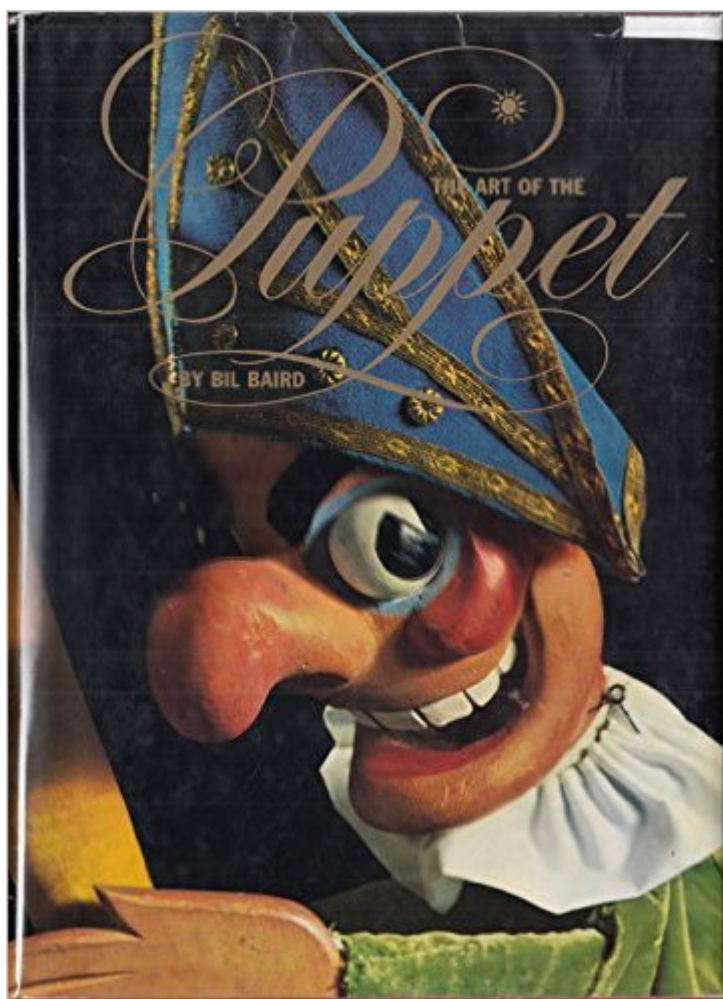


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The Art Of The Puppet



Synopsis

With color photographs throughout; a history of puppeteering throughout the world. A heavy volume. Not price-clipped. In protective mylar. 251 pp. including index. [Publisher: Bonanza Books, New York, 1973]

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I was very pleased with this book. As I'm preparing a children's TV show featuring puppets (The Cartoonville Studio Show), I thought I needed to re-visit this art form from the ground up.

Previously my knowledge of puppetry was from *The Art of the Muppets: A Retrospective Look at Twenty-Five Years of Muppet Magic*, another great book that obviously focuses on Jim Henson's legacy. But I wanted to view a wider variety of these classic characters we call puppets. Bill Baird provides this, along with a wealth of photography and historical overviews of puppets from the Old World to America, starting with the tribal meanings of puppetry and masked features, forward to marionettes and hand puppets like Punch and Judy. Well worth the money!

This book above all belongs on the shelf of every puppet maker and puppet lover. It shows all the best there is in puppetry throughout the world, and drowns the reader in brilliant, colored photos of every sort of puppet. I borrowed this book from libraries so many times that it became obvious that I needed a copy. Once I resolved to become a professional puppeteer 26 years ago, I went through the book over and over, trying to determine which type of puppet to make. Finally, there was one clear winner, unlike any other, photographed so clearly and lovingly that reproducing it was not

impossible. It has started a family of puppets numbering over a hundred now.

Bill Baird's book is a lushly illustrated overview of the art of puppetry. While hardly scholarly on the historical view of puppetry, it does manage to make one look twice at something that too often is dismissed as "kid stuff". A must have for someone who loves the wide variety of the world's performing arts.

This is a well documented and written book on the history of puppetry. Thanks to the illustrations and photos this book will be a treasured resource for me.

It arrived on time and was an excellent product.

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