



SOUTHERN



SPOTLIGHT

NOVEMBER, 1978

ATLANTA SOUTHEASTERN PUPPETRY GUILD

CALENDAR FOR 1978-79

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| DECEMBER 2-3, 1978 | Puppet Festival at Colony Square |
| DECEMBER 2, 1978 | Guild Christmas Party at Puffin's |
| FEBRUARY 3, 1979 | Guild meeting and performance of "Winnie the Pooh" by Vagabond Marionettes |
| APRIL 7, 1979 | Guild Meeting, program to be announced |
| MAY 4-6, 1979 | Southeast Regional Festival at Puppetry Center and Admiral Benbow Inn |



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We had a very successful meeting at the Puppetry Center November 11th. Vagabond Marionettes' show was great, the mime demonstration a delight, and Alan Sugar's show was refreshing, showing how to charm an audience as well as a snake.

I think that having a center to meet at will really add impetus to the growth and enthusiasm of our guild. Enclosed in our Newsletter is a referral sheet which will be distributed from the Puppetry Center and will hopefully supply anyone and everyone who wants a Puppet show. A special thanks to Vince not only for making the Center available for a meeting place, but also for serving as referral distributor. Hope I see all of you at Colony Square and if you have not yet volunteered to do something for the Regional, please do so now. I hope we have 100% participation on this festival from all our members.

Barbara Goltz



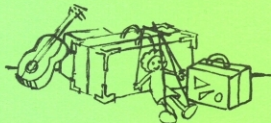
GILPIN MARIONETTES PERFORM IN BRAZIL

The Gilpin Marionettes were recently invited on a full grant to do shows for the Partners of the Americas in Recife, Brazil. Recife is Atlanta's sister city and Georgia is the sister state of Pernambuco.

While in Recife, Ruth had several honors bestowed upon her. She received two engraved plaques and a silver bowl and was made an honorary member of A.A.B.B. (the Associacion Athletica Bank of Brazil)..

Seven shows and workshops were given during the second week of her stay.

This was Ruth's second visit to Brazil. Her previous trip was in 1975.





A.S.P.G. members will be appearing in a series of performances at Colony Square December 2 and 3 as part of the 1978 Festival of Trees benefiting Egleston Hospital for children. Carol Daniel, guild festival chairman has coordinated the puppetry portion of the festival. The schedule for the two day event follows.

Saturday, December 2 (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

- 11:00 - 11:45 a.m. The Pocket People Puppets: "The Foxy Christmas Show"
- 11:45 - 12:30 p.m. Marie Taylor at the Harp
- 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. Puppet Workshop
- 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Atlanta Puppet Theatre: "Mr. Arpeggio & Peg's Puppets"
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. NORTHSIDE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS: "The New, New York City Revue", Billy G. Densmore, Director; Richard Woods, Choreographer; J. Lynn Thompson, Conductor; Harold Wilson, Scenic Designer; Amy Holloway, Assistant Director and Accompanist
- 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. The Picadilly Puppets (in Community Room)
- 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. THE PATCHWORK PLAYERS, John N. Carson, Director: a A story-theatre presentation of fables, folk tales and fun for children in dance and song
- 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Ruth Gilpin & The Gilpin Marionettes
- 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Paul K. Morgan at the Piano: A Classical Christmas
- 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. "A Child's Christmas in Wales" by Dylan Thomas: A reading performed by WALLACE CHAPPELL, Artistic Director, The Children's Theatre; FRED CHAPPELL, Artistic Director, The Alliance Theatre; and BERNARD HAVARD, Managing Director, THE CHILDREN'S and THE ALLIANCE THEATRES
- 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Andy Bremer Puppet Variety Show
- 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Mandy Beason and Charles Ballance Sing
- 6:45 - 7:30 p.m. THE ATLANTA CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY, Joseph Kelly, Director
- 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Ken & Gregg Ferguson, gospel singers

GUILD PARTY AT PUFFIN'S FOLLOWING SATURDAY SHOWS

GUILD MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ARE INVITED TO GATHER AT PUFFIN'S, 2050 CHESHIRE BRIDGE ROAD, N.E. AFTER THE LAST PERFORMANCE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, FOR AN INFORMAL CHRISTMAS PARTY. FOOD, DRINK, AND DANCING WILL BE AVAILABLE. DUTCH TREAT.

Sunday, December 3 (1 p.m. to 5 p.m.)

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| 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. | THE VAGABOND MARIONETTES, Vince Anthony, Director |
| 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. | Puppet Workshop |
| 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. | THE SCHOLA CANTORUM of KELLY'S SEED & FEED THEATRE: Early American and Renaissance A Cappella Repertory with Special Holiday Selections |
| 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. | Athens Puppet Theatre: "Hansel and Gretel" (in Community Room) |
| 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. | THE CITY CENTER DANCE THEATRE, Robert Archard and Patsy Bromley, Directors: A program of works from the Company's repertory |
| 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. | Alan Sugar Puppets: "How To Charm A Snake" |
| 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. | Marlene Lang, Violinist, representing THE ATLANTA SYMPHONY STUDENT ORCHESTRA |

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MINUTES OF
GENERAL MEETING
NOV. 11, 1978
CENTER FOR PUPPETRY ARTS

At 2:00 P.M. the Guild enjoyed a performance of UNCLE REMUS stories by the Vagabond Marionettes at the Puppet Center. The auditorium was filled to overflowing. After a demonstration of their puppets, a general meeting of A.S.P.G. was called to order by the President, Barbara Goltz.

The minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with. The treasurers report by Bill Price state \$823.96 balance in account. Andy Bremer, membership chairman announced 60 members on roster. The President read a letter from Conrad Productions relative to six puppetry worksheets for \$6.00. More information can be obtained from the president. Pegg Callahan has donated many back issues of the Puppetry Journal. A committee was formed with John Guerin as chairman to start a puppetry library.

Vincent Anthony explained that the Puppetry Center could be a booking agent for puppet artists. A committee on quality control of performances was formed with Pegg Callahan, John Cooper, Mary Smith and Barbara Goltz. Vincent moved and Carol Daniel seconded that the committee should be the deciding factor on quality control.

Carol Daniel, chairman of the Puppet Festival at Colony Square in December brought an update on the plans. The Regional Festival was then discussed. A mime workshop was given by Sandra Hughes and Michael Hickey. Refreshments were followed by a performance by Alan Sugar. Ruth Gilpin, Sec.

PICCADILLY PUPPETS ENJOYING SUCCESSFUL SEASON WITH "FERLIN BIGHEART"

Carol and Ken Daniel have announced that their company, Piccadilly Puppets, has received grants from the Georgia Council for the Arts and Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts for the third consecutive year. The grants will enable them to perform their new show, FERLIN BIGHEART AND THE STOLEN YODEL CAPER for school audiences throughout Georgia. Carol reports that they have received splendid reviews wherever they have appeared with the new show thus far.

The story begins at the home of Buford Chainsaw, notorious crum and ex-Country and Western singing star. Buford is conspiring with Festis Q. Curl, a snake of dubious credentials, and R.C., his evil minded agent, to get rid of Ferlin Bigheart. It seems that Ferlin has taken Buford's place as the Number One Super Star of country music. Buford had gained his popularity by singing songs that made everyone mean and nasty. For a while it looked like the whole world would soon be fighting.

That is, until Ferlin Bigheart came along with all his happy, joyful yodeling, and Buford was reduced to a 'has been.' Buford demands that Festis and R. C. capture Ferlin so that Buford can regain his stature as the Number One Super Star.

Meanwhile, back at the Music Hall, Wanda Doowright, president of the Ferlin Bigheart Fan Club, has just introduced Ferlin to his audience. As he begins to sing, Festis and R. C. grab our hero and take him to Buford's hideaway. Once there, Buford insists that Festis put a spell on Ferlin so that he will never be able to yodel again. Festis, who has never cast a successful spell on anyone, creates a 'magic' phrase just to make Buford happy. With that, Buford leaves for the Country Music Hall of Stars to take Ferlin's place, leaving Festis to guard Ferlin. While Festis is watching over Ferlin, Wanda arrives and gains entrance by convincing Festis that she is giving away free samples of his favorite ice cream. Whereupon, Wanda threatens to tie Festis in knots for treating her hero in such a way.

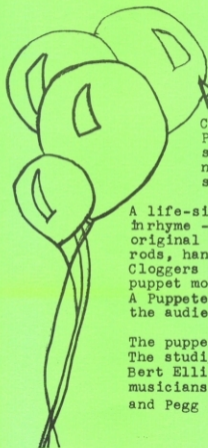
Festis soon sees the error of his ways. But, alas, poor Ferlin can't yodel, and it seems that Buford will soon have everyone acting mean and nasty again. There is just one possibility to save the day. . . the world's most famous yodeler, now retired, Bubba Lee Ray Puckett, who lives in the hills nearby. Ferlin calls on Bubba Lee and, after some fast talking, convinces him that he needs help to find his lost yodel. Bubba Lee finally agrees to help Ferlin and gives him some of his special brew. With that, Ferlin rushes back to the Music Hall just as Buford is prepared

to sing. But Ferlin still cannot yodel. Just as it seems that all is lost, Wanda calls on the audience to help Ferlin. Of course, all ends well for everyone, that is, except for Buford and R.C.

Although the story is mainly for the entertainment of its audience, it also reinforces the value of confidence and illustrates how we are affected by the positive and negative influences in our lives.

We wish Carol and Ken every success with this new show. Carol will be having to leave the show after Christmas as she is expecting the arrival of a new baby in February. She is looking for a good puppeteer as a replacement. Any interested puppeteers should contact her at 636-0022..





ATLANTA PUPPET THEATRE

"A SHOW OF HANDS" began performances in Columbia, S. C. at the Art Museum on November 6th. Performed by members of the Junior League, the show is designed to educate and awaken the imaginations of the audience concerning the art of simple puppetry.

A life-sized MR. PUNCH (harrassed by his wife, JUDY) emcees in rhyme -- a first on the part of the author. With lively original music, the show uses bare hands, finger puppets, rods, hand and mouth puppets and a marionette. The Country Cloggers are show stoppers as well as the quartet of mouth puppet monsters (including a DRACULA), singing "You Can Be A Puppeteer". In the finale, the curtain is removed and the audience is treated to a view of puppeteers in action.

The puppets were designed and constructed by Lynne Farris. The studio-produced sound track includes voices by Gary Gue, Bert Elliott, Lynne Farris and Pegg Callahan and studio musicians Elliott, Tom Grose and Lenny Balistreri. (Lynne and Pegg also played piano).

"A SHOW OF HANDS" was written and produced by the A.P.T. and is now available for purchase. This includes tape, puppets and director's services. For information contact: Pegg Callahan, 1112 Beechaven Rd. N.E., Atlanta, 30324 or call (404) 636-1863.

Also another A.P.T. creation, "LIVE IT UP NATURALLY" (dealing with drug and alcohol abuse) is being performed to Atlanta junior high students by the Northside Hospital Auxiliary. This show is available free of charge through the Education Department of Northside Hospital in Atlanta. Puppets for this show were designed and made by Andy Bremer. This same production is being performed in 13 counties around Augusta by the Richmond County Medical Auxiliary.

BERT ELLIOTT and PEGG CALLAHAN will be appearing at Davison's Downtown Atlanta during the Christmas season with their new "MR. ARPEGGIO AND PEGG'S CHRISTMAS PUPPETS". Pegg's BUBBLES recently appeared in the Ronald McDonald Christmas Show at Lenox Square. BERTHA BARFLY also assisted Dr. Jack Rousso in his anniversary celebration at Or Vey Shalom Synagogue. "ELF ALF'S CHRISTMAS" will be around again this year featuring puppeteers Martha Mixson, Nina Lichtman and Rick Harrison. Merry Christmas to all of you from all of us at A.P.T.!



A.S.P.G. NEWSBRIERS...

REFERRAL SHEET

A List of puppeteers in the Atlanta area who either perform or do some other puppetry-related service is included in this Newsletter. This list will be updated periodically. At this point the list is made up only of guild members. The list can be expanded to include all known puppetry in the Atlanta area regardless of Guild membership. If you wish to express an opinion contact one of the Referral Committee: Ruth Gilpin, John Cooper, Mary Smith, Carol Daniel, Pegg Callahan, or Barbara Goltz. Any changes or additions should be reported to a member of the committee. Hopefully this service will increase everyone's business.

CALDWELL PERFORMS IN ALABAMA

Claire Caldwell reports from Birmingham that she will be performing marionette shows for the Pizitz Department Stores in the Birmingham area as part of their "Breakfast With Santa" Christmas series. In addition to working as a puppeteer, Claire is a full-time student at Birmingham Southern College.

AMENDMENT VOTE COMING UP

A proposed amendment to change the publication of the newsletter to two weeks after the regular meetings will be voted on at the next meeting. A two thirds majority of the members present is required.

GREY SEAL STUDIO IN
RESIDENCE AT MINT MUSEUM

Donald Devet reports that his company, Grey Seal Productions Puppet Studio recently completed a very successful run of their new show, "Halloween Revue" at the Mint Museum in Charlotte where they are the resident puppet company. The show features hand and rod puppets and includes such zany characters as a depressed warlock suffering from bad press and a chorus line of limp-wristed ghosts in addition to such standard halloween favorites as bats and Dracula.

GUILD LIBRARY TO BE HOUSED
AT PUPPETRY CENTER

Anyone who has books or publications to donate to the Guild library contact John Guerin at the Puppetry Center, 873-3089.

CENTER TO FEATURE
ADULT PRODUCTIONS

The Center for Puppetry Arts has announced its first season of Puppetry for Adult Audiences. It will present MARIONETTES, MIME AND MUSIC November 29 - December 16, 1978, and THE PUPPET ARTISTRY OF BRUCE SCHWARTZ January 23-February 3, 1979. Performances are Tuesday - Saturday at 8 P.M. with special daily performances available for High School Audience

MARIONETTES, MIME, AND MUSIC is a blend of pieces which reflect movement both live and insinimate. Mimes interacting with puppets, pure mime sequences and puppetry bits are featured.

THE PUPPET ARTISTRY OF BRUCE SCHWARTZ promises real excitement. This nationally acclaimed solo puppeteer is known for his flawless manipulation, vocal ingenuity and individual style.

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WARM WISHES FOR 1979



FROM A.S.P.G.