



# Karin Schäfer Figuren Theater

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## Twice upon a time...

Es war zweimal...

Érase dos veces...

C´era due volte...

Il était deux fois...

### String puppet show for adults created and performed by Karin Schäfer

Each of her fascinating string puppets is a special piece of art and performs its very own trick: the technique of the movement of the individual figure is the centre of Karin Schäfer's work - the tension between perfection and artificiality is the main fascination.

A piano player, so short-sighted, that he hardly finds his instrument; a diver, who has lost the sea, but still finds lot of fishes and other strange creatures from the ocean ground; a young female skateboard–artist, who is dominated by here own board, and many other strange but virtuous individuals are doing there best in life.

But what, if they discover, that they have no life? At least, not at there own? If they discover, that there is somebody above them? Somebody who "has all the strings in her hands"?

Karin Schäfer studied visual theatre at the Instituto del Teatro in Barcelona with the legendary old master Harry V. Tozer. She founded her first company in Spain and worked at different theatres and together with well-known puppeteers. In 1993 she moved back to Austria, founded a new company and ranks today among the few masters in her genre.

Karin Schäfer and her team were invited so far to tours and festivals in Spain, France, Belgium, Italy, Ireland, Andorra, Hungary, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Greece, The Check Republic, Switzerland, Slovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia / Montenegro, Turkey, Russia, Byelorussia, Lithuania, Egypt, Korea, Pakistan, Kenya, Mexico and Cuba. Among many different distinctions for her work, she won the **1st Prize** at the International Festival of Solo Puppeteers and was awarded with the "Premio Villanueva" for the **best foreign performance of the year** in Cuba. She is also director of the International Festival of Visual Theatre "PannOpticum" in Neusiedl am See, Austria. Currently, she is working on a new visual theatre production about Zheng He, the famous Chinese explorer of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century.

