



NEWS RELEASE

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Amazing puppet history unfolds at Central Library

SAINT PAUL, MN - Alan Cook, curator for the Conservatory of Puppetry Arts in Pasadena, Calif. will display his marionette exhibit June 25 through July 23 at the Central Library, St. Paul.

Cook will give an illustrated lecture, "A Survey of Famous American Puppeteers," featuring projected images as well as puppets and marionettes made by some of the greatest puppeteers in American history at 12 p.m. Wednesday, June 27, Central Library, 4th floor meeting room.

Cook will share his vast knowledge of such outstanding performers as Bill Baird, Tony Sarg, Frank Paris, Marjorie & Paul McPharlin, Donald Cordry (who worked in the Twin Cities in 1929), as well as many others.

Following the lecture Woodland Puppets will present Lemonade, a puppet show for children and their families, at 2 p.m. that same day in the Children's Room of the Central Library

Saint Paul Public Library is hosting these puppetry programs in partnership with Puppet Rampage 2007, the Puppeteers of America National Festival held at Concordia University this summer from July 17-22.

Bio for Alan Cook

Alan Cook has had a lifelong interest in puppetry. His passion was nurtured early in his life by seeing numerous puppet shows in Los Angeles department stores, as well as building and manipulating marionettes in grammar school. In high school, he was involved with hand puppet productions. While in college, he did Christmas and birthday party shows.

Mr. Cook received his degree in Art History at Pomona College. He is a puppeteer, puppet collector, puppet exhibit consultant and teacher of puppetry. He has taught at public and private schools, retirement homes, puppet festivals, art festivals, art Center and museums.

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Add 1 - Puppeteer

Puppet performances include several Sid and Marty Krofft productions: "Les Poupees de Paris," the TV special "Folderol," and the stage production "Raquel" in which Mr. Cook appeared with Raquel Welch in Las Vegas and Tahoe. Mr. Cook worked with Rene and his Artists for the Laguna Festival of Arts, Knott's Berry Farm, Magic Mountain, and for several TV commercials. He manipulated puppets for Pillsbury Magic Circus TV specials with magician Mark Wilson, and operated Howdy Doody for the 40th Anniversary Special and video with Pady Blackwood. Mr. Cook also operated the giant cat puppet at Universal Studios' live show, "American Tale."

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