



DEAD PUPPET SOCIETY

2014 Workshop Series

In our quest to reawaken the art of puppetry Dead Puppet Society regularly conduct workshops and residencies in a wide variety of educational settings with both the young and the young at heart.

We have a track record of conducting both one off workshops and term long units and can tailor a work program to fit with you, your students and your school.

Each of our workshops can be run individually or end on end to create longer sessions.

INTRO TO PUPPETRY

In this workshop, students will be introduced to the form of puppetry used by the Society and be guided in the creation of simple plastic bag puppets. This will include:

30-45 mins

- A short discussion of the history of the form and its modern applications.
- An introduction to basic manipulation techniques (focus, breath, intelligence).
- The creation of plastic bag characters.
- The workshopping and presentation of a series of short scenes.

ADVANCED MANIPULATION

In this workshop students' understanding of manipulation will be deepened through further coaching and exploration. This workshop will:

30-45 mins

- Provide any necessary recap on the basic manipulation techniques.
- Take the students through a series of kinaesthetic and impulse, training exercises.
- Introduce the concept of the manipulation hierarchy and the physicalisation of thoughts.
- Guide small groups of students through the ensemble building process.
- Culminate in a series of short showings of seamless puppet illusion.

**FOR BOOKINGS OR ENQUIRIES
CONTACT**

info@deadpuppetsociety.com.au

PUPPET CONSTRUCTION

In this workshop, students will be introduced to a series of techniques for the creation of puppet characters and using simple materials, will be guided through the construction of a fully operational puppet of their own design. In this workshop students will:

45-60 mins

- Be given an overview of the process of puppet design.
- Be introduced to a variety of joints and control mechanisms.
- Design their own puppet character.
- Work under the guidance of one of the Society's artists in the realisation of that character.

SHADOW PLAY

In this new workshop students will be introduced to the art of shadow puppetry and have the chance to experiment with the form as they are guided through the process of storyboarding, constructing and manipulating their own shadow puppets in the creation of short performances. In this workshop they will:

60-90 mins

- Be introduced to the basic manipulation techniques for shadow puppetry.
- Work in small groups to storyboard a short shadow performance script.
- Learn about shadow puppet construction and build puppets.
- Rehearse and present their performance.

VISUAL THEATRE PROCESSES

In this workshop students will be given the chance to engage with the visioning and directorial process used by the Society in the creation of our puppet-based works. Focussed more on the conceptual rather than presentation stages of a process, this workshop will cover:

90-120 mins

- A discussion of the thematics and subject matter that best suit puppet-based works.
- The selection of a series of fairy tales or similar to serve as a starting point.
- The creation of the vision and stylistic parameters that will guide the work.
- Storyboarding the key moments and the creation of a build list.
- Basic prototyping techniques using paper and found objects.
- A short showing.