

Mini pop-up exhibition

With this exhibition 'A look behind the scenes of puppet theatre. Seeing, hearing, feeling and exploring.' the Dutch Puppetry Museum introduces visually impaired people to the magical world of puppetry, by letting them touch and feel characteristic puppet theatre figures. Folk puppet theatre is based on centuries-old traditions, whereby puppetry figures, props, puppet play techniques, and repertoires have been passed on from one generation to the next. An international repertoire has resulted from national puppet theatres mutually influencing each other.



Props

A variety of standard props such as a little box, a club, a frying pan, sausages, a carpet beater, the gallows, a broom, and a 'mansbakje' (organ grinder's collecting box) are used widely in folk puppet theatre, most of which are usually disproportionately large for the puppets on the tiny puppetry stage. But this adds to the slapstick nature of the performance.

Picture: Guignol with long braided hair wearing dark glasses. On top of his waistcoat (a sleeveless vest), he wears a brown tailcoat with gold-coloured spherical buttons. He has a bow tie under his chin, and a bonnet – brimless hat – on his head. Instead of wielding his usual club, Guignol is now holding a white cane. Hand puppet, Lyon, France.