatre group Girovago e Rondella performed with "Mano Viva". In 2008 the Belgian group Theatre Plansjet toured to 9 puppet theatres (2 in Belgium). In 2009 Artisjoktheater of Anke Scholz from Germany will perform her production "I see, I see, what you don't see" www.artisjoktheater.de

Further information about the NVP/UNIMA can be obtained from the Dutch councillors:

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2. Darja de
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Although the NVP-UNIMA is a constant player during the last 55 years, a lot of important puppetry activities and festivals are organized outside the NVP/UNIMA. To have a more complete and actual overview of 'Puppetry in the Netherlands' we mention

1. Some (inter)national *Festivals*

1. Dordrecht, annual, International Puppettheatre Festival Dordrecht (IPF), 18 – 27 June 2010 25th festival, with Masterclass in 2010 by Norbert Goetz from 29th of June till 2nd July 2010, www.poppentheaterfestival.nl
2. Amsterdam, annual, Poparts Festival, 19 – 28 February 2010, www.theaterbellevue.nl, www.krakeling.nl, www.ostadetheater.nl
3. Meppel, bi-annual, International Poppenspelfestival, 8 - 12 September 2010 10th festival, www.poppenspelfestival.nl
2. Some *professional puppet theatre groups* get structural money for a period of 4 years from the national government for puppetry performances. These include: Speeltheater Holland, www.speeltheater.nl; Duda Paiva, www.dudapaiva.com; Ulrike Quade, www.ulrikequade.nl; Theo Terra, www.theaterterra.nl; Gnaffel, www.theatergnaffel.nl; Studio Peer, www.delfgaauw.nl, and www.HotelModern.nl (visit their website with the Animation-festival!)
3. Talented puppeteers and graduates from art- or theatreschools can get support in creating a new production at '*Feikes Huis*' (named in tribute to one of the oldest Dutch puppeteers still performing, Feike Boschma) www.Feikeshuis.nl

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4. Theatres programm puppetry and there is one *puppet theatre* that specializes in programming professional puppet theatre in Amstelveen near A'dam, www.amstelveenspoppentheater.nl
5. The Theatre Institute Nederland has a *collection, information and advice* for Dutch and international *professional* performing arts, including puppetry, www.tin.nl In 2009 they recorded 85 premieres of performances in the field of puppetry. They can advise *professional* theatre groups on how to find their way in the Dutch puppetry landscape.
6. During the Hollandse filmdagen in Utrecht 2009 Eric Steegstra gained for the second time a price for best short film Rif www.freemwork.nl In 1999 he got the price with Metro
7. Various other *festivals* specialising in puppetry such as Amersfoort, www.poppeninhetpark.nl; and www.poppentheaterRoermond.nl; or offering a special day for puppetry such as the theaterfestival Buitengewoon Doetinchem; the Open air puppet theatre Rotterdam, which has taken place each summer for more than 28 years or in Weesp, www.wesopa.nl; Thursday Meppeldag during the summer; Twee Turven Hoog-festival in Almere , specializes in theatre for the youngest children, , www.2turvenhoog.nl; lots of street theatre festivals...
8. *The Regional government* offers money for programming puppetry at schools and (puppet) theatres and sometimes the *local government* subsidizes puppet theatres, educational projects.
9. Two *Museums* that specialize in the field of puppetry, collection of books and puppets www.poppenspelmuseum.nl in Vorchten or www.poppentheatermuseum.nl in Blijham. Some other musea with puppetry collections: Amsterdams Historisch Museum, www.ahm.nl ; Tropenmuseum Amsterdam, www.kit.nl ; Museum for Volkenkunde in Leiden, www.rmv.nl ; Museum TV Toys, Dieren, www.tvtoys.nl
10. All kinds of amateur and professional *workshops* such as Maatwerk by Jos van Beers, Training your voice, publicity, administration, workshops from professionals including Neville Tranter and Duda Paiva; www.poppenspelers.nl
11. *Traditional performances* from all over the world such as the performances of Chinese puppet theatres, organized by <http://home.wxs.nl/~chime> , the Bunraku-Za Company from Osaka during the Holland Festival at 26,27 and 28 June 2009, www.hollandfestvial.nl , the Wayang Superstar Ki Enthus Susmono at 19+20 June 2009 in the

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- www.tropentheater.nl , the traditional Pulcinella player Bruno Leone in Amsterdam at 21 november 2009, www.guarrattelle.nl
12. *Wim Kerkhove* organizes all kind of activities to stimulate the *traditional Dutch puppetry* *Jan Klaassen*, nephew of Polichinelle, Kasperl, Punch, Petroucka and all the others, www.pantijn.nl
 13. *Kooman's Poppentheater* The Hague, celebrates its 50 year anniversary at 20 october 2010, www.koomanspoppentheater.nl
 14. Popellum, *magazine* for traditional folk puppetry worldwide, www.popellum.nl.
 15. *publications* about puppeteers as Henk Boerwinkel and Henk Abbing, articles about puppetry in Dutch professional theatre Magazine, TM, www.theatermaker.nl
 16. All the *performances* given by amateurs and professionals at theatres, on the streets, shopping centres, in schools, at birthday parties at home, all the workshops...all the research.....special projects like puppetry as a medium for community-building e.g. www.droomtheater.com
 17. *Meeting groups of puppeteers* in diverse regions of the Netherlands like Brabant and Utrecht, POPU
 18. some international portals for information about puppetry www.unima.org; <http://www.takey.com/>;



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