



This is a set of 12 lovely “hand shadow cards” first published in the late 19th century as advertisements for a chocolate company.

Each card shows a delicately painted pastoral scene involving an animal (swan, goose, turtle, chicken, dog, rabbit). Next to each scene is a silhouette of the animal that will be cast by holding before a light the card, which is printed and die-cut as if two hands were forming the shape of the animal. The set of 12 cards (each approx. 5” x 7”) come in an envelope (5¼” x 7⅞”) showing all the cards in color.

**Optical Toys**

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## Trompe L'Oeil

This is a reproduction of a thaumatrope set first published in Paris in the 1880's. There were a variety of designs included from package to package, which would include eight different cards. We have chosen twelve, plus have added a special historical booklet, which also has instructions for drawing your own thaumatrope designs on the 2 blank cards that are included. Box size  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{8} \times 1$ , shrinkwrapped. Please note: this replaces the *Jeu du Thaumatrope* set that has been available for many years.



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# Animated Flippin' Flappers

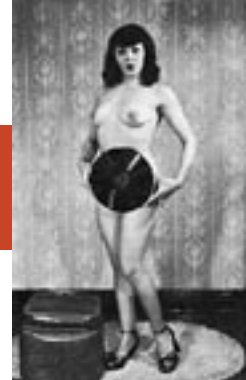
**"The Sombrero Kid"**



**"Miss Polka Dot"**



**"The Disc Girl"**



**"Tantilizing Tessie"**



Ok, now be honest. How long did it take for you to turn the page over? There are girls you take home to meet mother, and there are girls that are just a bit different than your mother. These are the latter. Nice, home-spun, wholesome girls whose only weakness is they take their clothes off for everyone to see.

Dating some time mid-20th century, these anonymous women posed for anonymously published flipbooks that were sold who knows where. And certainly no one's talking.

Optical Toys thinks there is (*ahem*) historical value in these books and we've spent hours pouring over them, digitally cleaning them up for re-publication. (*Hey, it's a living.*)

A set of four books, each 2¼ x 2⅝, 30 frames each, b&w with color covers. All come "safety-sealed" in a plain brown wrapper.

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two time lapse sequences of the aurora borealis

photographed by jan karel lameer

The images in this flipbook are a remarkable achievement. They are part of a growing body of work by a man of great determination and discipline, Jan Karel Lameer, of the Netherlands. Using nothing more than a Nikon camera and a sturdy tripod, he ventures out into the cold, dark nights of the upper latitudes, waiting, watching and painstakingly photographing the movements of the northern lights.

Jan has been filming the night sky since 1999 on the island of Terschelling in the Netherlands. There are two sequences shown in this book. On the night of April 6-7, 2000, he stayed on the deserted Terschelling beach for a week of slow and carefully scripted time-lapse photography, when suddenly the night sky filled with bright dancing auroral colors. His filmstock for a full week only lasted for two hours and for the rest of that wonderful night, he sat in the sand and enjoyed the lights.

The northern lights of January 21, 2005 were photographed from the mainland of the Netherlands. The stunning show above the landscape lit by a full moon only lasted for 45 minutes, but it shows a dramatic red sky full of sweeping clouds like few have ever seen it before.

Jan Karel Lameer studied astronomy for three years before he went to Dutch film school to become a documentary filmmaker. His love of observing the light and color of nature eventually led him to specialize in time-lapse photography, thus combining his interest in science with art.

The flipbook measures 5 x 5½ inches, each sequence has 50 frames, printed in full color throughout, including biography and background text on inside covers.

Published by Optical Toys POBox 23  
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Image sequence, Jan Karel Lameer © 2005

Flipbook design, Optical Toys © 2005

# Dubya

## the Paper Sheriff



What we got in this here package is a fascimile (that's a liberal word for 'copy') of Dubya the Paper Sheriff hisself, a-tippin' his hat\* 'n' a-raisin' his gasoline nozzle in salute. His oil pump is a-runnin' 'cuz Sheriff Dubya has made the world safe from Evil Oil Rustlin' Doers. Now, don't ya blames 'ole Optical Toys for this here toy. 'Twas designed by a feller from Ole' Europe, by the name of Paper Pino (that's him on the right). He's also known as Giuseppe Civitarese by his fellow oceanographers, but he makes these here automatons when he ain't goin' fishin'. Ole' Pino's drawn all the parts you need and writ real clear instructions so ya don't go haywire puttin' this lil' toy together. All you gotta do is cut, glue and crank up Dubya into action.

Includes a set of 9 sheets (9½ x 13 inches) with 8 page instruction book of the same size, in polyethylene bag with header similar in style to artwork shown opposite and blurb above.

### Optical Toys

y'all just gotta love us, right?

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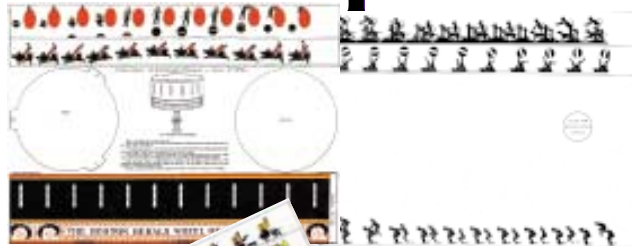
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\*There's both a black hat and a white hat to choose from dependin' on your persuasion.

# PAPER Zoetrope Kit



## Paper Zoetrope Kit

A movie to cut, view, and glue

The zoetrope was one of the earliest movie toys and was extremely popular in the latter half of the 19th century. It consists of a slotted cylinder through which one views paper animated movie strips. Although usually made of a wooden or metal cylinder, this one was first published as a newspaper supplement in 1896, and it brings movies right to your hands – just follow the easy instructions. The kit includes an exact reproduction of the original supplement, plus 3 additional pages of 40 antique, animated strips – 19 in color and 21 in black and white. There is a blank strip ready and waiting for your own imagination, a booklet of animation instruction and historical background about the toy, and wooden spinner pieces.

**New for  
2004!**

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# MOTHER GOOSE MOVIE BOOK



**FLIP THE PAGES...  
THE PICTURES LIVE**



A wonderfully unique way to read Mother Goose. With animated movement! See 3 blind mice chase the farmer's wife!! See Mother Goose fly! See Tweedledee punch Tweedledum in the nose!!! This book is a reproduction of an original first published in 1923. It includes nine 2-page animations in full-color, as well as numerous b&w cartoons, filled with idiosyncratic American-style wit, illustrating Mother Goose verse. It was drawn by Charlie Bowers, a cartoonist and filmmaker of varied talents whose multiplicitous career spanned from the early teens to the forties. A biography of Bowers is included inside the book. 8½ X 8¾ inches, hardbound, shrinkwrapped. Isbn# 1-929421-09-5

This book was brought to market, to market by

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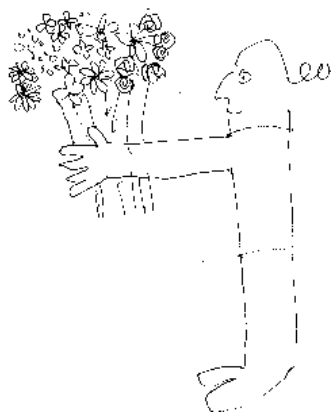
# THE DESKTOP PAPER GARDEN BOX

A 3-D  
peep box  
to cut out  
and make



## Desktop Paper Garden Box by Peter Markey

If you love a garden so much that you wish you could bring it indoors with you, then here's your answer. Just cut out the trees, bushes, clouds, and house (or castle) and glue together and have a year round garden that can sit on your desk. The seeds of this garden peep box were sewn by Peter Markey, a master paper engineer from Wales. Though not a movable automaton like the other Markey kits, this is the easiest of all to construct and suitable for a younger age group. Includes three 8½x11 full color sheets, including full instructions in poly-bag with color header.



Peter Markey, fresh  
from his garden



It Looks  
Like Rain



## Presto! Collars Flipbook

A very charming flipbook from 1903, advertising a patented two-way collar for both men and women. This 2-sided flipbook illustrates how to use the collar with both a male and female model performing the action of the collar. Starting out, each in turn looks up with the caption, "*Looks like rain*" and then shows how the collar is quickly converted into a tighter-fitting piece leaving them "*Ready for the storm*". It even includes explicitly clear instructions on how to flip the pages! 2¼ x 4 inches, 26 pgs, b&w, bagged. Sold in dozens.



PART I  
**A  
TEARFUL  
TALE**

A Woman's  
Soliloquy



*Oh dear! more  
carpet beating—*

PART 2  
**A  
CHEERFUL  
TALE**

A Woman's  
Soliloquy

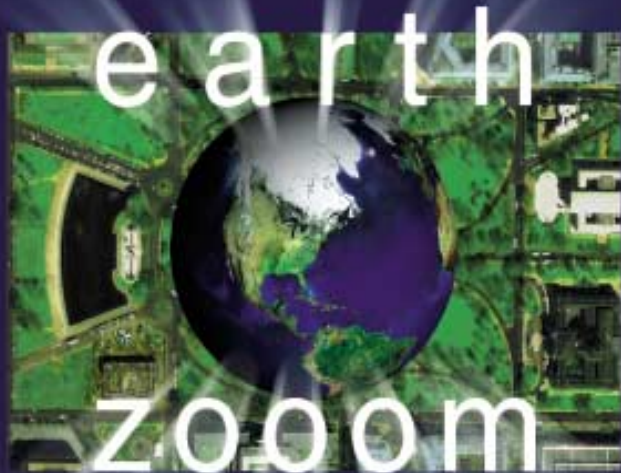


*"To-day I am so  
happy."*

## Whirlwind Moviescope Flipbook

A cute little flipbook from the 1920's, at least if you're judging by size: just 1½ x 2¾ inches. This was an advertisement for the Whirlwind vacuum cleaner showing, on both sides of the book, before and after sequences. Side one, *A Tearful Tale*, shows the wife beating the carpet to clean it. Side two, *A Cheerful Tale*, shows a lucky lady with her new Whirlwind. She is now "*so happy*" that she can leave the house early to go shopping. It's "*non-electric. There are No Wires, No Sparks, No Shocks.*" Unique to this flipbook are captions on each page showing what the woman is thinking about as she works. 1½ x 2¾ inches, b&w with colored cover, bagged.

**New for  
2004!**



to Washington D. C.

## earth zoom — to Washington D. C.

A flipbook of cinematic zoom to earth, with amazing photographic detail and exacting smoothness. Using data from different spacecraft and some powerful computer technology, visualizers at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center have created a perspective of an American city in a way you've never seen before. Starting with the camera high above the Earth, seeing it as a mere dot, we rush in towards it and to the surface at what would be an impossible speed for any known vehicle. Passing through layers of atmosphere, the colors of our destinations shimmer with their own unique characteristics, and suddenly we find ourselves floating in virtual space just above the U.S. Capitol building in Washington D.C.

The computer work to create this animation was done by members of the Scientific Visualization Studio at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt Maryland. 6 pages of details about their work, and the history of remote space imaging are included.

A very big and very cool flipbook: 5 x 5.5 inches, 212 pgs (100 full color images, plus six pages of background/historical text, including web links to related NASA sites). Shrinkwrapped.

ISBN 1-929421-06-0

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## Coiffures au Choix

We've been wanting to publish a paper doll for some time, but never found any that fit our way of seeing things (i.e. slightly askew). This doll does! It is a very rare and lovely paper doll from the early 1830s, so rare that the savvy dealer from whom we purchased it had not only never seen such a thing before, but had no substantive information on it. (It came to us in an antique homemade box.) We felt it was so unique and humorous that we had to design a package for it and reproduce it. Exquisitely detailed, color drawings of a daringly bald model accompanied by 12 of the wildest, baroque hairstyles you can imagine, replete with feathers, arrows, and buns on top of braids on top of curls. The model is on a 4 x 6 inch size card, and each hairpiece is already cut out to place on her head. All packaged in an envelope approximately 5 x 7 inches.

## Mov-I-Graff

We've seen different versions of this sort of toy, but this is certainly one of the most charming. Simply a stiff card with a cartoon man, whose nose and chin area is made up of a fine-linked chain that you can wiggle around and create new faces. Of 1920's vintage, it is a highly portable toy for that spare moment when you feel the need for some face time. Packaged in an envelope that pictures the actual card; approximately 5 x 7 inches. (See also the *Ole Million Face* block set, and *Metamorphosis Picture Book* for other changeable face and body toys in our line.)



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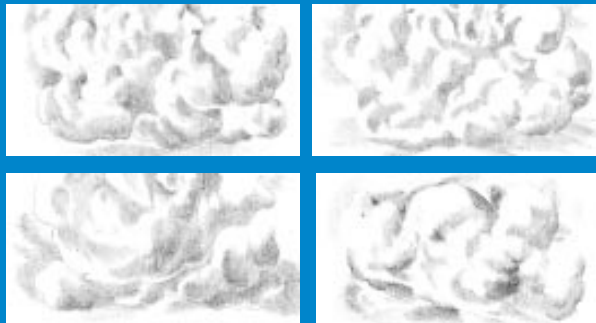
Can you make this bum...



...from these four bums?



Or a picture of Socrates from these four clouds?



## Quelques Tours Dans une Boite (Some Tricks in a Box)

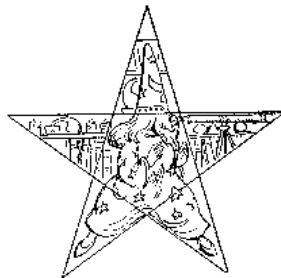
This is a quirky but charming little toy, that, as best as we can figure, was first published some time around the turn of the 19th century in France. A 3 x 5 inch box containing 4 envelopes of card puzzle tricks. Translated and shrinkwrapped.

*Les Quatre Vagabonds:* These four bums are surely from the same family. Bring the cards together in such a way so that you end up forming a single person.

*L'Incroyable:* 1. A regular chessboard with 64 squares has been cut into four pieces. Reassemble the pieces in such a way as to make 65 squares. 2. Assemble these same four pieces in yet another way to make only 63 squares.

*Un Sage des Nuages:* At sunset, one sometimes sees castles, towers, giants, etc. in the clouds. You will discover, by properly assembling the four enclosed cloud cards, a portrait of the philosopher Socrates.

*L'Astronome:* Place the three triangles in such a way that they form a star and, at the same time, form a portrait of an astronomer looking through his telescope.



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### AN APOSTROPHE \*

The comma placed as here you see,  
 From the word **LOVE** has snatched a letter;  
 It bears the name **APOSTROPHE**;  
 And, perhaps, you can't contrive a better.  
 In poetry 'tis chiefly found,  
 Where sense should coincide with sound.

## Punctuation Personified – by Mr. Stops

This little primer, on punctuation, was originally published, in 1824, in "Olde London Town". It is a fine example — assuming you need an example — of an early use of a comic character enlivening lessons that are otherwise boring.

[You're never too old to take punctuation lessons.]

"We are happy to resurrect Mr. Stops from near oblivion", says I, (using the editorial "we" of course). Made up of punctuation marks\* himself, he teaches through the help of...

- enlightened verse
- 16 humorous & colorful illustrations
- his various punctuated friends

'Tis a wonderful world of punctuation, or as they were once called, "stops". A perfect reproduction of a rare and wonderful book for any interest in early English, early cartooning, and of course punctuation. 34pp



Mr. Stops

ISBN 1-929421-07-9

\* You know what they are, don't you?

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THE FLIGHT  
OF  
**The Old Woman**  
WHOSE BASKET  
WAS  
TOSSED UP IN A BASKET  
Sketch'd & Etched  
BY  
ALIQUIS.



**There was an old woman tossed up in a basket.  
Nineteen times as high as the moon.  
And where she was going I couldn't but ask it.  
For in her hand she carried a broom,  
Old woman! old woman!! old woman!!! quoth I,  
Oh whither, oh whither, oh whither so high?  
To sweep the cobwebs off the sky,  
And I'll be with you again by and bye.**

**T**he true and faithfull record of the flight of  
olde Woman who went up in a Baskett in the which  
is shewne how she started on her Voyage. how she  
advanced and how she finally arrived at the skye  
together with many other things right pleasant  
to beholde.  
Here followth the order of her Voyage as it is ex-  
emplified in the several plates appertaining here  
unto together with a briefe explication, the which will  
be found good and necessarie for y<sup>e</sup> righte under-  
standynge thereof.

Reproduced from a rare, original copy from 1843, this fold-out book is based on a popular British nursery rhyme. The author/illustrator remains anonymous (his "name" Aliquis means "anyone" in Latin) but his imagination is wondrous. He has illustrated a seemingly simple poem into an exotic journey into outer space, full of strange dangers including an attack by "divers birds and noisesome beastes". Each panel is artfully described in Old English. For instance, her final destination is described thusly:

*The olde woman here commenceth her worke in ye skye the which she findeth full loathsome by reason of the manie & great spyders which have for long time bygone woven their webbes therein.*

The illustrations are beautifully rendered, originally hand-colored pen drawings that are full of fine and humorous details. It measures 4 x 7½ inches but extends to a full 7 feet when all twelve panels are fully opened. The book is packaged in a maroon-colored illustrated slipcase, with description on reverse.

This is a true historic marvel of children's literature. Sophisticated, idiosyncratic, funny and surreal, it appeals to all ages and a wide range of sensibilities.



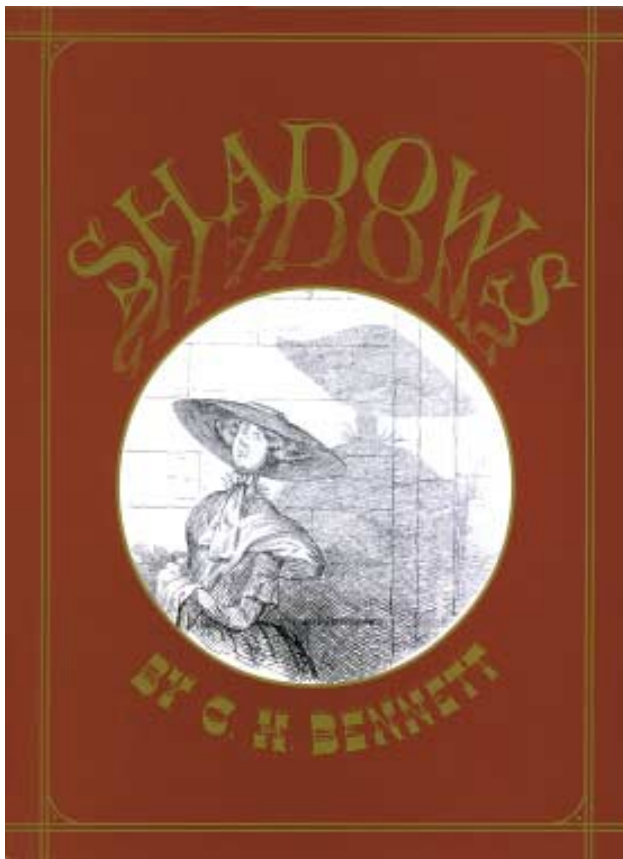
Here is y<sup>e</sup> great & dreadful attack made upon y<sup>e</sup> olde  
woman by divers birds and noisome beastes, the  
which she with great leisure in audience well beholde  
eth.

This is the first part of y<sup>e</sup> old woman's journey  
through many worlds.

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A. BERRY 1864



AN OLD 1864

Illustrations half of actual size.

## Shadows by C. H. Bennett

Charles Henry Bennett was an English illustrator and caricaturist, living from 1829 to 1867. He worked for various humor newspapers and magazines of the time, including Punch starting in 1865. He gained wide popularity with his series of books illustrating how a person's shadow can reveal their hidden nature. This portfolio includes 24 of the best examples of these from two different editions of the 1850's. After viewing them, you may find yourself being more careful when you walk in sunlight. 5 x 7 inches; paperboard folder.

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## Mechanical Paper Sports from Peter Markey

This is our idea of sport: turning a little wooden crank and letting a paper automaton do the workout for you. Peter Markey has flexed his muscles for 2002, introducing 3 new paper automaton models in the world of sports.

**Tennis Players** - turn the crank and the lime green tennis ball "bounces" back and forth between swivelling players making dead on wacks of the racket.

**Runner/Football Player** - another model (like the Jockey/Cowboy) that offers a choice. It's a football player, or it's just a runner. And you can decide if it's a he-runner or a she-runner.

**Make 'n' Play Paper Flick-a-Golfer *Mini* Miniature Golf for Table-top or Floor** - the dumb executive desktop game to beat all dumb executive desktop games. Flick the lever on the golfer's back and try and make a putt-in-one into four different miniature golf holes. Famed PGA\* golfer Tiger Papers is ready to make a birdie. (The golf ball is made from tissue paper!)

\*Paper Golfing Association



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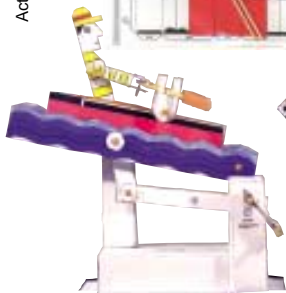
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Actual package size is 9½ x 12.



## Paper Automaton Kits by Peter Markey

*Paper cams and paper cogs and paper cranks. Cut the paper, glue the paper, turn the crank. Two innocent pieces of paper have become a . . .*

### Kissing machine

*Turn the crank and a man and a woman happily bob their heads up and down as they turn towards each other for a kiss.*

### Mechanical Dog

*Turn the crank and the paper dog barks and spins its tail.*

### Mechanical Birdwatching Cat

*Turn the crank and the paper cat frantically spins her head trying to follow a bird that flies round and round.*

### Mechanical Rower

*You turn the crank and a rower will row the boat.*

### Galloping Cowboy or Jockey

*Choose one or the other and crank 'em cowboy or crank to the finish line.*

Peter Markey, of Wales, is a magician of paper. He has created mechanical toys made of all sorts of materials, but we believe his paper automatons are the most enchanting. Each kit has two sheets of parts with simple instructions for cutting and gluing the pieces. Little else is needed but scissors, exacto blade, a bit of tape, and glue. The result is the wonder of creating something quite marvelous out of next to nothing. Two sheets (8½ x 11 inches) and wood dowels in poly-bag with color header.

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*Swan Leg Ballet*

*Toucan Tango*



*Dreaming Penguin*

## **Mechanimals<sup>®</sup>** by Keisuke Saka

Little is known about paper sculpture artist Keisuke Saka of Tokyo. But then again, we haven't asked him a lot of personal questions since we first met him in the spring of 2000. This much we know: he appears to be completely obsessed with making things, anything and everything, out of paper, and he is saving up money to buy a sofa. Other than that, these paper cut-out automatons speak, or rather move, for themselves...that is, with a little help from your fingers.

### **Dreaming Penguin**

This poor penguin has a hopeless dream to fly. But she needs your help. All you have to do is cut out the parts and glue them together according to the simple instructions. Then turn the crank and watch her make her hopeful attempts at lift off.

### **Swan Leg Ballet**

If you've ever wondered how a swan swims, wonder no longer. Cut out and glue the paper parts by following the easy instructions. Turn the crank and see the secret of the gliding swan. (Tchaikovsky not included.)

### **Toucan Tango**

This bird sure can dance! And she sings too, but extremely quietly, and only at the command of your touch. You see, it takes two to Toucan Tango. All you have to do is cut out the parts and glue them together according to the simple instructions.

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# Metamorphosis Picture Book

This reproduction of an early metamorphosis book from Germany dates from the later 19th century, but its exact origin is unknown. The earliest examples of this toy have been found from the 17th century. Commonly called "harlequines" or "turn ups" they were connected to the theatre shows of the time. In the 19th century, this technique had evolved into creating changeable faces and bodies. This book consists of 8 pages, with each single page holding 4 different characters, each divided into thirds (head, body, and legs). The matching sections are tied together with great ingenuity with greater combination possibilities than is usually found in books of this sort.

## Ole' Million Faces

This engrossing toy consists of 11 different blocks, each of which have 4 different images of a part of a face.

4 heads

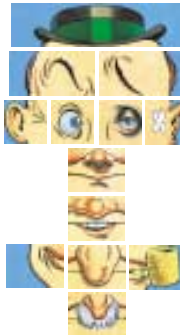
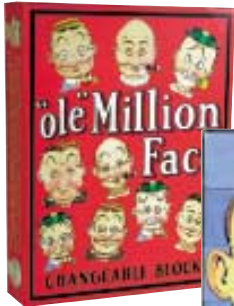
Left and right foreheads

Left and right ears and eyes

Left side of mouth, nose, right side of mouth

Chins

The player can turn any individual block to fit into the rest, creating a myriad of faces. 4,194,304 of them to be exact. We've figured that working at the rate of one change per minute, eight hours per day, six days per week, and fifty-two weeks per year, it would take 28 years, 8 hours, 58 minutes and 48 seconds to finish all the different faces. That's a lot of fun for your money and it's one of our best selling items. The toy was first created in 1925 for The Face Corporation of Philadelphia by Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist Carey Orr.



Pick a nose...

...any nose

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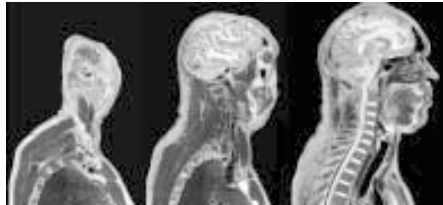


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# head 2 heads

a flipbook of slices of life



With amazing photographic and cinematic detail, this flipbook shows both coronal (front to back) and sagittal (side to side) fly-through sequences of the human skull based on images from the National Library of Medicine's *Visible Human Project*.

Each 60 image full color sequence is viewed separately on opposite sides of the pages. Book measures 4 x 6 inches and includes 3 pages of background text. Shrinkwrapped. ISBN 781929421022

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BUILDING THE



## Building the Empire State

Though recognized throughout the world, the Empire State's actual construction has become something of a mystery. That's a problem corrected by this flipbook. By happy accident we discovered the existence of weekly photographs taken of the construction. Working with the archivists at the Avery Library, Columbia University, the original negatives were digitally scanned. Then each image was meticulously registered in place to the other to create a motion sequence where none had originally been intended. The result is a view of the Empire State Building *building* right before your eyes. It is a new height in flipbook publishing. This second edition of the flipbook includes an additional 14 image sequence of the deconstruction of the old Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, and 3 pages of historical information. 5 x 7 inches, 60 pages. The art deco cover design is based on an fresco installed in the lobby of the building. ISBN 1929421036

## Tour d'Eiffel, Tour de Force

Using a rare set of photographs held in the archives of the Paris Museums, this flipbook shows the Eiffel Tower rise up like it did 100 years ago, only faster. Each individual image has been carefully placed one after the other so that the illusion of the movement growth is perfect. Included in the book are two pages of original source quotes from Gustave Eiffel, a protest by artists of the time, and a journalist's perspective of the construction site. 4 x 6 inches, 20pgs.

*"This high and skinny pyramid of iron ladders, this giant ungainly skeleton upon a base that looks built to carry a colossal monument of Cyclops, but which just peters out into a ridiculous thin shape like a factory chimney."*  
— Guy de Maupassant

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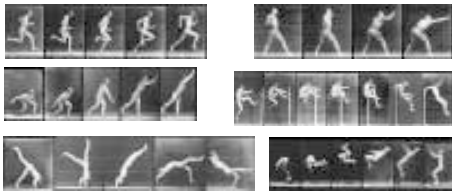
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# Eadward Muybridge Flipbooks

## Athletic Motion Studies

In the late 1870's, Eadward Muybridge revolutionized our view of the world with his grand photographic study of human and animal locomotion. This series of 6 flipbooks of athletic movements derives from his work at the University of Pennsylvania. A unique digest of some classic Muybridge motion studies. Each book is 2 by 3 inches, 24 to 28 pages, 2 color cover. 6 books enclosed in a matching slipcase.

## Single title sequences

The publication of these flipbooks has marked the first time in history that these photographs have been seen in actual motion by a wide public audience. The books have interest for lovers of photography, cultural history, and of course, motion pictures. This new edition is available either as a complete shrinkwrapped set of 10 (as pictured left) or as single books in poly-bag with header. Each set or book includes a biographical booklet about Muybridge and his work. Special discount pricing is available when purchasing single books in groups of 5 or 10 titles. See order form for details. 4.25 x 2 inches, 36 or 48 pgs.

- The Baboon (2x3") flipbook has a cover that matches the style of the Thomas Edison Sneeze flipbook and does not come with the extra biographical booklet.
- Wood display stand is available for the single title books.
- Remaining stock of previous edition titles is available at special discount pricing.



**New for 2004!**



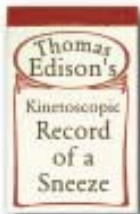
### **Animals:**

*Elephant walking, Cat galloping, Horse "Daisy" jumping over hurdle, Cockatoo flying*



**People:** *Woman skipping rope, Man walking, Boys leapfrogging, Man and woman dancing a waltz, Woman jumping off steps, Man tipping his hat*





**Thomas Edison Kinetoscopic Record of a Sneeze**  
 1894 was the beginning of commercial film activity with the opening of the first public kinetoscope parlors. A film of an assistant's sneeze was among the earliest and most famous of Edison's short subjects. The source material for this flipbook was the original photograph first placed as a copyright deposit at the Library of Congress. Images were very carefully enhanced through the removal of nicks, scratches and decay, resulting in an extremely clear 45 image sequence. 2 x 3 inches, art nouveau styled cover, with brief 3 page historical text.

### Etienne-Jules Marey Long Jump... & Je vous aime

A contemporary of Muybridge, Marey's 19th century, photographic studies of human motion show all phases of movement on one plate. In **Long jump preceded by a run** each figure was highlighted and placed against a grayed background of the other figures. When each page is flipped, the original motion appears. 20 pages, 4 by 6 inches with additional. 2 page text written by Marey biographer Marta Braun. French text also available. **Je vous aime** was first filmed by Marey as a method to teach lip reading to the deaf. This flipbook makes a great love note! 18 pages, 2 x 3½ inches, with pink duotone cover.



### Harold "Doc" Edgerton Milkdrop

High-speed cinematography was the key to "Doc" Edgerton's remarkable series of motion studies, begun in the 1930's. This much loved M.I.T. professor was the 20th Century Muybridge in his invention of the stroboscope for studying the motions of life.

**Milkdrop** is an absolute wonder. Dramatically lit against a black background one sees the white droplet slowly descend, the first splash and crown, and a secondary column splash ending with a "slow" undulating settlement of the milk. All 90 pictures of the original makes for a large, wondrous flipbook. 2 x 5 inches, 90 pages.



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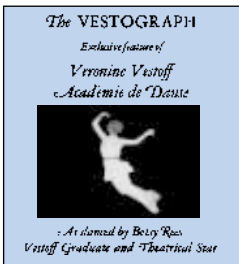
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## Barrelhouse Bop by George Griffin

*A man doodles on piano and discovers a rag rhythm. His lines evolve into a tuxedoed saxman blowing some swing who changes into a bebopped free spirit who metamorphs into a deconstructed postmodern, hip-hop explosion.*

A fun way to learn about jazz history! In 60 pages this flipbook tells it all: from ragtime to swing, to bop to free jazz. Musicians drawn in a cartoon style of each era play a relay melody, beginning with a new rhythmic discovery in rag and ending in a burst of musical energy. A brief masterpiece by a great animation artist. 4 by 5 inches 2 color cover. Includes a 2 page artist statement.



## Vestoff Vestograph

This charming flipbook depicting a series of ballet movements was first published in 1925 by the Veronine Vestoff Academie de Dance, presumably for advertisement. 2.5 x 3 inches, 48 pages

*Veronine Vestoff was a graduate of the Russian Imperial Academy of Arts in Moscow and former ballet master to Anna Pavlova. Together with his wife Sonia Serova he gave dance instruction where the marriage of the modern and ballet techniques created a unique curriculum. Students had the opportunity to study classic, interpretive, folk, character, oriental, nature dancing and ballet.*

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## Alphabet Movies by Jeff Jurich

*Are Blue Cats Dancing on the Eggs for Fun?  
 Guess How High I Jumped to Kiss the Laughing Moon's Nose?  
 One Orange Pumpkin Quickly Rolled To Sea.  
 The Upside down Valentine X'd the Yellow Zebra*

Out of the wild imagination of animation artist Jeff Jurich has come a movie of the alphabet. In vibrant color and playful action it is comprised of two books showing four sequences. All in full color. These books make the alphabet literally come alive. Two books printed on both sides (thus 4 books) in matching box. 5 inches square.



## Flipped Greetings

Give a flipbook as greeting card and maybe you can skip the gift. **Gestation Animation** is a series of actual photographs of the stages of pregnancy ending with the final "product" and space to write in one's own "special details". Photographed by Cambridge-based photographer Karl Baden. 2 x 3 inches, 40 pages



The **Santa** flipbook depicts a myriad of Santas falling like snowflakes, followed by the similarly falling letters of "Merry Christmas". 2 x 3 inches

And for a special someone there is **You...** a flipbook showing exactly how magnetic the attraction really is. Fun and different. Created by contemporary artists especially for Optical Toys. 2 x 3 inches

(Also see the Etienne Marey **Je vous aime** book for a great Valentine or love note.)

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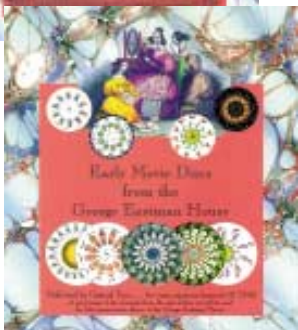
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**PHENAKISTASCOPE**  
Original Cartoons from the 1830's  
A complete animation kit for all ages!



## Phenakistiscope sets

The **Magic Wheel** set includes a variety of six antique designs boxed in a colorful facsimile label from an original set of the 1860's. Included are a wooden handle for viewing, a blank disc for drawing and a booklet of history of the phenakistiscope.

Our **POLY-BAG SET** is a comprehensive, inexpensive introduction to this fascinating toy. Packages consist of a variety of antique and/or contemporary designs. Packages consist of either 5 designs and 2 blanks (**7-pack**) or 3 designs and 1 blank (**4-pack**). Included are a wood handle for viewing, historical and animation instruction booklets, and a "do-it-yourself" flipbook. The latter is part of the instruction wherein the budding animator is asked to add some of the missing animation to the printed cartoon. Very involving, creative fun. Wood display stand with mirror is available for all phenakistiscope sets.

## Fore's Moving Panorama

From the paper archive collection at the George Eastman House, nine examples of early phenakistiscope designs. Dating from around 1833, the earliest years of this toy, these designs are notable for their unique artwork, animation skill, oddity of image or humor. The sophisticated animation, surreal humor, and abstract art found in these discs is remarkable. These first movies were the entertainment of their day, yet their spell still enchants. Accompanying the set is an illustrated booklet of two essays: the toy as seen from a cultural perspective, written especially for us by Philip Carli, former film archivist at the Eastman House; and an animation perspective by Maureen Furniss, Ph.D., Professor of Film at Chapman University.

Packaged in a beautiful facsimile folder (11 by 11½ inches) all the discs are reproduced in their original color and size (five are 9½ inches, four are 6¾ inches). Antique-styled maple handle included for viewing.

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## Jeu du Thaumatrope

This toy sparked the invention of motion pictures by showing the phenomenon of persistence of vision. Each disk is imprinted on both sides with part of a picture. When it is spun by the strings attached to either edge, the pictures appear to combine into one, complete image.

The twelve discs in the set are exact reproductions of a set from mid-19th century: full color on one side, and a silhouette image opposite. Added are 2 blank discs on which one can draw a thaumatrope. Also included is an excerpt from an 1826 children's book by the thaumatrope's inventor, Dr. John Ayrton Paris, which teaches persistence of vision through characters playing with their new thaumatrope. All is enclosed in a perfect reproduction of the original box.

Also available is a poly-bag set that includes 3 antique discs from the box set, a blank for drawing and its own 6 page booklet of history and instruction for drawing a thaumatrope.

## Tricks of the Trade

**Flip** . . . and a dancer prances to the tune of Fleer's chewing gum.

**Hold** the card to the light to see the effects of Climax Plug chewing tobacco on hair growth.

**Spin** and get asked for a kiss courtesy of St. John's Oil.

**Lift** the flap and see the happy result from the use of German Corn Remover.

**Pull** off her gown to see the whiskey of greatest renown!

A flipbook, a transparency card, a thaumatrope, a mechanical card, and a slide card. Each piece in this set has its own trick of deception, all in fun, all in an attempt to catch attention and, ultimately, to sell a product. They are exact copies of original novelty ads from the 1890's and are some of the most unique optical toys I have come across yet. Five toys wrapped "candy-like" in a cellophane bag with full color header.

Fleer's Gum flipbook is also available for purchase as a separate item.

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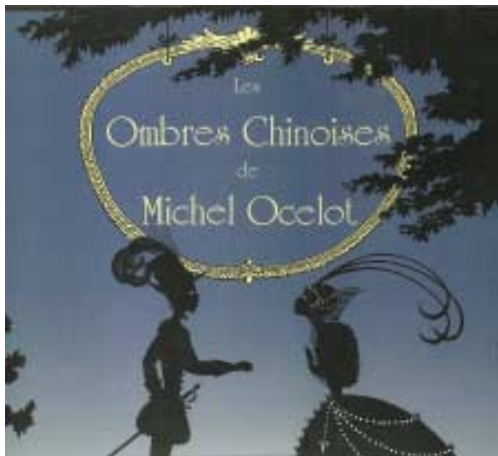
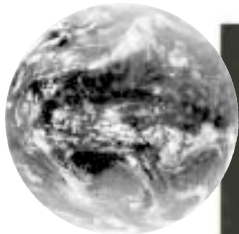
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## in a few Days

A view of spaceship earth over a three day period from a NASA weather satellite situated over the Pacific Ocean. When flipped, you see the moving, changing cloud patterns. 3 x 5 inches, b&w text. This book is available in two versions: a full 72 page book, showing each hourly image for the 3 day period, or a 36 page version which takes every other hour over the same period. This latter version animates in a slightly more dramatic fashion.

## Ombres Chinoises de Michel Ocelot

*Prince: Let's kiss. (Smooch) How dreadful! The princess has disappeared...*

*Princess: But no! ....Don't you see me jumping?*

*Prince: A flea!... Stop jumping. How do you expect me to kiss you? (Smooch)*

*Princess: If you are looking for me, I am in your mouth. You nearly swallowed me with your kiss. You've become a beautiful dachshund. Don't scratch...you will squash me!*

From the animated silhouette film "The Prince and Princess" by Parisian Michel Ocelot, has come a shadow puppet theatre to enchant. The play is a clever look at the power of a Princess' kiss. In a twist from the usual pattern, after kissing said Princess, the prince becomes a frog. But his return kiss, too, is just as powerful. She becomes a slug. Their love creates a seesaw of metamorphosis and metaphor as each kiss creates a new inter-species relationship all in a vain attempt to return to human form. The surprising ending offers a humorous look at gender and social roles. The design of this theatre is based on European-styled theatres of the 19th century. While remaining faithful to the original spirit, some elements have been updated to avoid frustration and to add to its durability.

### INCLUDED IN EACH SET IS:

1. Silhouettes of the original film.
2. Stage with double-door "curtain".
3. All necessary fastening parts and handles.
4. 25+ page booklet with easy to follow instructions for creating and performing the puppets. Script of original play.
5. A videotape of the original animated film (in French w/ subtitles).

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Tricks of the Trade		\$6.50		Edgerton, Milkdrop		\$5.00	
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Saka: Toucan Tango		\$4.50		Leapfrog		"	
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Markey: Birdw atching Cat		\$4.50		Elephant walking		"	
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Santa/Snowflake		\$3.00		All 4books (above)		\$14.00 (\$3.50 ea.)	
You ...		\$3.00		Baboon walking		\$3.75	
				<b>Tchotchkes</b>			
				The Optical Toys Official Baseball Cap		\$4.00 w/ order	

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