



# DOEPAK

Du PAK Doe PAK POPPENSPE(ELMUSEUMKRUIJELKRANTKRABBEL) Doe PAK Du PAK  
Newsletter and Scribblings No. 107d



## Pulcinella: a Christmas tree branch without needles

Another lovely print from the *Puppetry Museum* collection. Innumerable stories have been written about the origins of the Italian *Pulcinella* (pronounced: pool-cheen-el-la). The more obscure his origins, the more speculation there will be. One thing is certain, Pulcinella comes from the Naples area. He is one of the main characters from the *commedia dell'arte*, a form of theatre that was created during the sixteenth century. Many of the characters from this folk comedy went on to become stalwarts of *puppet theatre*. Pulcinella also became very popular with audiences outside Italy. He quickly had a huge body of international descendants.

Pulcinella represents humans in all their joy, sadness, courage and fear. He has thought about life, although he sometimes tends to conceal this with foolish behaviour. 'Viva Pulcinella', long live Pulcinella! Admire our Neapolitan rogue and his descendants in all their variety in our museum.

'Arrivederci', goodbye!

Would you like to learn more about puppetry? You will find information about the museum, exhibitions, and collections of puppets, prints and books on [www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseumbibliotheek.nl), [www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2](http://www.geheugenvannederland.nl/poppenspel2) and [www.poppenspelmuseum.nl](http://www.poppenspelmuseum.nl).

Picture: Pulcinella. Illustration: Martha Griebler ©, Stockerau/Austria (1948 – 2006). Text: Otto van der Mieden ©,

*Poppenspe(e)lmuseum* NL (2007). Have fun. Applause!

Doepak presents some unusual theatre forms, far beyond the confines of our own fantasy! Doepak is a cheerful, educational and colourful Dutch-language newsletter packed with background information about folk and mainstream puppet theatre. In this newsletter and scribblings you can also read about all kinds of activities in the Puppetry Museum such as which exhibitions are on show, whether new books were issued, and how the website is developing. The Dutch verbs of 'doen' (do) and 'pakken' (take) are hidden in the name of the Doepak newsletter. This name was composed for good reason, because you are supposed to 'do' and 'take' things yourself. The name 'Doepak' is also the phonetic transcription in Dutch of the Czech word dupák. A dupák is a rod marionette and trick puppet. Where the dupák swings his arms wide as he twirls around, Doepak embraces the international world of puppetry and related arts with its hints and tips, questions and answers, illustrations and DIY activities. In Slovakian and Hungarian puppet theatre the dupák is called Paprika Jancsi.