



KELLY KIRKHAM PAPIER-MÂCHÉ WORKSHOP

DATE: Sunday, May 30, 2010
TIME: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm (half-hour lunch break)
LOCATION: Open Door Designs, 1597 Dupont Street, Toronto ON M6P 3S8
AGE GROUP: Adults (Children over the age of 12)
COST: \$120 (this includes all materials and one pre-prepared puppet head)
INFORMATION: • **email:** info@opendoordesigns.ca • **Tel:** (416) 531-1290

Workshop Description

In the morning, through the use of common materials, participants will learn the technique of papier-mâché firstly learning how to design and construct a puppet's head from papier mâché for comfort and durability. Then, choosing from a selection of premade puppet heads supplied by artist Kelly Kirkham, participants will learn how to paint and embellish their puppet in a beautiful and expressive way. Fabric and trims will then be used to decorate your puppet and complete their character. Participants will now be ready to create their own cast of characters for storytelling, plays and puppet shows. Each participant leaves the workshop with two puppets, one to be finished at home and one completed by the end of the day.

About Kelly Kirkham Puppets

Kirkham Puppets first began during the winter of 2001. Kelly Kirkham, a visual artist with a background in drawing, painting and sculpture, was on the hunt for a particular sort of hand puppet, one she remembered from earlier years, with a hard papier-mâché painted head and soft cloth body. Unable to find any, she decided to make some herself, and Kirkham Puppets was begun. Kelly has been creating her puppets ever since, expanding into finger puppets, marionettes and rod puppets. Her puppets tend to be animals, particular favourites being rabbits, foxes and gazelles.

Kelly has found that her travels to Florence, Italy, though the Ontario College of Art and Designs Florence program, were particularly influential in her later foray into puppetry. She has also found much inspiration and support here in Toronto's growing puppet community. Kelly has shown her puppets throughout Southern Ontario, most recently at the One of a Kind Show in Toronto. You can find Kelly's puppets through shows or commissions, as well as at Open Door Designs and C1 Artspace in Toronto.

Kelly currently lives and works in Toronto with her partner, visual artist Brynley Longman.