



The Museum Insider™: Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry and Puppet Arts Program

Run Time 56 minutes

The Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry at the University of Connecticut, Storrs is featured on *The Museum Insider™*. This documentary covers *The Legacy of B in BIMP* exhibit which highlighted the career of master puppeteer Frank Ballard and the internationally known Puppet Arts Program he founded in 1962. It includes interviews with both Frank Ballard, museum curator and professor emeritus, and Bart Roccoberton, Jr., current director of the Puppet Arts Program. There are also appearances by puppetry students and professional puppeteers. Mr. Ballard was instrumental in creating the puppetry museum in 1996 where he designed many of the exhibits, gave tours and continues to assist researchers. He has been a delightful inspiration for museum visitors and for puppeteers worldwide.

In 2006 the documentary was recognized with three Telly Awards for television programming: one Silver award for cultural programming and two Bronze for documentary and educational programming. It was also awarded a 2005 Certificate of Commendation from the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH). In September 2005, the program was broadcast on the *Indie Film Journal* at WGBY, the PBS affiliate in Springfield, Massachusetts. The documentary premiered at the University of Connecticut and was shown at the Northampton Independent Film Festival Technology Fair in October 2004.

It was produced, written, directed and filmed by Loretta Rivers; editing, graphics and animation are by Gosia Grzesiowska; and off-line editing and graphics are by Kristina Wojciechowski and Andrea Damar. The logo animation music was provided by Jeffrey Krieger on electronic cello. DVD label and cover design are by Gosia Grzesiowska.

The Museum Insider™ series (registered copyright 1997) originated in 1995 to educate viewers about the museum profession and to promote cultural and historical resources. It is produced by Lojeri Productions™ of East Hartford, Connecticut. Lojeri Productions is a federally approved 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that produces films for and in conjunction with museums, archives, libraries, historical and cultural agencies, and related nonprofits. The company creates documentaries, exhibit and orientation films, marketing segments, and other media products. For more information please visit www.lojeriproductions.org.

www.bimp.uconn.edu
www.puppetarts.uconn.edu