

Abstracts for PI 49 Collectors

The Paul Lin Collection of Asian Theatre Puppets by Robin Ruizendaal

In September 2020, the Paul Lin collection of Asian theatre puppets at the Taiyuan Asian Puppet Theatre Museum was donated to the National Taiwan Museum. This also meant the closure of the Taiyuan Asian Puppet Theatre Museum, of which the author had been the director for over 20 years. The article charts how this collection came into being and muses about its possible future.

Key words: Taiwan, museum, puppet,

Developing and Designing Knowledge Spaces for Puppetry: The DOLK 27 Collection in Lübeck by Antonia Napp, Sonja Riehn, Silke Technau and Stephan Schlafke

With more than 20,000 objects from the field of puppetry, KOLK 17 houses one of the five largest collections in Germany and is without doubt one of the most important cultural institutions for puppetry in Europe. This article examines such issues as the difficulties of ascertaining the provenance of antique puppets from traditions that may no longer exist, considering puppets within their particular cultural contexts and finding innovative ways to make the collection accessible to more people.

Key words: puppet, museum, Lübeck, *Figurentheater*

Center for Puppetry Arts Museum Global Collection by Nancy Lohman Staub

When author Nancy L. Staub left her New Orleans Puppet Theatre in 1980 to organize the World Puppet Festival in Washington, D.C., she donated her puppet collection to the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, thus forming the basis of what today is a collection of over 6000 pieces, and an entire new wing to house both the Global Collection and the Jim Henson Collection. Now what?

Key words: Museum, puppet, collecting, Jim Henson

An Array of Puppet Collections in Japan by Bradford Clark

Japan possesses a rich heritage of both traditional and contemporary puppetry. This article surveys a small number of the collections that can be found throughout the country.

Key words: Japan, puppetry, *bunraku*, *Karakuri ningyo*, *kashira*

Puppets on Fire by Hazel Rickard

Michael Sommers, for a long time the Artistic Director of the Open Eye Figure Theatre In Minneapolis, declared after his 2018 production of *A Prelude to Faust* that he would burn his puppets. This is a frank discussion of the value of having puppets displayed in a museum separated from the roles for which they were made. Is art in the object or in the moment of performance?

Key words, Open Eye Figure Theater, puppet, Michael Sommers

Recent Arrivals, Old Acquaintances by Matthew Isaac Cohen

With approximately 23,000 puppets plus associated objects, the Dr. Walter Angst and Sir Henry Angst Collection of Indonesian Puppets at Yale University Art Gallery is the largest puppet collection in the United States. These puppets, accumulated over four decades by the late Swiss-born collector Walter Angst and donated by his brother and heir Sir Henry, is a unique study collection created to preserve the diversity of *wayang* traditions of western Indonesia. Since the collection's arrival to Connecticut in 2017, the Gallery has been committed to providing access to the puppets to scholars, artists, and collectors and enabling their use in performances.

KEYWORDS: *wayang*, Indonesia, collection, museum

Korea Folk Drama Museum by Jungmin Song

The Korea Folk Drama Museum is located in the city of Gongju in South Korea. It was founded by one of the most important folklorists in South Korea, Woo-sung Shim (1934-2018), in 1996). Song gives us a brief look at its history, collections and other activities.

Key words: Korea, museum, *Kkokdugaksi*

Rumah Topeng dan Wayang by Karen Smith

Since 2006, this beautiful private museum, situated on a one-and-a-half hectare plot of land surrounded by rice fields in the village of Kemenuh, in Sukawati, Gianyar Regency, Bali, has been open to the public daily, free of charge. Smith takes us on a journey of the beautiful facility and shows us the breadth of its collection.

Key Words: Bali, museum, *wayang*, *topeng*

A Home coming Story for African Objects by Heather Jeanne Denyer

Abstract: This article discusses the 2021 status of the repatriation process of African objects housed in European museums. Multiple aspects of the complex situation are explored by looking at the two examples of the British Museum and the loaning of Benin Bronzes to Nigeria and the Quai Branly Museum returning twenty-six objects to Benin.

Keywords: Africa, Colonization, Repatriation

Digital Atmospheres: Re-Curating Shadows, Strings and other Things: by Nicola Levell

When a major puppetry exhibition is forced to go virtual due to the pandemic, There are many lessons to be learned. Dr. Levell shows us how a platform originally designed for real estate agents to show houses remotely is being adopted by museums around the world.

Key Words: Museum, virtual exhibit, puppets