



PIKE PLACE MARKET NEWS

FREE!
Volume 31, Issue #8
August 2004

THE NATION'S OLDEST
FARMERS' MARKET
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Market MAP & DINING GUIDE Inside

Puppets Play Pike Place August 14



If all you think of is Howdy Doody when you think of puppets, then take in the special Market performances on the national Day of Puppetry. Rob D'Arc of Planet of the Puppets, is likely to surprise you. Photo courtesy of Rob D'Arc

By MARIE ARY

The Market's first national Day of Puppetry convenes Sunday, Aug. 14, at the north end of Pike Place. Five free puppetry shows, suitable for all ages, will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sponsored by Puppeteers of Puget Sound, the local guild of Puppeteers of America, events will include free shows performed hourly, on the hour, shorter acts between shows, walkabout entertainers, puppets on display and puppet-making activities.

"This all-ages national Day of Puppetry event is the first of what will become an annual event," said Rob D'Arc, president of Puppeteers of Puget Sound and co-owner of Planet of the Puppets, a Market day stall crafts business. "The five shows to be held on the hour are family-suitable shows with full story lines and fully developed characters, produced by fantastic local talent."

The shows scheduled include:

- **The Beau Show**, by Beau Bond: comic monologues and sketches told with unusual creations, such as a box containing only the bridge of a nose and a pair of moving eyes, to puppets with fully jointed fingers that move individually.
- **Dark As a Dungeon**, by Teacup Sideshow: with original music and a range of puppet styles; mixes the beauty and drama of the world of dinosaurs with the harsh realities of a miner's life.
- **The Tall Tales of Paul Bunyan**, by Snapdragon Puppet Productions: brings Pacific Northwest pioneering days alive with rollicking adventures and tall tales of Paul Bunyan.
- **Tales of the Caribbean: How Steel Drums Came to Carnival**, by Spyglass Theatre: with calypso music tells the story of Carnival and dramatizes social and historical influences on the creation of the steel drum via rod puppets.

"The whole day is devoted to puppetry as a transformative experience," he said. "Every child is poised for that transformative experience and, for every child who attends, we want to fan their creative spark into a flame."

"Our own Planet of the Puppets pop-up puppets will perform between shows to music including Teddy Bear's Picnic, Carly Simon and James Taylor's version of Mocking Bird, Spike Jones material and a few songs from the 1940s."

Puppet making activities designed for children "will offer kids the opportunity to make their own simple puppets for a small, nominal donation," said D'Arc. "Proceeds will go to the guild to help obtain stipends for entertainers."

Contrary to a widely held misconception, puppets are not dolls.

"Puppets always must have independent movement created by a control mechanism," said D'Arc. "The five original puppet categories, which date back thousands of years worldwide, are finger, hand, rod, marionette and Bunraku."

In January 2004 D'Arc with his partner in Planet of the Puppets, Gyan Davies, joined the Market family as one of 177 crafts day stallers.

"Our pop-up puppets, operated by your thumb, are a sixth, new category of puppets created from foam, craft sticks or paint stirring sticks and hinged clothes pins for the control mechanisms," he said.

D'Arc, a native New Yorker working with puppets since age 8, creates puppets in size from a few inches to several feet tall, including four, 30-inch marionettes for the final act of Tales of Hoffmann, Seattle Opera's latest production, San Diego's Sea World and Hollywood movies.

Davies, "has been a crafty person her whole life, meaning she's worked with crafts and fabrics, including as a wholesale director of sales and a trade show coordinator," said D'Arc. "We promote the joy of puppetry and sell our pop-up puppets in price points from \$2 to \$25 here on the bridge [Joe Desimone Bridge]."

Puppeteers of America, a national nonprofit organization founded in 1937, with guilds nationwide, "encourages performances and builds a community of people who love puppet theatre," he said.

For more information about Day of Puppetry visit www.geocities.com/pofps/

THE LOCAL TABLE

fresh this month



Zucchini and summer squash are available now. Page 9

HERE'S HOW TO FIND IT!

Information Booth Between First and Pike and the Market Clock under the awning. Also sells discount show tickets.

ATM MACHINES

Six Market locations- end of Information Booth; inside of South Arcade by Pike Place Brewery; north end of Market inside hall by Emmett Watson's and the Souk; Down Under on level 4; inside Rotary Grocery; across street from Info Booth, and in the Pike Place Grocery and Deli.

RESTROOMS

one flight of steps down from Market Clock or down ramp at north end by City Fish.

PDA OFFICE

One level below Pike Place down stairs by Pike Place Fish and Best Flowers.

SECURITY-682-2253

Office located two flights below Pike Place inside by Alibi Room and Lasalle House.

INSIDE:

Dining Guide	8
Around the Market	2
Paul Dunn	4
Scallions	4
Letter from the editor	5
Farmer on the Deck	14
Health Notes	15
Meet the Producer	12
Market Map	16



Jim Stoughten has led an unusual life. See part one of his saga. Page 10