

KAY YASUGI

PUPPET DESIGNER, MAKER & PERFORMER FOR THEATRE & EDUCATION

40 GREENWAY DR. • PYMBLE, NSW 2073 • SYDNEY AUSTRALIA
WEB: www.pupperoos.com • EMAIL: info@pupperoos.com

PROFILE

- Skilled puppeteer and puppet maker with 10 years experience
- Trained at the London School of Puppetry (UK)
- Qualified primary school teacher
- Passionate about combining puppetry with education
- Highly motivated and reliable
- Able to work in groups or independently
- Australian citizen based in Sydney

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Training in Czech-Style Marionette Carving (15 day course)

Puppets in Prague School, Prague, Czech Republic 2011

Master's Level Diploma in Professional Puppetry

London School of Puppetry, London, UK 2009

Training in Puppetry for Television (8 week course on making/performing with Muppet-style puppets)

Gary Friedman Productions, Sydney, Australia 2008

Bachelor of Primary Education (1st Class Honours and University Medal)

University of Sydney, Camperdown, Sydney, Australia 2007

EXPERIENCE

2013 Puppeteer/Workshop Facilitator for Harmony Day at Concord West Public School, Sydney
Performed a show with "Chee-Chee the Monkey" and facilitated the creation of over 450 dove puppets.

2012 Workshop Facilitator for "ESL: The Way Forward!" Conference, Sydney

Ran a lecture-style workshop for ESL teachers at the conference, based on Puppetry in the ESL Classroom. Also ran similar workshops at Blacktown Childcare Centre and Sydney University.

2012 Puppet Maker/Workshop Facilitator for Greenwood Puppet Project, Mill Valley California, USA

Made large scale puppets for the school's Memorial Day Parade and facilitated puppet making workshops while also exploring Waldorf (Rudolf Steiner) education, which the school is inspired by.

2012 Puppet Maker/Workshop Facilitator for Greenwood Puppet Project, Mill Valley California, USA

2011-2012 Puppeteer/Production Assistant for Children's TV Show The Amazing House, Sydney
Operated a lip sync rod puppet character called "Benji" on the show.

2011 Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for "Street Stories" at the Prague Quadrennial, Czech Republic
Performed with a hand-carved Czech style marionette as part of the Quadrennial's "Scenofest" programme.

2011 Giant Puppet Project, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Volunteered as a puppet maker and operator for this local children's community arts project. Worked with several children from various schools and non-government organisations to make giant parade puppets.

2011 Marionette Summer School Tutor at London School of Puppetry, UK

Ran marionette operating workshops for children and adults, while also receiving advanced training in the classical marionette.

2011 Ripon Yarns Storytelling Festival of the Dales, UK

Performed children's puppet show "Enchanted" in collaboration with Wax Baby Productions and Puppetuistry.

2011 Spirit of the Marsh Music/Arts Festival, UK

Collaborated with Poppenkast (Derbyshire, UK) to run puppet playtime and marionette making workshops.

2011 Puppet Maker for “Coram Boy” at Saint Ignatius’ College Riverview, Sydney

Created custom-made puppets for the college’s high school theatre production. Also ran some puppet-operating sessions for the cast.

2011 Shopfront Theatre for Young People, Sydney

Ran puppet making and operating workshops for 8-15 year olds as part of their Junior Ensemble performance.

2010 Puppeteer for Mission Australia’s “HUSH for Homelessness” TV Commercial, Sydney

Performed with hand puppet “Rupert” for TV Commercial and Viral (online advert) to promote the charity’s campaign to raise money for homeless Australians.

2010 Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for “The Whirlwind”, Sydney

Created and performed rod/glove/shadow puppetry show commissioned by Wentworth Galleries and co-created by tertiary drama/dance students from Wesley Institute Puppetry Secondment Project.

2010 Life For Kids Puppet Workshop and Performance, Sydney

Performed marionette show and ran puppetry workshop for Life for Kids, a charity dedicated to supporting children of inner city Sydney who are living on the margins of poverty and crises.

2010 Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for Jeans for Genes Charity Events, Sydney

Created and performed with “Billy Jean” marionette/rod puppet for the Jeans for Genes Denim Charity Dinner and Art Exhibition Launch to support the Children’s Medical Research Institute.

2009 Puppeteer interviewing cast of Avenue Q, Theatre Royal, Sydney

Assistant puppeteer working with Gary Friedman (Corporate Creatures). Interviewed actor/puppeteers Luke Joslin and Mitchell Butel with their puppets (Nicky and Rod) to promote the musical.

2009 Puppeteer for Future Directions in Literacy Conference, Sydney

Performed at the conference (organised by the University of Sydney) and ran a workshop for teachers on “Creating a dynamic literacy classroom with puppetry”.

2009 Puppeteer for Corporate Creatures at the Australian Business Events Expo, Sydney

Worked with Director Gary Friedman performing with lip sync puppets and filming puppet interviews to promote the Expo and Corporate Creatures (awarded the ABEE “Best New Product of the Year 2009”).

2009 Puppeteer for “Dark Island” Animation Film Project, London UK

Directed by Jöns Mellgren at the Royal College of Art, London.

2009 Television Interview for “Brunch” (Danish TV2/Lorry)

Appeared on Danish TV show with “Yorick” puppet to promote Copenhagen Puppet Festival

2008-2009 Season Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for “Memento Mori” (Glove/Body Puppetry)

Venues including Copenhagen Puppet Festival, Rosemary Branch Theatre (London)

2009 Season Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for “Nautical but Nice” (Lip sync/Rod Puppetry)

Venues including Copenhagen Puppet Festival, Bradford Playhouse (UK)

2009 Season Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for “Scooter Grandpa” (Marionette Theatre)

Venues including Bradford Playhouse (UK)

2009 Puppeteer/Puppet Maker for “Wooltzing Matilda” (Glove Puppetry)

2008 Puppeteer for Accenture, London UK

Devised Indian Rajasthani marionette performance and practical workshop for children aged 7-12.

2008 Puppeteer for “Looking for a Monster” Documentary Film, Sydney

Produced by Gary Friedman and directed by Rod Freedman. Screened at the Jewish Holocaust Centre, Melbourne in conjunction with the Jewish Museum of Australia.

2008 Puppetry for Education, Training and Therapy Workshop, London UK

Ran a workshop for teachers and artists on creating practical resource kits.

2007 Glebe Community Development Project, University of Sydney, NSW

Ran a puppetry workshop for year 5/6 Glebe Public School students. Part of a 'Uni-in-a-day' initiative (driven by the Faculty of Education and Social Work and the NSW Department of Housing) which aims to engage disadvantaged youth with university agencies.

2006/2007 Creative Arts Resource Kits

Created two Stage 3 (Upper Primary) Puppetry/Shadow Puppetry resource kits.

2005 Season Puppeteer/Deviser/Maker for "The Thing Under the Bed", Sydney

Wrote and directed show for university day care centres. Funded by Sydney University Verge Arts Festival.

2004-2007 School Puppet Shows and Workshops

Performed values-based puppet shows and ran puppet workshops for several schools.

2004-2007 Puppeteer for Festivals and /Holiday/Church Programs

Performed street puppetry for a number of festivals including Katoomba Winter Solstice Festival. Performed at holiday/church programs including the ENTER Fundraiser at Fox Studios (Sydney) and Bathurst Kids Club.

AWARDS

- 2008 **Outstanding Graduate Award** (Australian College of Educators NSW)
- 2008 **Primary Pre-Service Teacher Award Scheme for Maths & Science**
(Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations)
- 2007 **Handspan Visual Theatre International Study and Travel Grant**
(Awarded through UNIMA Australia)
- 2007 **Thomas T Roberts Education Fellowship** (University of Sydney)
- 2007 **G.S. Caird Bachelor of Education Year 3 Award** (University of Sydney)
- 2006 **Tertiary Student Judge for National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA)**
- 2005 **Sydney University Cash4Art Grant**

SKILLS

Puppet design, making and performance; Carving, Polyfoam puppet construction, Painting, Illustration, Photography, Needle Felting, Computer Graphics, Wiki (set-up and administration), DVD production, Basic Film and Sound Editing. Conversationally fluent in Japanese.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.