

## BOB BAKER'S MARIONETTE IDEA BOOK

A Marionette Idea Book is the compilation of a puppet maker's sketches and ideas for the creation of his puppets. This Marionette Idea Book illustrates various aspects of the puppet maker's work in creating illustrations for puppet making.

Bob Baker is the creator of the Bob Baker Marionette Theater, founded in 1953. He is a "Puppet Maker." Bob was born in 1924 and became interested in marionettes and puppets before the age of eight. He was already a budding puppeteer before he was in his teens and worked with local companies in Los Angeles.

As a young student, Bob Baker began to develop ideas about how and what he wanted to create. Bob might have started drawing a round or oval circle, then adding eyes, ears, a nose and mouth.

That seems simple enough for drawing a face. But, how does a puppet maker show the feelings and attitude of a puppet? And, what type of puppet does the puppet maker want to create? Does the puppet maker first write a story by deciding on a theme, plot, characters, setting and time? Or, does the puppet maker draw various faces and then write a story around each of the faces?

After the features of the puppet have been determined, how will the puppet's costume lend to the development of the story? Shoes and hats also become very important to the development of the character. After these illustrations have been completed and the story written, developing the puppet will take knowledge of how to construct a 3-dimensional object and the skill of a costume designer to sew the puppet's cloths.

So, start to think about a story you would like to tell. Then, think about the expression each character will have and how the character will be dressed. Write your story and share your ideas with your friends and family.

In the Bob Baker Marionette Idea Book you will see how a Puppeteer's hand control is assembled and how the puppet's strings are attached to the puppet and the hand control.

In the Party Room at the Bob Baker Marionette Theater, you might see Ursula Heinle, Costume Designer, at work with her staff making puppets. She has worked with Bob Baker making puppets for over 30 years. There are a wide variety of Bob Baker Collectible Puppets at the Puppet Store that might give you some ideas. International, playtime and storybook puppets, in addition to the clown puppets, Bobo, Coco and Toto, are on display. You can see pictures of puppets on the website at [www.BobBakerMarionettes.com](http://www.BobBakerMarionettes.com).

The Bob Baker Marionette Theater encourages you to develop your own Marionette Idea Book so that you can begin the exciting adventure of creating your own stories, illustrations and even producing your own puppets. All best wishes. **Bob Baker**, Puppet Maker