

Amsterdam Marionette Theatre

The Amazing Journey of Doctor Faust



Charon

Mefisto & Faust

Auerhaan & Casperl

Wachter



master of ceremony

Duc de Dindon

Duchesse

Fifi de la Rue

About 'DOCTOR FAUST'

All these dusty books... professor Faust is sick of reading and studying. He wants to discover the world all by himself. Maybe Magic can help him on his way? Professor Faust would even sell his soul to the devil in order to experience all the amazing things that he otherwise would never see.

An exciting adventure full of magic.

With music by famous composers such as Gounod, Wagner and Offenbach.

If you listen carefully you can hear a piano, a harmonium (a sort of mini-organ) and percussion.

The story

Opening scene (prologue)

Charon, the ferryman who takes people to the underworld, grumbles that he has too few customers.

Pluto, the God of the underworld promises him that soon there will arrive a very special customer, one who is worth more than a thousand others...

First act: the study of Doctor Faust (about the year 1600)

Doctor Faust has learned nothing with all his reading and dusty books. He desires more of life; he wants experience life to the full. Maybe magic can help him?

Then his assistant Wachter tells him that three students came, to offer Faust a mysterious book: The Book of Magic.

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We see Casperl arrive with his donkey. Wachter offers Casperl a job as a servant. Casperl is quite willing: if the food and the drink is plenty!

Faust reads the Book of Magic. Pluto, the god of the underworld, speaks. He tells Faust to call the devil Mephisto: he can fulfil all his wishes. Faust hesitates, but later he signs the contract with the devil with a little drop of blood...

At midnight their journey through time and around the world will begin.

Casperl leafs through that strange book. He tries to read it and strange things happen....

Faust still doubts Mefisto. Suddenly Mefisto appears and asks: why not travel to Paris, three centuries ahead in the future? There the great World Fair takes place, and there the most miraculous things happen. This will be their first destination.

A strange bird, the devil Auerhaan, appears. He will take Casperl to Paris, following his master. Together they fly to Paris.

Interval

Second act: Paris during the Great World Fair (1889)

The guests of the World Fair are being announced. Among them are Doctor Faust and Mefisto.

The Duc de Dindon shows Faust the latest inventions: a steamboat, the first aeroplane and the Eiffel Tower. Faust is impressed. He tells the Duc de Dindon about all the things that he thinks will be discovered in the future. Mefisto is angry: He was not allowed to tell that! They hastily leave Paris by plane.

Casperl stays behind and is very sad: He longs for his homeland, Germany. And especially the food he was used to... Auerhaan consoles him and takes him back to Wittenberg.

Third act: back in Wittenberg (1612)

Twelve years have passed. Faust has traveled a lot, and now he has returned to Wittenberg. But he hasn't found happiness or wisdom. He regrets to have sold his soul to the devil and prays near the church.

Mefisto promised Pluto to win Faust's soul, but he will not succeed if Faust turns to God. Mefisto calls Helena: the most beautiful woman in history! Faust is distracted from his prayer. Mefisto tells Faust his time is up. At midnight he will take Faust to hell!

Casperl, who has found a job as nightwatch-man calls the hour of midnight. The final moment of Faust has come...

Charon, the ferryman, waits for his passenger to be taken to hell. Will Faust come or not?

Look at the videos: www.marionettentheater.nl

*The Amsterdam Marionette Theatre performs for **adults and children**.
For **schools** there are **workshops** 'make your own marionet' and special **school performances**.
www.marionettentheater.nl*

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