

Art is in the House

— ACTIVITY

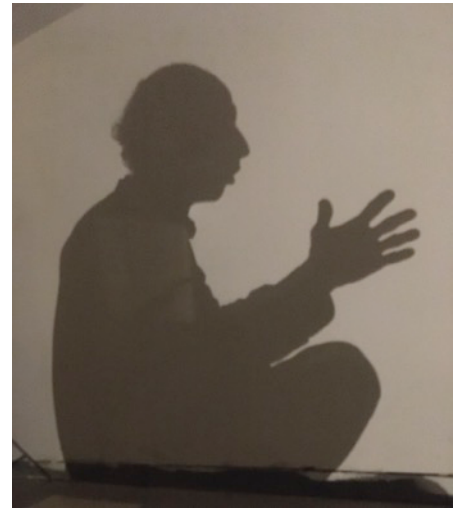
SHADOW THEATER OR SHADOW PUPPETS

By Salim Hammad



Long ago, long before the creation of light, before the creation of fire, shadows were only horizontal thanks to the light of the sun and the moon.

When fire was created, the shadows became vertical; they could be seen on the walls of caves and walls because the light came from the ground.



What you need to create and make shadow silhouettes :



A sheet of cardboard (easy to cut with scissors)

A pencil and an eraser

A pair of scissors

A cutter, cutting mat or kitchen cutting board

A chopstick

Hot glue

A light with only one bulb (del, halogen or incandescent, light from a cell phone, not neon)

An empty wall or the ceiling above your bed



Let's do it!

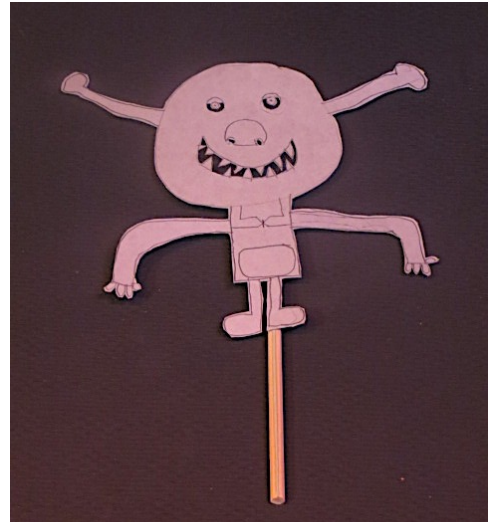
Each one draws on the cardboard sheet; a character, a monster, a mother, a grandfather, a tree, a moon, a favorite animal, etc.

With the scissors, cut out the silhouette of the drawing.

The inner cuts, as for the eyes and the teeth, are made with the cutter (exacto).

Install the manipulation chopstick that will make your drawing a puppet.

Glue it under the silhouette or in a place that facilitates the manipulation, using a few drops of hot glue.



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Let's tell stories together! True stories, invented stories, read stories, absurd stories. Or take a story already written or a poem, such as Red Riding Hood, and make up the silhouettes of the characters, objects, places and landscapes to play shadow theater.

Place a light that has a single bulb facing a wall or ceiling above your bed.

Turn off all other lights to have a beautiful darkness.

Turn on this single light and start playing together, changing voices, expressing emotions, dialoguing, laughing...

To have a creative conversation between puppets, **ask questions such as :**



What annoys you?
What amazes you?
What scares you?
What makes you enthusiastic?
What is love?
What's your friend's name?
What is friendship?
Of course the answers can be true or made up.



... Does our shadow exist in the darkness?

Have fun!

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