

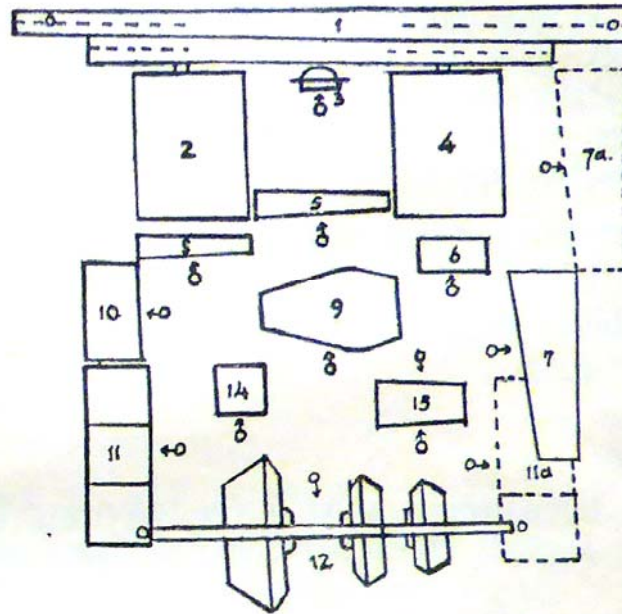
JAVANESE WAYANG KULIT

H.I.R. HINZLER

What is wayang kulit?

- Play with flat puppets made of leather
- Legs are fixed to the body, arms or at least one arm, loose, consisting of 2 parts, upper and lower arm with hand, connected to each other and to shoulder
- Puppet and arms moved by means of thin sticks, made of horn or wood; one main stick in the middle of the figure to hold it
- Manipulated by male player, who moves the figures, talks and sings or tells a story
- Musical accompaniment: metallophones, in the past xylophones
- Performed at rituals at homes or in temples inside or outside, or in open space outside

Surakarta arrangement screen, lamp, chest orchestra



Katrangan.

1. Gadebog tantjeban sumpingan.
2. Kotak.
3. Bléntjong.
4. Tutup kotak.
5. Gendèr.
6. Rebab.
7. Gambang. (1).
8. Gendèr panerus.
9. Kendang.
10. Slentem.
11. Kenong. (2).
12. Gong suwukan kalijan kempul kalih.
13. Saron wilahan 9 (Manawi saron kalih djèdjèr).

MEANING OF THE WORD WAYANG

- Wayang has many meanings
- Oldest: doll, in a play; also: name of a week in the 210 days calendar of 30 weeks – wuku- in Java and Bali. And: a figure with a bend body
- Later “wayang” was pronounced as “bayang” and associated with its meaning: shadow. Probably because the puppetplay was often performed in the evenings in the dark, and the puppets were made visible as shadows, behind a screen, by means of a lamp, the term “wayang” was mixed up with “bayang” and also got the meaning of shadow.
- An other, older term for puppet and puppetplay is “ringgit”. The original meaning is “something with a ribbed rim”. Indeed large parts of the figures are cartel edged.

HOW OLD IS WAYANG?

- Puppetplay was probably introduced for the first time in Java via India when parts of the archipelago were under the influence of Hinduism and Buddhism.
- Wayang was probably popular first in Java. The oldest written sources about puppetplay are copper inscriptions from 840 (Kuti) and 898 AD (Penampihan). The kings and their entourage at that time were Hindus and Buddhists.
- A king donated a piece of his land to society to build a sanctuary on it. This gift was celebrated with ritual and entertainment, among which a puppet performance. A story from the Mahabharata. The ceremony was during the day, like still in Bali now.
- Wayang , “ringgit”, was also performed in Bali, the oldest inscription dates from 940 AD.

PUPPETS, LOOKING LIKE WHAT?

- According to the 11th century East Javanese poem Arjunawiwaha, the figures were made of leather, kulit.
- No figures of this period have been found.
- Temple reliefs from East Java show stories from Mahabharata, Ramayana and Buddhist texts, and Javanese stories with figures looking like present day Balinese leather puppets.
- Oldest reliefs are from 1268 AD. Nearly all temples from East Java from 13-15th century show reliefs with figures in "wayang style".

Outward appearance of figures shows position in hierarchial society

- Gods and divine priests
- Demons
- Brahmins – priests, advisors of royalty
- Ksatriya's – kings and lower nobility
- Wesya's – merchants, craftsmen
- Sudra's – farmers, slaves, foreigners, servants of the nobility, disabled low caste people, idiots or funny creatures

Hanoman, ksatriya monkey,
Java, Panataran, 14th cy AD (l)
and wayang S. Bali (r)



CHANGES IN OUTWARD APPEARANCE OF PUPPETS IN JAVA AFTER 1600

- When Islam became the foremost religion in Java, Hindu kings and realms were defeated. Sultans living in a kraton appeared.
- Sultans continued to use wayang and Hindu stories at rituals.
- The sultans changed the outward appearance of the puppets: long, slanting necks, stylized facial features, long arms and legs.
- Wayang figures were also made of other materials: ook met ander materiaal gemaakt: van straw, plant fibers, bark, wood, later: cardboard, metal

Surocolo Inscription & relief

- Surocolo, Bantul, C. Java, stone inscription, near grotto, 51 x 33.5 x 12 cm, to the right side of the entrance to the grotto.
- Photograph OD 07540
- punika kayasa kangjeng susuhunan ratu Hamangkurat//
- kertini pannembah winnayang hing ratu 1624
- This is found by his excellency Susuhunan Hamangkurat. The deed of worship is represented by a wayang by the ruler, 1624.
- Relief with wayang figure with elephant's head carries container with what? Earth, sand, or water? It's a hidden date-candra sangkala: wong gana ang(h)asta toya, a man (=1) representing Ganesa (=6) handles (=2) water (=4). 1624 of the then Javanese Saka-Sultan era = 1696 AD, if one adds 72.
- Long neck and long arms of Ganesa proof of change in outward appearance of wayang figures at least already in 1696 AD.



Surocolo
Ganesa
1696 AD?

Wong gana angasta toya

1 6 2 4

Hidden date: 1627 + 72?



Gunungan Cirebon,
Ganesa, detail
c. W. Angst,
Ueberlingen

Gana, N.Bali



Oldest known Javanese leather figure in Munich?



Javanische Wajangfigur aus dem 17. Jahrhundert (München).

- G. Jacob, Jensen, Losch, Das Indische Schattentheater, w. Kohlhammer Verlag, Stuttgart, 1931. Pl. 1. Info: P. Kahle, p. VI
- Tafel q. Javanische Wajangfigur, die älteste, die bisher bekannt geworden ist, ehemals im Besitz des Jesuitenpaters Ferd. Orban, der 1732 zu Ingolstadt starb, jetzt Eigentum des Museums für Völkerkunde zu München. Die Figur stellt nach Auskunft von Ardjodironggo, aus dessen Sammlung sich eine genau entsprechende Figur im Besitz von Prof. Jacob in Kiel befindet (vgl. S. 18, Fussnote 26), Banuwati (Sanskrit. Bhanumati, die Gemahlin Duryodhanas, S. 15) dar. VII

» L. Scherman hat uns auf die Figur aufmerksam gemacht und uns eine Photographie von ihr zur Veröffentlichung zur Verfügung gestellt.

R: Banowati, Yogya and Solo style



Javanische Wajangfigur aus dem 17. Jahrhundert (München).



????



R: Sitisari, Solo style



Sitisari/Titisari, Solo style, 1883

Who is she????; old style Demak, Mataram:
Loincloth pointing upwards in front

STYLE COMPARISON

BIMA-no trousers-old style



Cirebon, kraton , Cr 21



Cirebon, TIN 933



S.Bali, Puri Gede Kr

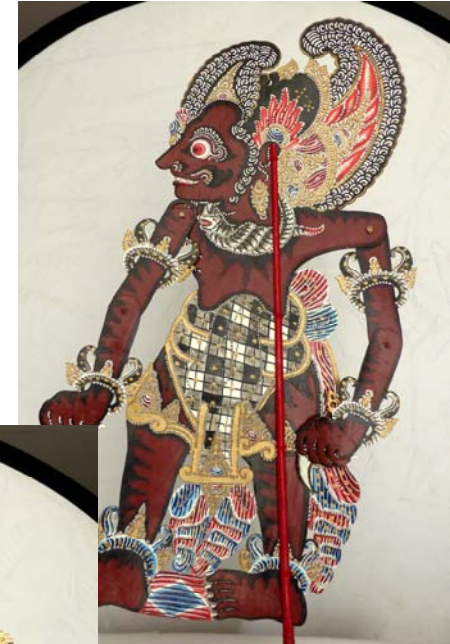
Bima in Java and North Bali



3x trousers
New style: Solo,
NE Bali



2x no
Trousers
NBali

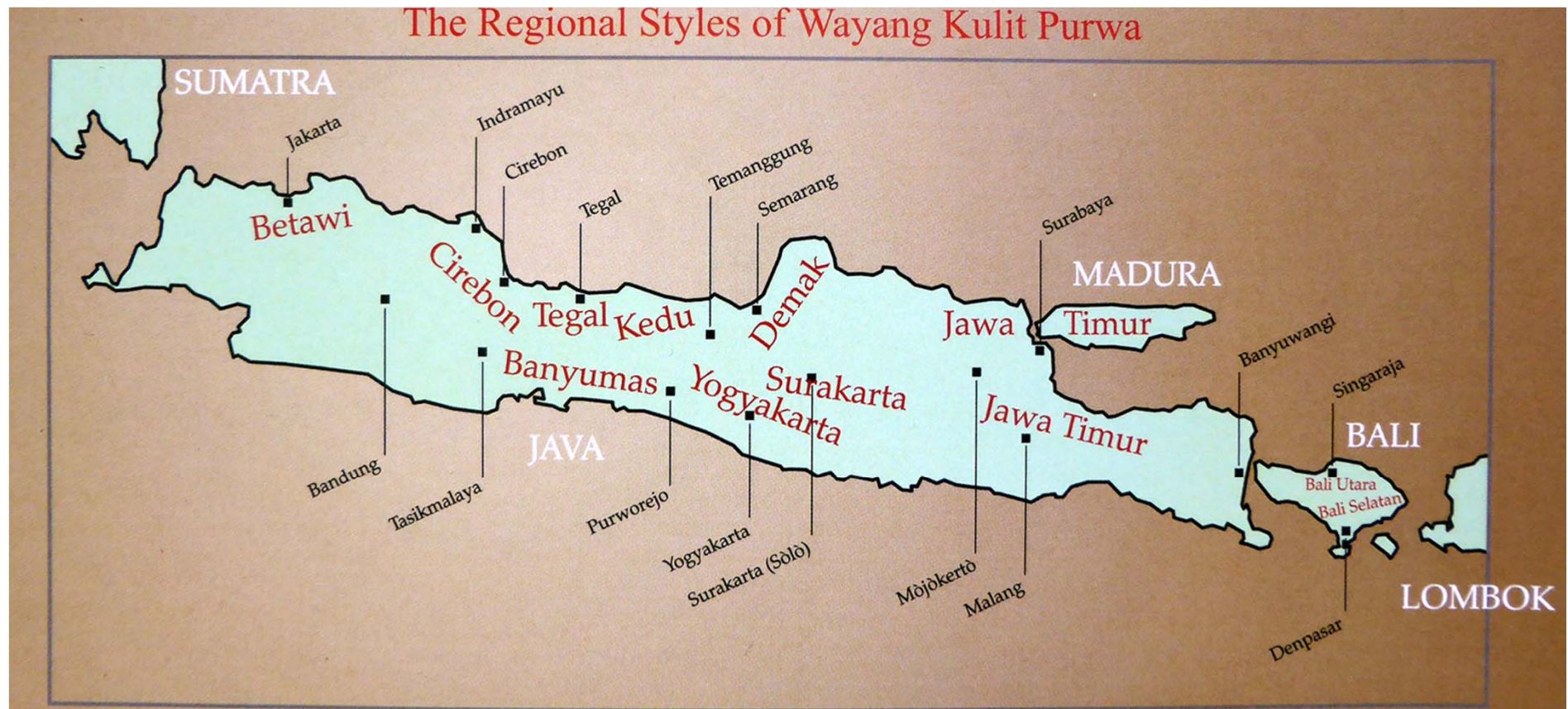


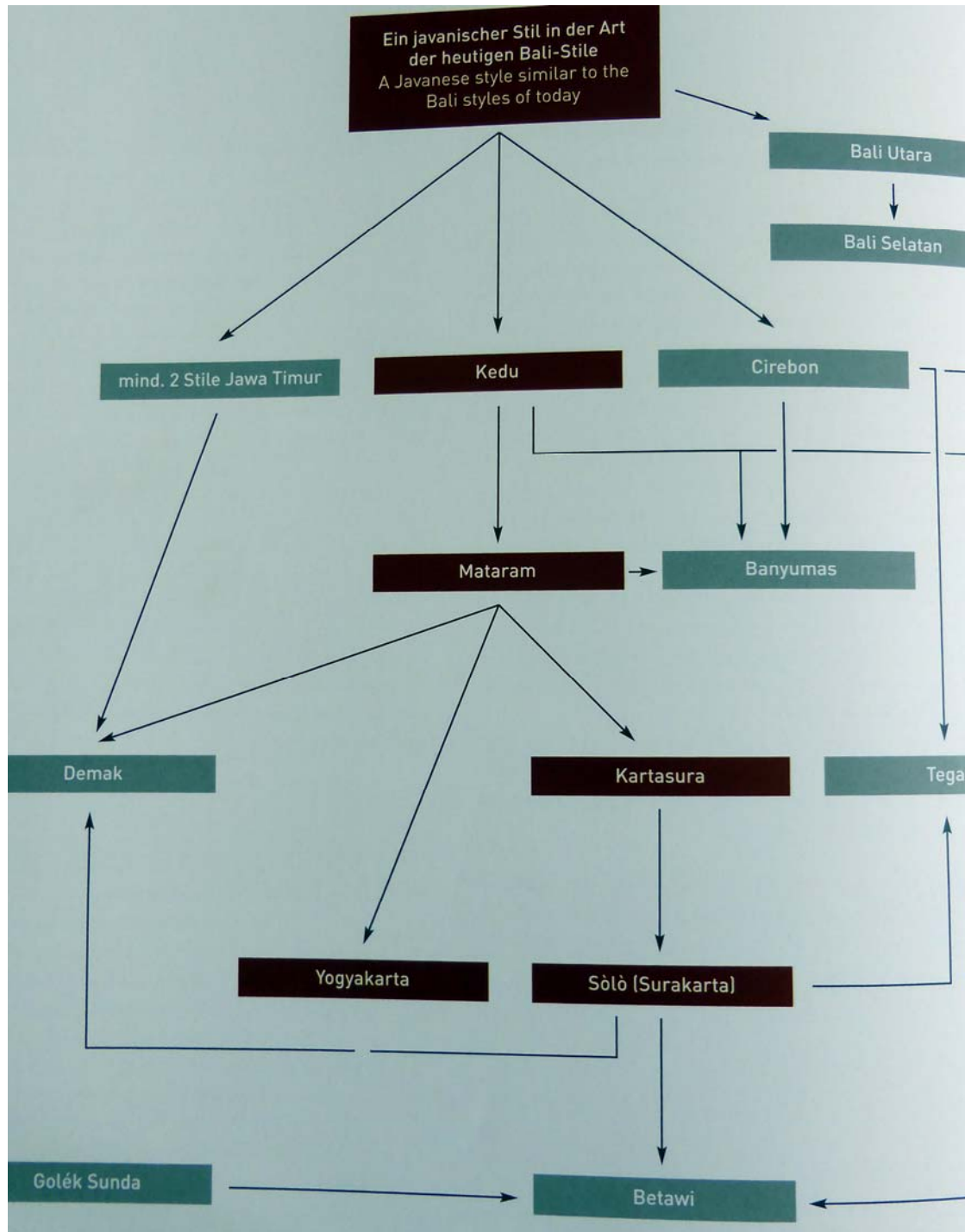
Solo region, TD 1750, 50 cm Yogya, 50 cm N. Bali, 50 cm

WAYANG COLLECTING

- Who collected, why?
- When?
- Did he order, buy, or was it a gift, originals or rejects?
- Did collector know about wayang, meaning and development?
- Did collector know about style differences per region?
- Why is a collection important now?
- What can one do with a collection?

Map regional styles Java (W.Angst 2007)





- Style influences & role of sultans
- Mataram, since 1633
- Kartasura PB, since 1705
- Yogyakarta, HB, since 1755
- Solo, Mangkunegaran
- since 1757

OLDEST COLLECTION IN EUROPE?

- Raffles? Collected between 1811 and 1816
- Now in British Museum in London
- 283 leather figures, 80 accessoires
- No info on region, location of buying, maker, name figures
- Some figures inscribed with name in Javanese or Latin script, but often faded or damaged
- Recent research: Kartasura style, Solo style, not yet completed
- Figures from Mahabharata, Ramayana, Panji romance
- No complete set(s); servant figures missing



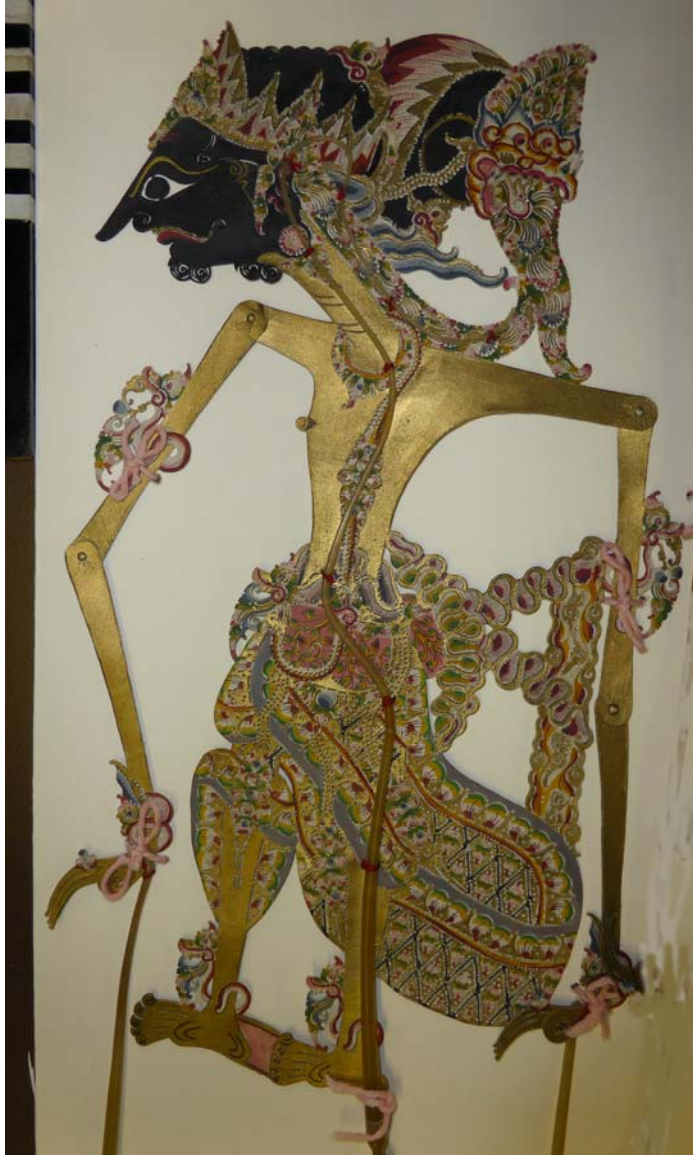
Drupada

- Raffles col. AS
1859,1228,513

Upper armlets:

Kartasura style, old

Drupada, col. Groningen, Solo stijl (MG 1094, 66,6 cm), Yogya stijl (MG 1093, 71 cm), 1910-1920



Collection Delft, for education of Indisch engineers & civil servants, 1883

Batara S(l)iwah, Surakarta, pre 1883
RMV 37-733

Notice important features:

The god is wearing

A turban with fluttering slip of cloth at the
back – Muslim influence

a white shirt, high neck, with buttons –
European-Dutch influence

And

Shoes

And a kris, with a sheath in Solo style

Collections Groningen

- Koloniaal Landbouwmuseum Deventer
- opened 16/9/1912 – closed in 1968
- Purpose: collecting objects related to agriculture, sugar and rubber plantations, but also to culture of the tropics
- Wayang figures collected between 1910-20
(Arnoldus 1997, numbered TD)
- 1972 collection to Mus. Gerardus van der Leeuw in Groningen

Wayang from Deventer- TD

- Leather puppets (wayang kulit), thin cardboard figures (wayang kertas; wayang dolanan), wooden puppets (flat: wayang klitik; rond: wayang golek), masks (wood, wayang topeng) from actors and dancers representing wayang puppets
- Small number leather puppets (5), many cardboard (TD 1750A-F), large part unnumbered
- No information on purchase, region, etc.

TD collection

- Leather figures: horse, elephant, tree (gunungan), Bima (Cirebon regio), army (rampogan). Coarse, bad quality buffalo leather (kebo).
- Cardboard puppets (TD 1750 A-): figures from Mahabharata, Solo style probably made in Klatèn, well done; sometimes with (wrong) name of figure; such figures were made for yearmarkets for children
- Purpose of collection: overview of different materials? Of different outward appearance of figures?

Jayadrata, Korawa party, prince, TD 1750A; Samba, young prince, son of Kresna, Pandawa party, TD 1750B; thin cardboard, damaged; upper armlets: same direction to the front, old, Kartasura style

•



Garèng (TD 1750F) and Semar (TD 1750D), servants good party; red-white-blue banner between legs: made for Dutchman

Prinsessehof, Leeuwarden collection, PL

- Various (1000) objects, collected by A.Tj van der Meulen, who lived in Batavia between 1895 and 1900. Donated to Groningen in 1970. No further information
- 40 wayang kulit puppets, 11 weapons
- Puppets: 1 gunungan, 2 gods, 3 princesses, 8 animals, including 1 monkey king, 25 kings and princes, 1 devil.
- Mahabharata repertoire, except for the monkey king
- Yogya style: 11; Cirebon style: 10; Solo: 3; C.Java: 5, bad quality; E.Java: 1; Bagelen: 1; rest unknown
- Except Karna (1 Yogya, 1 Cirebon), different figures

Karna, Yogya (PL771) en Cirebon (PL741) stijl

Gerardus v.d. Leeuw Museum (MG)

- Founded in 1978 by Prof. T.P. Van Baaren, professor of (non-western) religions; named after his predecessor
- Van Baaren donated in 1968 his collection ethnografica to Groningen
- Aim collections: ethnografica in relation with religions
- Wayang puppets: donations (A.J. Suir, Hengelo); bought and ordered: wayang wahyu (protestant), w. kancil, w. revolusi

Wayang kulit (MG)

- Old figures, 35, partly collected between 1960-70 by Mr. Suir; origin unknown; Mahabharata repertoire, Yogya & Solo style, low quality
- Wayang kancil, 6, and wayang purwa, 11, Yogya stijl, made to order by Ledjar Subroto, Yogyakarta, in 1989
- Wayang wahyu (Bible), 4, made by Soedaryanto, from Paras, Boyolali, in 1989
- Wayang revolusi, 11, bought from Olot Pardjono, Yogyakarta, in 1994; maker still unknown

Yogya style vs Solo style; Cirebon style

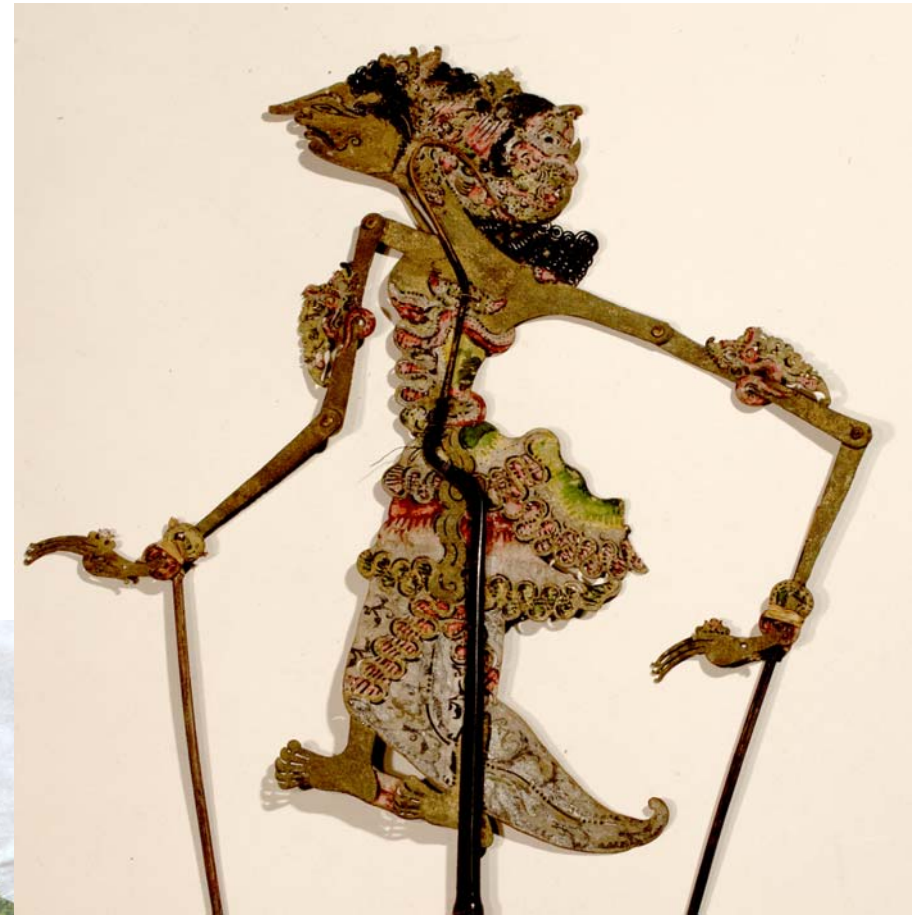
- Puppets from Ledjar made in 1989 in Yogya style are good, 100% Yogya style, thus handy as examples (MG 639-645).
- There are only a few complete collections in Yogya style in European museums or private collections, because the kraton was always reluctant to give away their “secrets”, contrary to Solo.
- The same with puppets in West Javanese or Cirebon kraton style. In the Dutch period mostly puppets of bad quality were sold to Europeans.
- New: publications by Sagio & Samsugi (1991) and Sunarto & Sagio (2004) devoted to Yogya style and its secrets.



Srikandi, Yogya,
MG642



Srikandi Solo, 4956,
Vorchten



Srikandi
Cirebon,
5113, Vorchten

Arjuna, Yogya, Cirebon, Solo
MG 640, PL 751, MG 1090

Kresna, Kedu, old,
TIN 852

Kresna, Yogya style
Ledjar, MG 639

Kresna, Solo
style, MG 1099,
bad

New: shirts, buttons, socks and shoes

- When did it start? Where?
- Shoes already in Raffles col., pre 1816, Solo
- Shirts with buttons in RMV col. 73 numbers 1883 colonial exhibition, Solo

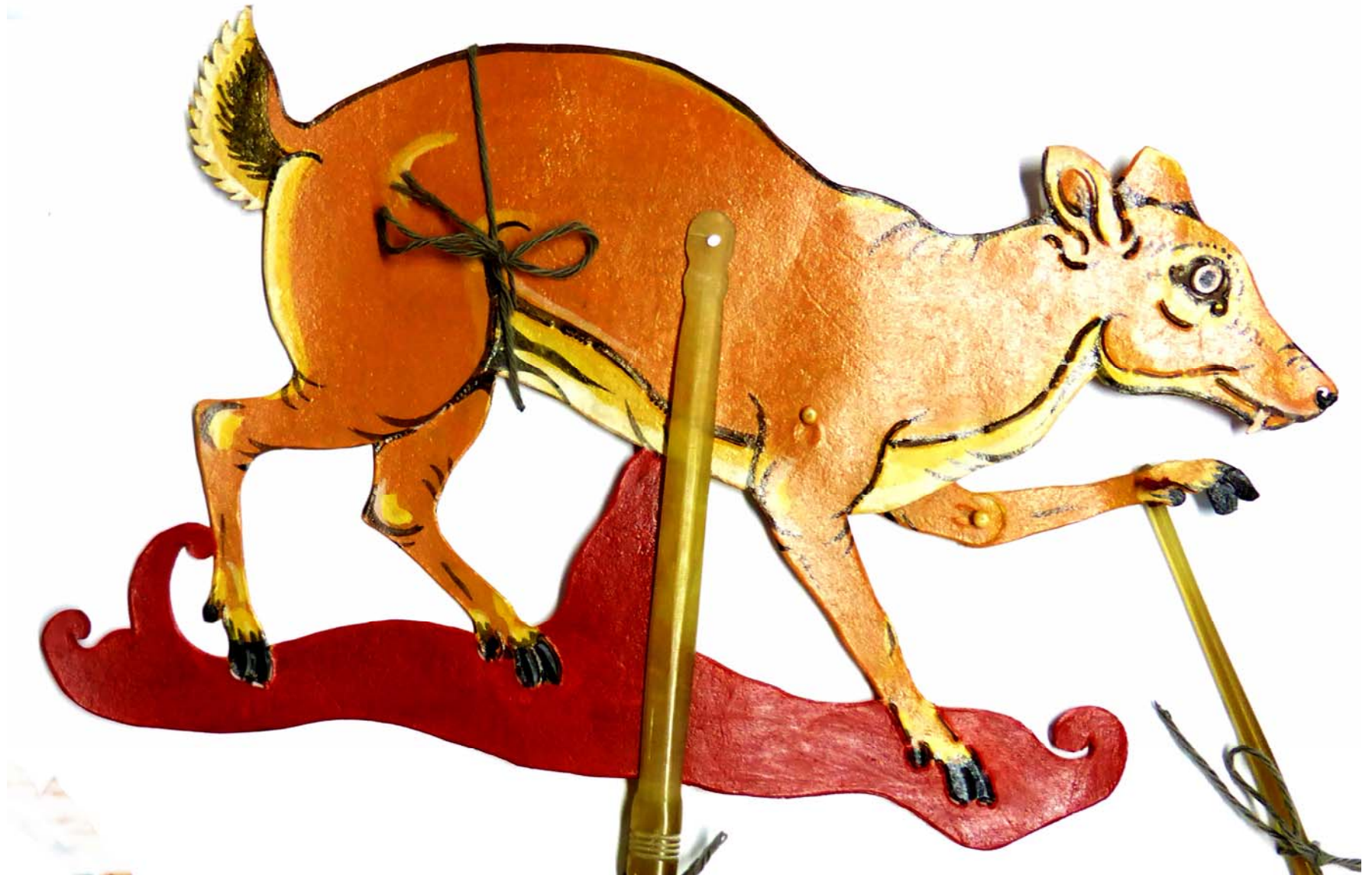
Narada, Solo style, BM 1859.12. 28.773 Bremanakonda, Solo style, BM 1859.12. 28.767

Basuki, Betara, RMV 73-732-Solo,before 1883

New: wayang kancil

- Stories about the mouse deer, kancil; via India, Perzie, Malaysia to Java.
- Since 1925, in Central Java, made by Chinese-Javanese puppet makers and probably played, but not popular; only few examples known
- In the 1980s developed by Ki Ledjar Subroto from Yogyakarta, special for children
- Purpose: 1) education: preserve nature; 2) teaching language, Javanese; 3) preliminary education to improve understanding of real Javanese wayang later
- Texts based on the 1873 Javanese version by Yogyanese Raden Panji Sasrawijaya of the Malaysian Serat Kancil. Ledjar made a version for Javanese wayang and designed and made the puppets
- Wayang kancil also popular in Europe, for education of children and the sick; still many orders also from museums and zoos;
- Dutch market: famous puppet player Rien Baartmans, Haarlem, and Otto van der Mieden (Puppetrymuseum Vorchten) 1988, 1989
- Ledjar's grandson Ananto Wicaksono, also dalang, makes wayang animasi of kancil stories

Kancil. early version MG 630





Kancil

Version 2011



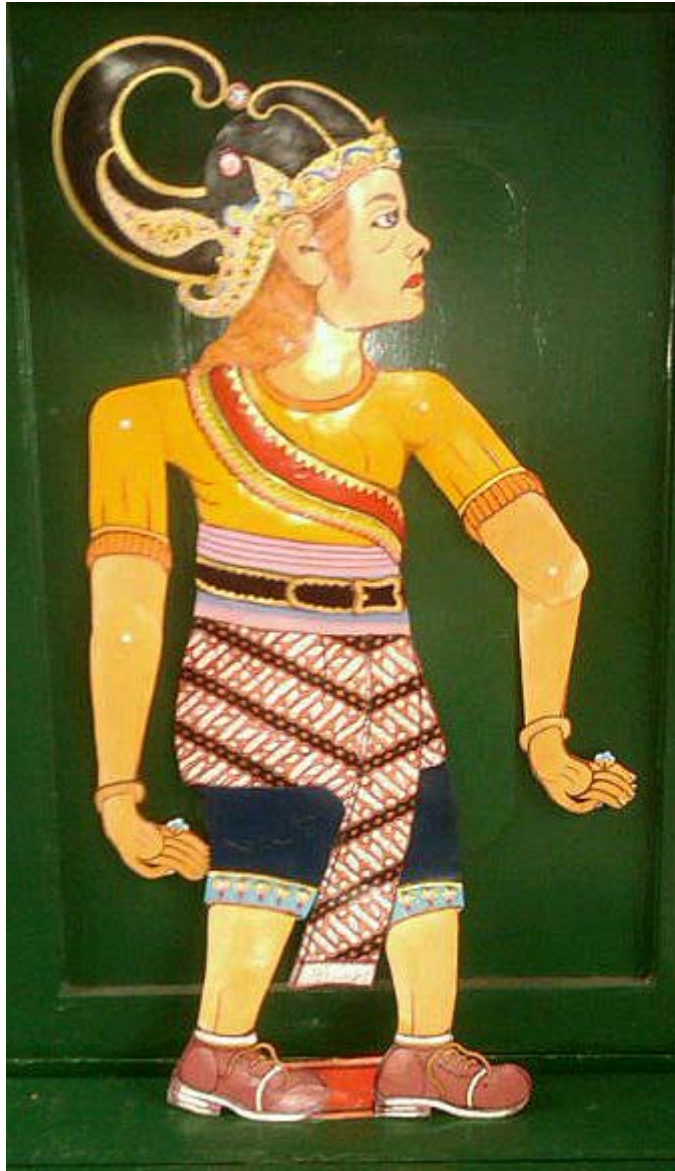
Kancil Berdiri
(evolution wayang Kancil)

wayang kancil: Javanese farmers
with realistic human faces, dog (MG
633, 630, 632)

New: wayang with real human face, wayang wajah

- Ledjar started with wayang J.P. Coen for the Zuiderzeemuseum, Hoorn, after that wayang revolusi, in ex-KNIL castle in Bronbeek; wayang Willem van Oranje, Delft, 2011; wayang Diponegoro, Nasirun in Yogya en Tong Tong Fair 2013
- from 2006, orders of wayang figure of one's father, mother, child, grandchild of Dutch-Indies descent or of famous historical figures; and of one's favourite pat (dog, cat, bird), or (sea)food (inkfish, crab, etc.)
- Introduced at Pasar Malam (now Tong Tong Fair) in Den Haag
- New ceremony: handing over and stressing your "indische" roots to your family by means of a wayang figure with human face (including Obama)

Willem v.O; JP Coen; Eva Ment; Obama



Boy Arjoena Welkeshuisen
And Otto vd Mieden, Puppetsmuseum

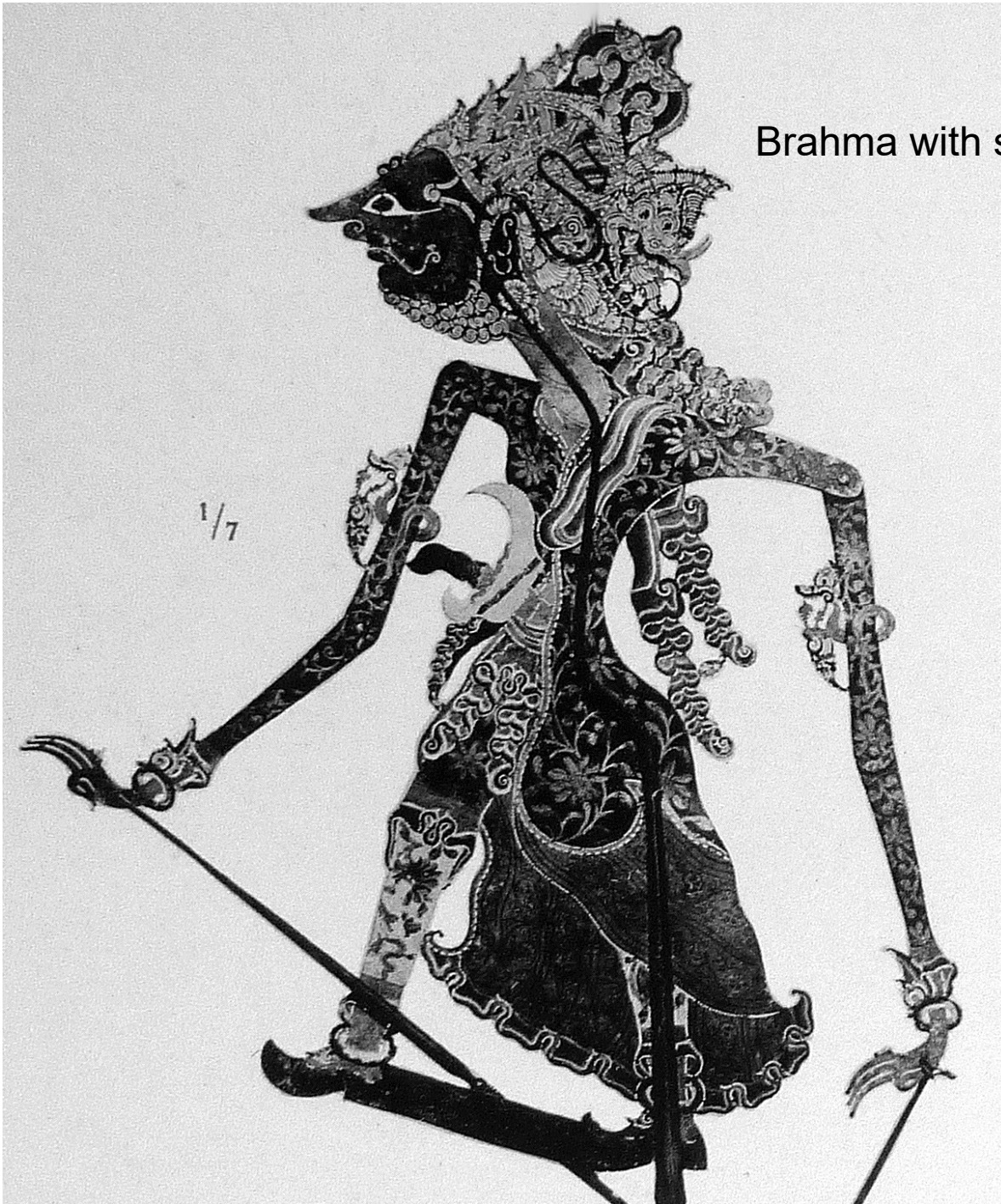
Wayang wahyu/injil, biblical themes

- Started in Central Java in the 1930 by Roman Catholic missionaries
- After 1945 also via Protestant churches
- Theological School Duta Wacana in Yogyakarta propagated wayang wahyu
- In Groningen collection 4 figures, made by Soedaryanto from Paras, in Boyolali near Solo. Solo style (MG 635-638)
- Puppets are wearing shoes, like the Hindu gods, end 19th C. Javanese development

Mariam, MG 636; Yesus, MG 635

Salomo, MG 638, Engel, MG 637

Brahma with shoes, made before 1883, Solo



Wayang

babad/revolusi/suluh/perjuangan

- 1944/45: Raden Mas Said, related to kraton Mangkunegaran, Solo, made puppets for a story about the fight for freedom, revolution; puppets with primitive human faces
- around 1955: more puppets for stories about the history of the beginning of the republic; puppets with primitive human faces
- 1994: order from the Museum Groningen, puppets bought from broker Olot Pardjono, Yogya; 11 poppen with primitive human faces (MG 1202-1212); maker still unknown
- 2008: Ledjar makes for Bronbeek wayang revolusi figures with real, historically correct faces and clothes.

Sukarno, Hatta, people's army

Nica soldaat, Gen. Meyer, Van Mook
(MG 1211, 1209, 1208)

Perampogan, TNI, MG 1205

Soedirman

- Sukarno

Puppets by Ledjar made for
Puppetry Museum, Vorchten

14/8/2008, first performance wayang revolusi door
Ananto Wicaksono/Nanang, Yogya



Wayang Willem of Orange, 2011

history of Delft

Prince Willem shot by a Frenchman



Death of Willem & Willem's soul goes to Heaven, his body is buried in the church



Wayang Willem

Katrijn gives a Spanish soldier a beat with her frying pan

