Nang Talung Shadow Puppets Designs by Steven James

Nang Talung, or shadow puppets, are traditionally carved out of leather in Thai theatre productions. The puppets are painted black and then detailed with other bright paint colors. The puppets are positioned on sticks, and a strong light is used to cast the puppet onto a light-colored wall or background.



what you need

- · Recycled black plastic container (Designer used tray from microwaveable meal.)
- · Wooden skewers (for each puppet)
- Metal brad
- DecoArt[™] Paint Markers, in colors of choice
- Markers (or acrylic paint): silver, gold
- Hole punch
- · Craft knife

the basic stuff

scissors, black marker, newspaper

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(to cover work surface)

See Where To Find It (page 47) for info on the companies listed in this project!

how to make it

Adults, help kids when using craft knife.

- Wash and dry recycled black containers. Use scissors to cut sides from black containers.
- Determine design. Draw monster head, body, arms, and fire or butterfly on flat portions of black containers. See photo. Use scissors to cut out designs.

- Use hole punch to punch hole on end of dragon arm (or on area of other movable part) and on center of dragon body.
- On covered work surface, paint designs on dragon, fire, and butterfly using paint markers in colors of choice. Let dry.
- Use craft knife to cut two slits, 1/2"-long and 1" apart, on bottom of dragon, fire, and butterfly. Insert wooden skewer through slits.
- 6 To attach dragon's arm, insert metal brad through hole on dragon's arm and hole on body. Bend ends on back.

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