

□ A special wayang prop

Ki Ledjar Soebroto

The Puppetry Museum has commissioned *dalang* and *wayang kulit* puppeteer Ki Ledjar Soebroto (Yogyakarta/Indonesia, 2014) to create this special wayang prop depicting the highly regarded Javanese *dalang* Ki Nartosabdo (Klaten 1925 - Semarang 1985) while performing.



Beskap, blangkon and sarong

This famous *wayang* puppeteer and Ledjar Soebroto's tutor is wearing a *beskap*, a high closed, velvet jacket. A *stagèn* (narrow strip of cloth) has been wrapped around his waist with a *sabuk* (belt) on top, and a *kris* (dagger) stuck in between. Underneath the belt, he is wearing a *sarong* (wrapped skirt), and he has a *blangkon* (traditional Javanese headdress) on his head.

Kancil, keprak and kelir

While performing *wayang*, the *dalang*'s bare right foot is tapping against the *keprak* (small copper disks) that are hanging to his left and are attached to the right side of the *kotak wayang* (*wayang* chest).

With his left hand he is lifting a *gunungan* (to announce a break) while handling Kancil, the mouse-deer, with his right hand. A *blencong* (*wayang* lamp) is hanging over the *dalang*'s head. A *gedebok/debog* (soft banana tree log) is situated under the horizontal, red rim, in which figures can be stuck that are not used during the performance. Two trees (forest) are depicted on the left and right, together with a blue sky. At the top of the *kelir* (white performing screen) the crescent moon and radiant sun can be seen. Two small clouds are drifting between these celestial bodies. The brown rim at the bottom of the *gunungan* is the earth with a few yellow-green bushes.

□ Cock, buffalo, tiger and bananas

Three *wayang kulit* figures are lying in the *wayang* chest: a cock, a buffalo and a tiger. Under the chest handle the letters *OTO* (Otto: the first name of Puppetry Museum director Otto van der Mieden) can be seen. To the right of the *dalang*, three *wayang kulit* figures – a tiger, a duck and an elephant are lying on the lid of the *wayang* chest. An incense burner and a *sajen* (sacrificing plate) with a heap of rice and a bunch of bananas are depicted above the lid. The outlines of the figures can be seen on the blue back of the *gunungan*. Kancil has hidden them between the leaves of the left tree.

- Picture: Kancil, *wayang kulit*. Text and concept: Otto van der Mieden ©. Illustration: Ki Ledjar Soebroto ©. See also: <http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/Wayang.aspx>. Hyperlinks: click on the green words. See also pictures I and II: wayang prop, front and back with a fibre *gapit* (handle).

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Picture I



- Picture I: a dalang prop (wayang kulit), front with a fibre gapit (handle). Created by: Ki Ledjar Soebroto © (Yogyakarta, 2014). Collection: Poppenspe(e)lmuseum/Puppetry Museum ©. Digital publication on www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl: click on the green words for hyperlinks. Concept and text: Otto van der Mieden © (2014). This document is also available in PDF format. See: www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/pamphlet152d.pdf.*

□ **Picture II**



- *Picture II: a dalang prop (wayang kulit), back with a fibre gapit (handle). Created by: Ki Ledjar Soebroto © (Yogyakarta, 2014). Collection: Poppenspe(e)lmuseum/Puppetry Museum ©. Digital publication on www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl: click on the green words for hyperlinks. Concept/text: Otto van der Mieden © (2014). This document is also available in PDF format. See: www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl/pdf/pamphlet152d.pdf.*

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