



Night Vision Puppets™

NIGHT VISION PUPPETS™ organized in 1974 as "The Puppets of Lothlorien" in Dayton, Ohio, USA.

Most people at the time had never read JRR Tolkien and the rest couldn't pronounce the name "Lothlorien." So the cast decided to rename the act "NIGHT VISION PUPPETS"™ in 1977 during a tour of Mexico as Dayton's official "Ambassadors of Goodwill."

The puppets have appeared weekly on local, late-night television; conducted workshops in art museums, universities and schools; and entertained children and adults in small, remote villages and large cities around the world.

A fun part of the act is "The Walking Stage,"™ an aluminum frame covered with burlap that allows the puppeteer to walk among the audience.

Creator / director / puppeteer John Higgins thought he had "hung up the stage" in 2001 ... but the puppets pulled him out of retirement in 2007. They continue to perform for special occasions every now and then.

John Higgins

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20 August—20 December, 2010:

c/o Cyprus Fulbright Commission

P.O. Box 24051

CY-1700 Nicosia, Cyprus

Night Vision Puppets™

A one-human walking puppet theater



The "Walking Stage"™



Night Vision Puppets™

- Stage structure design: Mike Higgins
- Graphics: Joanne Hasman
- Thanks:
 - Pete Seeger (from Obie)
 - MJ Niles (from John & the troupe)
 - Florence Backus
- Puppets characters, names, images
™ and © John Higgins 1974-2010



"... working in this act makes me proud to be a puppet ..."

Roscoe

"Higgins really makes the audience believe he's doing the work..."

Merkle the Wizard

"You'll be glad this stage can walk – they leave quicker when the show bombs..."

Obie



Puppets THE LEGEND

NIGHT VISION – The shaman, or medicine man, leaps around the fire ... creating magic through the power of his mask. It is to here the ancient art of puppetry traces its roots.

Centuries ago, using the streets as their theater, vagabond puppeteers wandered the countryside of Europe and Asia, taking their performances directly to audiences in the markets. These old-time puppeteers had to keep their act simple, to enable the troupe to travel lightly and swiftly -- often to elude the clutches of the law.



Carl (Jacob?) Lindstrom
Naples — circa 1836 (?)



In recreating the magic of the old-time street puppeteers, the NIGHT VISION PUPPETS™ have utilized a modern concept – the "Walking Stage."™ A unique backpack-like design of tubes and burlap, the "Walking Stage"™ allows the puppets to walk among the audience and directly with the crowd.

Performances depend a great deal on the participation of the audience. No script is used; shows follow a basic outline and the rest is improvised. This allows each performance to be fresh and alive, with the audience helping to create the outcome.

So join with the NIGHT VISION PUPPETS™ in creating the atmosphere and excitement enjoyed in the markets of Europe and Asia centuries ago. Let loose – cheer, boo, shout! A fragment of life in miniature is unfolding before you. It requires your contributions of energy to keep it alive!

Merkle the Wizard™



Captain Cosmos™

Roscoe™

