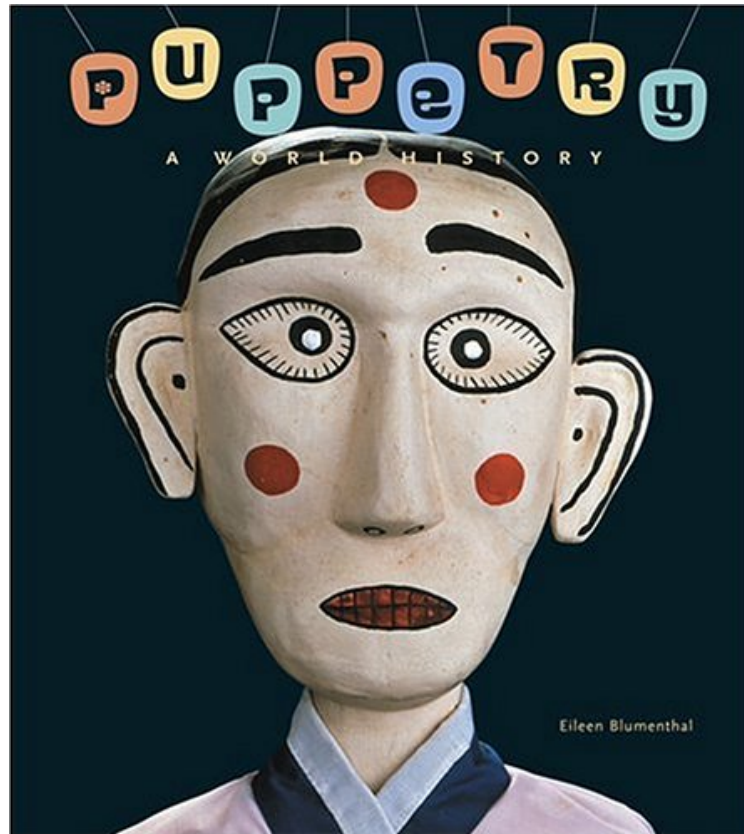


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Puppetry: A World History

Eileen Blumenthal

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#978852 in Books Blumenthal, Eileen 2005-07-01Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.38 x 1.25 x 10.13l, 4.09 #File Name: 0810955873272 pages | File size: 64.Mb

Eileen Blumenthal : Puppetry: A World History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Puppetry: A World History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. very interesting view of puppetry through the ages for the adultBy tntThis book is still intriguing me for as soon as I got it until now almost 30 days later has so much new information that I have never encountered before in its entirety. It is never repetitive and visually enthralling something I will treasure for a long time. It took me 4 months to make up my mind - do I need another puppet book - well it was worth it. thank you0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book, a must have for puppeteers and those interested in this art form.By Judith O'HareI have given this book as a gift to two other puppeteers. It is a wonderful perspective on puppetry in recent history. Great book, one worth having to understand the depth and breath of the world of puppetry.Judith O'Hare, You and Me Puppets0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Expected more....By BookloverThis book is good, but I thought there would be more bigger, clearer, colorful photos. There are only a few photos on some of the topics and some only have one. I also thought it would be organized by country area or time period but it's not.

An exploration of the cultural diversity and personalities of puppets throughout history examines the characterizations

of numerous puppeteers as well as the often sophisticated technology that has gone into their creations, in a lavishly illustrated volume complemented by lively and informative text. 15,000 first printing.

From Publishers Weekly There is much more to puppetry than Jim Henson's creations or children's puppet shows, as this thoroughly researched book makes abundantly clear. Through her narrative and 350 illustrations, Blumenthal, a professor of theater arts, takes the reader through an exhaustive history of the puppet world, from prehistoric times to Tony-winning Broadway hit Avenue Q. Blumenthal's approach is different than that of previous historians: rather than giving the "where, when and how" and dividing her work by region or time period, she employs a thematic approach, including, among others, chapters on puppet characters, sex and puppets in politics. This approach pays off, and the photos here range from an African fertility puppet to the iconic Miss Piggy to a disturbing likeness of Margaret Thatcher wielding a meat cleaver. Although some images may border on creepy, the book is beautiful to look at, and the writing is largely accessible. This would be a welcome addition to the libraries of performing arts buffs who want to learn more about a lesser known form. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From Booklist *Starred * In its long history, puppetry has played many parts. It has taken central roles in shamanic rites and been vilified by medieval churchmen as devilry, romanticized as a repository of folk wisdom, infantilized as a mere adjunct to children's theater, and valorized by visionaries (among them, the great designer-director Edward Gordon Craig) as a superior, potentially more expressive form of theater. Today some puppets, most notably Jim Henson's Muppets, are so popular that they are no longer recognized as mere puppets. Meanwhile, on Broadway, one of the most elaborate and expensive puppet shows ever fabricated, Julie Taymor's multimillion-dollar musical *The Lion King*, has been filling the house since 1997. Though most people don't think of puppetry as a high-toned cousin to Punch and Judy, Blumenthal makes that connection and many more in this rich, exhaustively researched, lavishly illustrated history spanning from prehistory to the present. In carefully polished prose, she chronicles the myriad roles puppets and puppeteers have played, and although writing from a Western European-North American perspective, she doesn't neglect non-Western forms (Javanese shadow puppets, Japanese rod puppets, the Bamana puppets of Mali, etc.). She also explores the ways this ancient art form has been reinvigorated and transformed by advances in the electronic arts. A fine addition to any library's theater arts collection. Jack Helbig Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved.

About the Author Eileen Blumenthal is professor of theater arts at Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University.