

And Me, Mr. Dressup

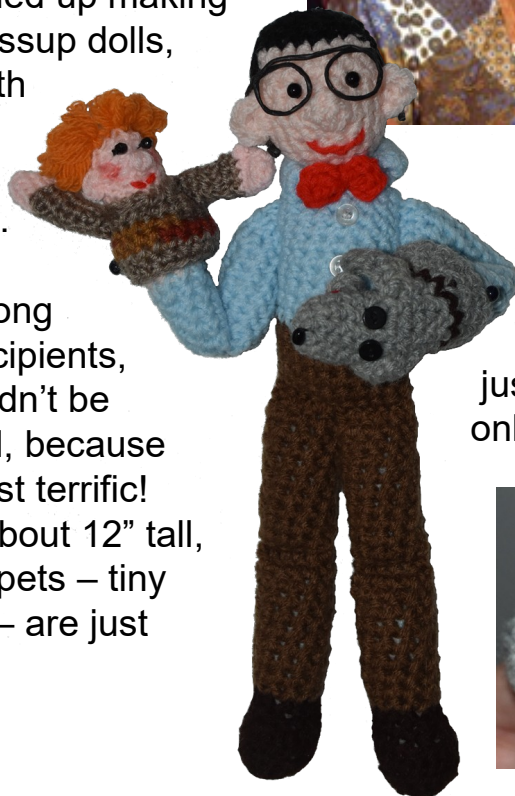
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Posted 2023 January 6

Every Canadian of a certain age remembers *Mr. Dressup*, the beloved children's show that was a fixture on the CBC from 1967-1996. Mr. Dressup and his puppet friends Casey and Finnegan presented imaginative games, crafts, songs, and stories, using props drawn from Mr. Dressup's marvellous tickle trunk.

My youngest sister is among these former fans, and this year she asked our freestyle crochet artist Juanita to create a doll to commemorate the beloved show. It was a challenge Juanita couldn't resist – and she ended up making four Mr. Dressup dolls, complete with their tiny puppet companions.

DH was among the lucky recipients, and we couldn't be more thrilled, because the doll is just terrific! He stands about 12" tall, and the puppets – tiny as they are – are just too cute.



The teeny puppets are amazing, particularly Finnegan, who looks just like the real thing, only on a tiny scale.



In the show, of course, Mr Dressup himself did not operate the puppets; he interacted with them as if they were live characters. It was a stroke of brilliance for my sister to make the puppets to fit the doll's hands, and there will be lots of play value for our little nephew, who also received one of the dolls for Christmas.



As I did with her Bernie dolls a year ago, I was happy to contribute some gift bags for the dolls to travel in. I used my Casey-Finnegan redwork design to decorate the bags and chose a colourful fabric for the bags themselves.



To stitch the redwork design on the bags, I floated a piece of felt over the base fabric and stitched the design on top. Because the fabric background is white, I used coloured felt, chosen to match colours in the stars and streamers in the print.



Hubby's Mr. Dressup doll has piled into the sleigh along with Santa and friends. Perhaps he will help deliver toys the next time Santa goes on his rounds! Certainly he will be celebrating Christmas with us from now on, and he's a welcome addition to the festivities.

