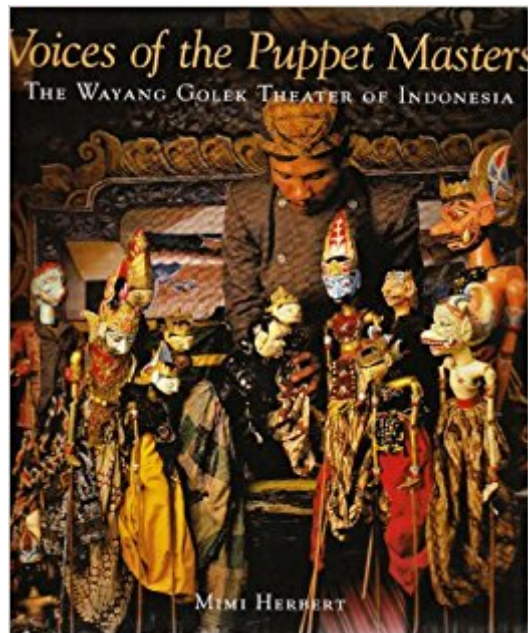


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# Voices Of The Puppet Masters: The Wayang Golek Theater Of Indonesia



## Synopsis

"The pages that follow are an account of a personal excursion into the world of the wayang golek puppet theater of Indonesia, a world populated by marvelous puppets, the carvers who create them, the musicians whose orchestra accompanies the puppet theater, the audiences whose lives they influence, and the puppet masters themselves, whose powers are respected by villager and city dweller alike.... My original intention was to write a history of the origins of the wayang golek theater, but I quickly realized that the puppeteers are as fascinating as the puppets. The project shifted to an oral history of wayang golek, told in the voices of the puppet masters themselves. Their interpretation of the ideas embedded in the structure of the wayang, their individual philosophies, and their personal reminiscences, interspersed with anecdotes of supernatural events, convey the world of the wayang golek theater directly and personally, in a way that traditional analysis cannot."  
--- from the Preface

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am Balinese and collect and sell wayang golek puppets. I hadn't been able to find a really good book on the subject - but now I have. I certainly recommend this one - the text is never boring. The author quotes real puppeteers and traces their histories. Unfortunately the art is dying out a bit, but luckily there are some young puppeteers, so there is hope. The photographs are superb and the background stories of the epics and the characters in them are excellent. Most of the puppeteers are men - but not all - there is a very impressive American lady puppeteer too. This is not just a coffee table book. Highly recommended.

Mimi Herberts book explores deeply the world of the Wayang Golek, weaving scholarly facts and personal accounts into a tapestry as rich as the art it examines. Whether doing research on Eastern puppet traditions or simply pursuing personal interests, her work offers a fully comprehensive tour of one of Indonesias oldest artforms. Students, scholars and even museum book stores would do well to have a copy on their shelves.

Never got the book. Got a refund. Very disappointed.

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