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Tin-Tin Puppet with Screen-Matched Shoes and Jumpsuit Ω
Thunderbird 6 (1968)

A Tin-Tin puppet with screen-matched shoes and jumpsuit from David Lane's sci-fi adventure film Thunderbird 6, written and produced by Gerry and Sylvia Anderson. Tin-Tin was chosen - along with Alan Tracy, Lady Penelope and Parker - to represent International Rescue on the maiden flight of the Brains-designed airship Skyship One. The airship was then hijacked by agents working for the Hood. The shoes screen-match to an early scene at Lady Penelope's manor through distinctive creasing along each side.

Tin-Tin Kyrano performed a variety of roles for International Rescue, including assisting Brains in the laboratory and even being an active participant on missions. This puppet was produced specifically for use in Thunderbird 6, and its head was made by sculptor Christine Glanville. The back of the head is held with magnets and can be removed, revealing the solenoid and eye mechanism within. The mouth mechanism flap is still functional and hinges to reveal the character's teeth.

The interior body is labelled "Tin-Tin Stage 1", and the puppet's hands are original to the production, as are the body, legs and internal operating mechanisms. The hands are of the slender female "Angel Pilot" style, as seen in the then-current series Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons, as production company Century 21 moved towards puppets with more realistic human proportions.

The puppet has its original Thunderbird 6 costume: the red flying suit Tin-Tin wore as she flew from Tracey Island to Creighton-Ward Manor and first arrived on Skyship One.

Complete Thunderbird puppets of this quality rarely come to market. This is one of five puppets also used for promotional appearances through 1968 and 1969 to promote Thunderbird 6. The first published article relating to it appeared in Supermarionation is Go! Magazine (Issue 1, April 1981). The puppet has been exhibited on many occasions since, most notably: at the Anderthon II Convention (25 January 1987, Sydney); various Nine Network Australia Thunderbirds cross promotions and campaigns (1989-2001); the Back To The '60s Exhibition (May 1991, Adelaide Myer Centre); Nestlé Australia's Thunderbirds cross promotions and campaigns (1996); The Great Thunderbirds Exhibition (24-31 July 1998, Melbourne); the Powerhouse Museum's On The Box exhibition (2004-2006, Sydney Ultimo).

The puppet is displayed on a custom-made stand and has undergone sympathetic restoration. It is accompanied by documents detailing the chain of provenance. Dimensions (display): 18 cm x 18 cm x 51 cm (7" x 7" x 20")

Estimate: £60,000 - 120,000



Detail of the interior body labelled "Tin-Tin Stage 1"



Scan here to see a full rotation of this lot



Detail of the solenoid and eye mechanism

