

Puppet Guild News

Greater Philadelphia Area Puppetry Guild

Founded 1938, Chartered by Puppeteers of America, 1940

Editor: Steve Abrams

Website www.philypuppets.org

FEB 2007

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The Greater Philadelphia Area Puppetry Guild (GPAPG) kicks off its 2007 workshop series with two hands-on events facilitated by two phenomenal puppeteers. Come construct puppets at the ICA on February 21st, then play around with puppets at the Rotunda on March 11th. Complete details below:

***FEB 21 save the date!**

BUILDING BEASTS & BODIES: A CORRUGATED COLLABORATION

with Beth Nixon and Ramshackle Enterprises

February 21st, (Wed) 6-8pm @

The Institute for Contemporary Art ICA, 36th & Sansom

Admission: \$6, \$3 for GPAPG members (includes ICA exhibits)

Local puppeteer Beth Nixon will unleash a plethora of possibilities contained in cardboard. She will share sculpting techniques and other simple methods for creating large cardboard critters with moveable fabric parts and appendages, and will help participants develop ways to animate their creations and turn them into puppet characters. No experience necessary. All tools and materials will be provided. Come prepared to collaborate with others. Ages 6 and up; people under please come with an adult

ICA <http://www.icaphila.org/>

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***MARCH 11 save the date!**
SHOW, NOT TELL: GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE STORY
with Rebecca Tennison from Bellingham, Washington
March 11th, 2-4pm at the Rotunda, 4012 Walnut St.
Suggested donation: \$5, free for GPAPG members

Visiting actor, teacher and puppeteer Rebecca Tennison will take us on a performative mission to extract the essence of a story through fewer words and greater gestures. Through collaboration, movement, and simple puppet manipulation, participants will create new tales from familiar fables and discover more meaning amidst the actions of everyday life.

***PUPPET OPERA in Progress**
Small Fish
Book & Lyrics by Susan J. Vitucci
Music by Henry Krieger (composer of Dreamgirls)

The issue of Puppetry International devoted to Opera (Fall 2002) had an article on Susan Vitucci's first puppet opera,
Love's Fowl

This touching epic using clothes pin puppets was featured on National Public Radio's

show "This American Life"

March 13, 2007 - March 25, 2007

Location: 1812 Productions' will present a workshop performance in their Rehearsal Studio 421 North 7th St (between Callowhill and Spring Garden)

A rare opportunity for 1812 subscribers to get a behind the scenes look at the making of a new musical. This workshop presentation of Susan J. Vitucci's sensational puppet operetta follows the adventures of the supreme chicken diva, La Pulcina Piccola, in an underwater world. *Small Fish* features a lush score by Grammy Award Winning composer, Henry Krieger (*Dreamgirls*, *Sideshow*) and each workshop presentation includes a post-show discussion and an insider's look at this one-of-a-kind musical experience

Only 50 seats for each show, the subscribers of Theatre 1812 have snapped up most of the seats . Tickets are \$10

Dates still open

March 16 Friday 8pm (I plan to go on this date, hope to see you there)

March 21 Wed 6:30 pm

March 22 Thurs 8pm

March 23 Fri 8pm

421 North 7th Street, Suite 218, Philadelphia, PA 19123 215 592-9560

<http://1812productions.org/show.php?prod=37>

monica@1812productions.org

*National Puppet Festival

Feb 15 is the early registration deadline \$325

After Feb 15 registration is \$365

web site www.puppetrampage2007.org

*Coming up SPRING

Please check web sites of local puppet companies

Mum Puppettheatre

Renaissance Puppet Artist Puppet Company

Puppet Uprising

Spiral Q

and more

**Hua Hua will be doing a program at Painted Bride Arts Center in April
Annenberg Children's Festival will include Indonesian puppeteer, Tamara**

***Quick Reviews**

Mark Segal's show promoting good nutrition and dental health is entertaining, fast paced and informative.

Arden Theater's show BFG (Big Friendly Giant) was the best selling show in Arden's history. The production which featured masks and puppets by Aaron Cromie was one of the finest pieces of Children's theatre I have seen in a long time.

Mum Puppettheatre's production of "A Christmas Carol" got excellent reviews from several guild members. A fresh approach to a classic story