

CLAIMS:

1. A character control system, comprising:
a strap configured to removably couple to a prop configured to be transported by a performer;
a controls assembly disposed within a portion of the strap, wherein the controls assembly comprises a plurality of control features; and
a controller configured to couple to the controls assembly and an actuator of a puppet, wherein the controller is configured to control the actuator to move a part of the puppet in response to actuation of a control feature of the plurality of control features.
2. The character control system of claim 1, comprising the prop, and wherein the prop is a backpack.
3. The character control system of claim 2, comprising a power source, wherein the power source is disposed within a compartment of the backpack.
4. The character control system of claim 2, wherein the backpack comprises a frame configured to support the puppet.
5. The character control system of claim 1, comprising a cover configured to at least partially surround the strap, wherein the cover is consistent with a theme of the prop.
6. The character control system of claim 5, wherein the cover comprises first fasteners configured to couple to corresponding second fasteners of the strap.
7. The character control system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of control features of the controls assembly comprises a control pad, one or more buttons, or both.

8. The character control system of claim 1, wherein the controls assembly is disposed within a recessed portion of the strap, such that the controls assembly is not flush with a surface of the strap.

9. The character control system of claim 1, wherein the controller is disposed within an additional portion of the strap.

10. The character control system of claim 9, wherein the controller is configured to couple to the actuator via a male plug configured to be received by a female receptacle of the prop.

11. A wearable puppeteering system comprising:
a backpack;
a puppet integrated with the backpack and comprising an actuator, wherein the actuator is configured to move a part of the puppet;
a first strap of the backpack comprising a first control assembly, wherein the first control assembly is configured to control the actuator; and
a second strap of the backpack comprising a second control assembly, wherein the second control assembly is configured to control an aspect of the wearable puppeteering system.

12. The wearable puppeteering system of claim 11, wherein the actuator is configured to move a head of the puppet.

13. The wearable puppeteering system of claim 12, wherein the aspect of the wearable puppeteering system comprises a second actuator, wherein the second actuator is configured to move an arm or leg of the puppet.

14. The wearable puppeteering system of claim 13, wherein the second control assembly is configured to control the second actuator.

15. The wearable puppeteering system of claim 11, wherein the aspect of the wearable puppeteering system comprises an audio output of the puppet and the second control assembly is configured to control the audio output of the puppet.

16. A wearable puppet control system, comprising:
a puppet comprising a plurality of actuators, wherein a first actuator of the plurality of actuators is configured to move a first part of the puppet, wherein a second actuator of the plurality of actuators is configured to move a second part of the puppet; and
a strap configured to support the wearable puppet control system on a user and comprising a control assembly, wherein the control assembly comprises:
a control pad configured to control the first actuator or the second actuator;
a first button configured to enable the control pad to control the first actuator; and
a second button configured to enable the control pad to control the second actuator.

17. The wearable puppet control system of claim 16, comprising a controller configured to cause the puppet to follow a predetermined or preprogrammed sequence.

18. The wearable puppet control system of claim 17, comprising a third button, wherein the controller is configured to cause the puppet to follow the predetermined or preprogrammed sequence in response to selection of the third button.

19. The wearable puppet control system of claim 17, wherein the controller is configured to cause the puppet to follow the predetermined or preprogrammed sequence in response to a threshold time of inactivity.

20. The wearable puppet control system of claim 16, wherein the puppet is configured to be interchangeable with another puppet.