

# DOEPAK

DuP<sub>AK</sub> DoeP<sub>AK</sub> POPPENSPE(E)MUSEUMKRUISELKRANTKRABBEL DoeP<sub>AK</sub> DuP<sub>AK</sub>  
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## Mr Punch, Judy and their baby: curious puppetry scenes

Try it yourself? Another exciting activity from the *Puppetry Museum*. A picture of an old English children's book with four characteristic scenes from puppet theatre is depicted above. European folk puppet theatre often shows a caricatural mirror of reality. Everybody is targeted, even *babies*. *Mr Punch* is the main character of British folk puppet theatre with *hand puppets*. *Punch*, who is a cousin of the traditional Dutch *Jan Klaassen*, has a huge hump on his back and his pointed nose en chin grow towards each other. Like *Jan Klaassen* he wears a pointed cap that leans forward. He is a descendant of the Italian *Pulcinella*.

His wife is called *Judy*. Just as her Dutch cousin *Katrijn*, she wears a mob cap. She is ugly and sharp, which she needs to be because *Punch* is a barbarian who throws their baby out of the window. When she gives him a good hiding with the club, he manages to take it away from her and he clubs her to death.

The Puppetry Museum has all sorts of things on display in the field of puppet theatre from the Netherlands and abroad. People are introduced in a playful way to the various puppetry techniques, the origin of characteristic puppet theatre figures, and other phenomena of puppet theatre.

Tip: cut out the picture and glue it on a strong piece of cardboard. Now you have a postcard that you can send away.

Would you like to discover more about folk and mainstream puppet theatre? Make an international journey through the wondrous world of puppet theatre on our Dutch-language website [www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl/onderwijs). On our four-language website [www.poppenspelmuseum.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl) and our bilingual websites [www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2](http://www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2) and [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl) you will find information about the museum, exhibitions, library and collection. The Dutch-language *poppentheater-abc* (ABC of Puppetry) gives explanations for a wide range of puppetry and theatre techniques, figures and characters. Illustration from: 'The Little Folk's Picture Book'. Impr.: Frederick Warne & Co. (Londen, 1900?).

Text and project concept: Otto van der Mieden © (2010). Have fun. 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 Jancsi*.