

Abstracts

“Distance Learning” and the Center for Puppetry Arts by Sara Burmenko

For twenty years, the enter for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta has been a pioneer in the field of “distance learning,” bringing educational programming to schools around the country. From humble beginnings involving a handful of schools in Georgia, the Center’s outreach has grown along with the technology. Originally requiring cumbersome and costly equipment, the programs are now available to any group with an internet connection – anywhere in the world.

Key Words: puppetry, education, distance learning, classroom, videoconferencing

Repurposing Chinese Shadow Traditions by Kuang-Yu Fong and Stephen Kaplin

Kuang-Yu Fong studied classical Chinese opera in Taiwan. Now a New Yorker, she and her partner, Stephen Kaplin, were asked to teach a workshop on Chinese shadow puppetry for educators in China. What could they teach the Chinese about their own traditional arts. Quite a lot, as it turns out.

Key Words: China, shadow, puppets, workshop, educators, Ming-Ri, Yueh Lung

A Conference in India by Carol Sterling

In 2015, Carol Sterling lectured on the uses of puppetry in education to several hundred educators in five Indian cities. Several of them worked with special needs children, and recommended she be brought back in 2017 to present at a conference for special needs educators. Sterling would only have twenty minutes; She needed a plan.

Key Words: India, special education, vocational skills, puppetry, workshop, conference, UNIMA, creativity, Fulbright

Puppets for Education and Therapy by Marc Kohler

Kohler has been presenting puppetry workshops for children for 50 years. He has developed a puppet that can be quickly made, and with which children can act and interact. The therapeutic effect on children with certain challenges has been dramatic.

Key Words: puppet, Puffet, workshop, special needs, educational, Kohler method, Alan Cook, Gestalt

A Developmental Framework for Learning by Micheal and Mary Vetere

Children learn about their world through play. The authors provide an outline for the ways children relate to creative puppet drama at different ages, and the ways in which it supports a child's development in the physical, emotional and cognitive domains.

Key Words: puppet, education, development, cognitive, creative puppet drama, Jean Piaget, Lev Vygotsky, Howard Gardner

Puppets from Hong Kong to Kenya by Judith O'Hare

O'Hare has led puppetry workshops for educators for many years. Her reputation has gotten her invitations to work in both China, Tanzania and Kenya. Teachers in both countries have embraced puppetry in the curricula, becoming an influence in the lives of many young people. Perhaps the most deeply affected was O'Hare herself.

Key Words: puppet, education, Kenya, Hong Kong, Ming-Ri, EduPuppets, AIDS education

Storytelling Creativity after Military Rule in Myanmar by Jennifer Goodlander

A peer reviewed article about the use of puppets to help young people regain and imaginative, creative approach to life after fifty years of harsh military rule. Goodlander was part of a team who worked with Yangon's only puppet theater to involve children in exploring stories using traditional Burmese string puppets as well as with figures made quickly out of inexpensive local materials.

Key Words: puppet, education, creativity, Artsolute, Myanmar, marionette

Riding the Waves of Canadian Puppetry: James B. Ashby

Ashby, in a peer reviewed piece, examines three waves of puppetry from the early 20th century to the present, and notes their cognates in the US. He proposes a way forward that might avoid some of the difficulties encountered in past "troughs" following earlier waves of puppetry's popularity

Key Words: puppetry, George Merten, Canada, Federal Theater Project, Ontario Puppetry Association, Puppets Up!, Osborne Stearn, Humber College

Saguenay: a City, a Fjord, a Festival by Andrew Periale

FIAMS (Festival International des Arts de la Marionnette) is a biennial festival that just had its fourteenth iteration. First-rate troupes from all francophone countries

gather for a week of performances, workshops and lectures in this bijou little city on one of the worlds southernmost fjords.

Key Words: puppet, festival, art, French-speaking, Canada, Saguenay, performance

Women in the Shadows by Jennifer Goodlander, book review by Linda Ehrlich

Ehrlich reviews Goodlander's stunning new book on female dalangs in Bali, along with an account of her own training in which, as a Westerner, she is able to operate outside conventional gender roles – at least to some extent. She uncovers the incredible beauty of the art form and the power of cultural norms.

Key Words: puppet, shadow, Indonesia, dalang, gender roles, traditional art, wayang Kulit, ethnography

Puppet Collector's Odyssey by Alan Cook, et al., book review by Andrew Periale

Lifelong puppet collector, Alan Cook, has finally published an account of his many years in the field, along with numerous anecdotes of famous puppeteers and many gorgeous photos by Jacqueline Marks.

Key Words: puppet, collector, performance, marionette, puppet history, Alan Cook