



Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

2009/2010

SIMULTANEOUS SUCCESSES IN TAIWAN & SOUTH KOREA

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia continued to make Canadian theatre history during the Summer of 2009 as one of North America's most active touring companies. The company appeared simultaneously in Taipei and Seoul with two different company productions for family audiences during the month of July.

Mermaid presented forty-eight performances in English and Korean of its highly acclaimed production of *THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR & OTHER ERIC CARLE FAVORITES* in Seoul, Jeonjoo and Jeju from June 24th through July 19th, 2009, which included a three-week return engagement at the Baekam Art Theatre in Seoul. Close to ten thousand spectators attended the shows, with the tour organized by producer Ellie Chung. Performers John Allen MacLean and Emma Slipp, and stage manager Patti Neice toured with the show

Concurrently, Mermaid offered ten performances in English and Mandarin of Leo Lionni's *SWIMMY, FREDERICK & INCH BY INCH* as well as a puppetry construction workshop at the Taipei Children's Arts Festival, also a return engagement. Ten thousand spectators attended the shows at Taipei's elegant City Hall. Company members included performers Andrea Lee Norwood and Rhys Bevan-John and stage manager Lisa Gleave. Both shows were adapted, directed and designed by Jim Morrow, Mermaid Theatre's Artistic Director, and feature evocative soundscapes composed by Steven Naylor. The Lionni production travels to Singapore in November 2009.

Mermaid's shows were highly praised by audiences and presenters alike, both for the elegance of the productions as well as the friendliness and professionalism of the company members.

어린이 영어 스토리텔링
배고픈 애벌레
6.23.tue-7.12.sun
백암아트홀 (서울, 연세동)

The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favorites

그림동화의 가장 매력 할의 가장 유명한 3가지 스토리와 블랙라이트 안의 사랑스러운 인형들이 펼쳐는 환상적이고 아름다운 무대
세계적인 아동극단 캐나다 메메이드 씨어터 오리지널팀이 <배고픈 애벌레> 동화탄생 40주년을 기념하여 더욱 특별한 무대를 선보입니다.

- 흑광(Black Light)의 무대에서 환광의 사랑스러운 인형들이 움직이며 만드는 아름다운 무대
- 에릭칼(Eric Carle) 동화의 아름다운 색채와 질감이 메메이드 씨어터의 오래 노련하고 만년 환상적이고 완성도 높은 공연
- 아이들에게 정서의 안정과 집중력을 높여주는 영어 스토리텔링 형식의 공연
- 공연 후, 무대를 오만하고 공연장과 갖는 Q&A 시간은 아이들의 호기심을 충족시키고 공연단과 그 이상의 특별한 경험 선사

★ **자연과 친구가 되는 우리의 아이들**
구름의 변화와 바람을 그린 (요술쟁이 작은 구름), 동물들의 수명은 동물들이 등장하는 (뒤죽박죽 카멜레온), 해양에서 내리기 되는 과정을 보여주는 (배고픈 애벌레) 이야기들 통해 자연에 대한 신비를 알려주고 아이들은 자연과 하나가 됩니다.

♥ **자신과 친구가 되는 우리의 아이들**
자연 속의 모든 생명체들이 자신의 모습 그대로를 가지고 사랑하는 과정을 보여, 아이들은 스스로에 대한 자기 존중감을 높이고, 감사적인 마음가짐을 하게 됩니다.

♪ **영어와 친구가 되는 우리의 아이들**
캐나다 오리지널 팀의 쉽고 정확한 내레이션을 통해 아이들이 영어를 자연스럽게 친숙하게 받아들일 수 있게 됩니다. 반복되는 단어와 문장을 통해 영어에 대한 친근감과 자신감을 가지게 되어 영어를 보다 기쁘고 즐거운 놀이로 여기게 됩니다.

Information

- 공연: 어린이 영어 스토리텔링 배고픈 애벌레
The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favorites
- 날: 2009년 6월 23일(수) ~ 7월 12일(일)
- 시: 간: 회 11시~수목요일 11시, 2시, 7시, 11시(자정후), 4:00PM
- 장소: 백암아트홀 서울 연세동 연세아트센터 2층
- 티켓: 한 차례 (24개월) 5천
- 티: 영: 전석 1만원
- 주: 최: 백암아트홀, 피닉스 아시아 그룹
- 주: 단: 백암아트홀, 영진위(연세대학교)
- 주: 편: Canada Council for the Arts, NOVA SCOTIA Tourism, Culture and Heritage, Mermaid Theatre
- 합: 전: 영진위(연세대학교), 연세대학교 영진위 My Little Library
- 예: 목: (02)6633-1544-1555, <http://www.interpark.com>
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Poster announcing Mermaid's performances in Seoul, South Korea as well as a symposium for educators and teachers featuring Jim Morrow as guest.

SUMMER SCENES...



Leo Lionni's *SWIMMY, FREDERICK & INCH BY INCH*

Front row: Nathalie Leung, interpreter; Andrea Lee Norwood, performer; Victoria Wang, Executive Director, Taipei Children's Arts Festival; Shin-Yin Wang, Program Manager.

Back row: Lisa Gleave, stage manager; Rhys Bevan-John, performer; Jim Morrow, director and production designer.



THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR welcomes a special guest at the Baekam Art Theatre in Seoul.

Left to right: Emma Slipp, performer; Shin Ae-ra, Korean-language narrator and renown film star; John Allen MacLean, performer; Patti Neice, stage manager.



Jim Morrow is surrounded by new friends on the steps of Taipei's elegant City Hall Theatre where the company performed *SWIMMY, FREDERICK & INCH BY INCH*.



Mermaid's puppetry workshop at the Taipei Children's Arts Festival attracted a large number of enthusiastic participants, shown here with their creations.

...FROM TAIPEI AND SEOUL

REPEAT ENGAGEMENTS ACROSS THE CONTINENT



Two of Mermaid's acclaimed flagship productions will tour simultaneously during the coming season, and feature many repeat engagements at major theatre centres throughout North America.

Following a highly successful debut tour which delighted close to 100,000 spectators last year, Mermaid Theatre's *GOODNIGHT MOON & THE RUNAWAY BUNNY* will undertake a further extensive schedule during 2009/2010. The itinerary will include 150 performances in seventeen states and five provinces, with residencies at the Norman Rothstein Theatre in Vancouver, the Canwest Global Centre in Winnipeg, the Ordway Theatre in St. Paul. The company will crisscross the continent from Southern California to Cape Breton, and from British Columbia to Georgia.

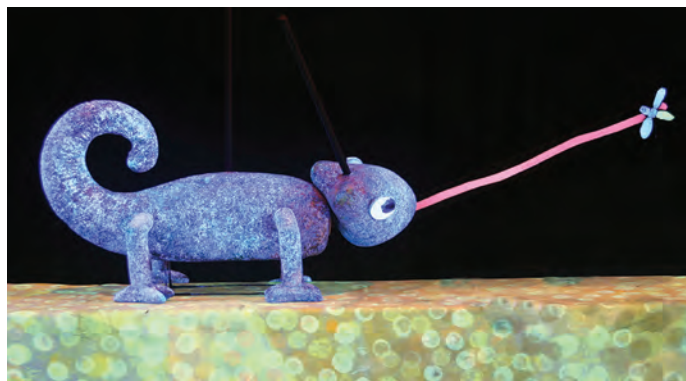
Adapted from Margaret Wise Brown's sixty-year-old classic, *Goodnight Moon* is a celebration of familiar nighttime rituals, while *The Runaway Bunny's* pretend tale of leaving home evokes reassuring responses from his loving mum. Both feature endearing rabbit characters, and the soothing rhythms and dream-like imagery never fail to infuse young readers with a calming sense of security. Mermaid's staged adaptation brings a fresh appreciation of the stories and images that have delighted several generations. The hour-long performance follows closely the revered stories from which they are adapted, and features the innovative puppets and original music which have become Mermaid's trademark. Jim Morrow directed the show and served as Production Designer. Steven Naylor, Mermaid's Artistic Consultant for Music and Sound Design, created the whimsical soundscape. Company members include Kaitlin Morrow, Seann Murray, Struan Robertson, and stage manager Tracy Lynne Cann.

On tour continuously since 1999, Mermaid's compilations of five Eric Carle stories have generated remarkable statistics and earned considerable praise from audiences on several continents. Featuring innovative black-light puppetry and evocative original music, the fifty-minute production which comprises *THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR & OTHER ERIC CARLE FAVOURITES* includes three beloved stories, *THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR*, *LITTLE CLOUD* and *THE MIXED UP CHAMELEON*.



To date close to 1900 performances have been presented for more than 1,300,000 spectators throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Singapore, Japan, Holland, Vietnam, Macau, Taiwan, South Korea and Hong Kong. Presentations have been offered in Dutch, English, Spanish, Japanese and Korean, with French joining the roster in the Fall of 2009. The 2009/2010 season will include nearly 200 performances in fifteen states and three provinces, with residencies at the Playhouse Theatre in Cleveland, the Tennessee Performing Arts Centre in Nashville; a month-long engagement at the prestigious Field Museum in Chicago, and three weeks of French-language shows at the Maison Théâtre in Montreal.

Company members include performers John Allan MacLean and Rebecca Russell, and stage manager Patti Neice.



JESSE MACLEAN TO HEAD INSTITUTE OF PUPPETRY

Mermaid veteran Jesse MacLean has been named as Director of the Mermaid Institute of Puppetry Arts. He will oversee a wide variety of activities related to training, development and performance.



Jesse grew up in Cole Harbour, NS. He studied theatre at Bishop's University in Quebec, graduating in 2002. He has since worked steadily in film and theatre in Quebec, Nova Scotia, New

Brunswick, Ontario, the United States, South Korea and Japan. He served as Associate Director as well as Director with Shakespeare by the Sea in Halifax from 2003 to the present, directing or acting in more than twenty productions. Jesse has been regularly involved with Mermaid as a performer and Assistant Director since 2006, and has participated actively in developmental workshops related to several of the company's major touring shows.

The Institute of Puppetry Arts was launched in 1998 with the objective of promoting and enhancing the art of puppetry in Canada. Classes, workshops, lectures and demonstrations, both in-house and through outreach sessions, are tailored to the specific needs of educators, recreation leaders, theatre schools and industry. Staff members are available for longer-term residencies and performance projects both at home and around the world.

The Institute's four-week intensive sessions for professional artists, known as ANIMOTION, are intended for those with a strong interest in puppetry and physical theatre and the desire to expand their range of abilities. The most recent session, held throughout the month of August 2009, exposed six participants to a wide range of puppetry styles, broadening their frame of reference and allowing a common language and set of skills to emerge. The instruction period culminated with the presentation of scenes and vignettes, featuring new puppets and characters generated over the four weeks. Training took place at Mermaid's spacious headquarters in Windsor, NS.

The Institute's school touring program provides unique apprenticeship opportunities for young professionals, and offers specialized training not otherwise available in Canada. Beginning in 2004 with its production of *SUNKEN TREASURES* and a second production in 2007, *CODE GREEN*, the Institute has pioneered in the development of a new kind of performance for schools. Drawing its themes directly from the school curriculum, the Institute creates shows in conjunction with professionals in the field (i.e. scientists and biologists), with a view to enriching and reinforcing classroom material. The touring company transforms the gymnasium with scenic elements that envelop the audience on all sides. Innovative puppets, handcrafted in exquisite detail, travel in, around and over the heads of students. Extensive use of informative video footage, interpretive comments, and evocative soundscapes add to an aesthetically satisfying experience.

Scenes from **ANIMOTION III** August 3rd – 28th, 2009
Windsor, NS



Ninja



Seann & Sarah Jean

Scenes from

ANIMATION III

FACULTY: Jim Morrow, Jesse MacLean, Jeff Schwager, Struan Robertson, Graham Percy

PARTICIPANTS: Dan Bates, Sarah Jean Begin, Lorraine Miller Emmrys, Kaitlin Morrow, Seann Murray, Lisa Snow



Lorraine with
Hosebird



Kaitlin with Tikiman



Seann with
Drunktube



Lisa with
Witch



Dan with Tiredog

THEATRE LOFT RESIDENCIES UNDERWAY

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia launched its Theatre Loft project in the Spring of 2008, thanks to support from two Canada Council for the Arts programs – the Supplementary Operating Funds Initiative and the Artist in Residence Program. Housed in the Mermaid Imperial Performing Arts Centre (MIPAC), the Loft is a 60-seat professional development space dedicated to the pursuit of puppet excellence. The intimate venue is also available to the community and to visiting artists for small-scale theatre and music events.

The Mermaid Loft's inaugural project featured Brian Fidler, an outstanding Yukon theatre artist with an unusual approach to puppetry. Following his residency at the Loft in January 2008, during which he worked with Mermaid production and artistic staff, he performed his innovative one-person stage piece, *CAM AND LEGS*, to outstanding critical acclaim at Calgary's Fringe Festival. During the Spring of 2009, Mermaid welcomed Mermaid veteran Zach Fraser to the Loft as its second Artist in Residence. During the first of two sessions with his mentor, Jim Morrow, Zach began to explore the design possibilities for a puppet theatre production which is intended to be largely non-verbal and incorporate the concept of homeland.

Mermaid's senior artistic and production staff will be actively engaged in further Theatre Loft outreach activities during the 2009/2010 season. Collaborative activities with Le Conseil des Arts de Chéticamp, performance artist Mary Ellen MacLean, and Zuppa Theatre are anticipated.



Zach Fraser experiments
with a prototype puppet at
Mermaid's Theatre Loft

INNOVATIVE COLLABORATION FOR MERMAID YOUTHEATRE

Now in its nineteenth season, Mermaid's vibrant Youtheatre continues to explore the contemporary adolescent scene. Under the direction of Christopher Heide, a diverse sale of activities has engaged youth both in Nunavut and Nova Scotia.

The Youtheatre launched an innovative program in the Fall of 2008 in collaboration with Dr. Lorraine L. Lazier, a respected Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist who works in the field of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The venture, initiated by the West Hants Community Hospital, had as its objective the dissemination of enhanced knowledge of ADHD by means of a theatrical presentation and information sessions.

The project was led by Kaleigh Heide in consultation with Dustin Harvey and Chris Heide. The Youtheatre's Circle group, including Shannon Moors, Amanda Gaul, Stevie Sowards, Kelsey Carey, Chelsea Pellegrini and James Doran, worked over a six-month period to create a series of sketches informed by their participation in local focus groups which dealt with real-life experiences. The resulting thirty-minute show, which poignantly reflected the multiple challenges faced by afflicted young people as well as their friends and families, was presented in the Spring of 2009 to highly appreciative audiences at West Hants Middle School, Avonview High School and Horton High School in Nova Scotia. The pilot project, known as ISSAATS (In-School ADHD Assessment and Treatment Services) was supported by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia, The Gordon Foundation for Children and Youth, Janssen Ortho and Capital Health Nova Scotia.

The In-School ADHD Assessment and Treatment Services Pilot Project is a collaborative effort involving mental health clinicians of the relevant rural district health authorities, regional school board staff, and community members with specific expertise. The primary goals are to improve access to diagnostic and treatment interventions for youth with ADHD (including in-school psychiatric consultation, educational series for the youth, their parents and teaching staff), and to facilitate the development of mentoring relationships between youth with ADHD and other students or community role models.



Chelsea Pellegrini, Stevie Sowards and Amanda Gaul. Youtheatre Circle

ABOUT MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA

- Founded in 1972 and in continuous year-round operation, Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia has performed for more than four million spectators on four continents.
 - During an average season, Mermaid presents more than 400 performances for 200,000 spectators. In addition to regular performances at its home base in Windsor, NS, the company regularly crisscrosses the continent, visiting communities from Newfoundland to California, and British Columbia to Florida. To date Mermaid has appeared in forty-eight states (including Hawaii), all ten provinces, and the Northwest Territories.
 - Mermaid has represented Canada in Japan (nine times) Mexico (three times), Singapore (four times), Australia, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Holland, Hong Kong, Macau, Vietnam, South Korea and Taiwan. In recognition of its accomplishments, the Theatre has been awarded Export Excellence awards from both the Governments of Canada and of Nova Scotia and has received an Ambassador Award from the Tourism Industry of Nova Scotia.
 - During 2009 /2010 Mermaid will travel throughout North America, as well as return to Singapore, Taiwan and South Korea. By using taped narration, Mermaid is able to offer performances in English, Spanish, Korean, Dutch, Japanese, Mandarin and French.
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MIPAC PILOT PROJECT HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL

The Mermaid Imperial Performing Arts Centre (known as MIPAC) undertook a program of diverse attractions during the Winter and Spring of 2009 which attracted close to 2,500 spectators. Eleven shows drew audience members from eight counties, with many returning for repeat visits.

More than half the events were presentations for young audiences, offering families throughout the region unique entertainment opportunities tailored specifically for their enjoyment. A variety of concerts appealed to fans of blues, folk, country, Celtic and world music, while programs which featured both musical and 'stand up' comedy were highly popular.

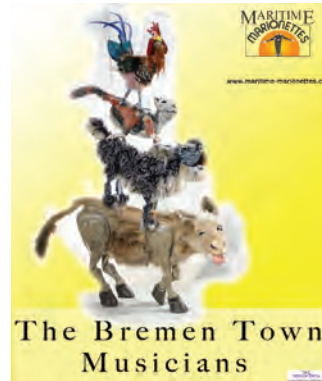
The MIPAC Winter Becomes Spring series was generously supported by a number of community-based organizations and businesses, including New Valley Homes, Windsor Home Hardware, Super 8 Motel, the Windsor Business Enhancement Society, Bella Roma Pizza, Moe's Place Music Sales, Transcontinental Media, and Valley Radio (including AVR, Magic 94.9 and CFAB). Also deserving recognition, MIPAC's dedicated group of local volunteers put in many hours of ushering and front of house services, greeting the community as they arrived at the theatre for each performance.

In turn, MIPAC contributed to the fundraising activities of many community groups by donating tickets to performances for young audiences to be raffled or auctioned. Among those organizations which benefited were Windsor Forks Home and School, Windsor Nursery School, Hantsport Elementary School, Valley Learning Association, the Family Resource Centre, the Rotary Auction and the West Gore Fire Department, to name a few.

A full slate of activities for 2009/2010 will be implemented under the leadership of Lisa Gleave, coordinator and Peter Smith, booking consultant. Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia fully owns and manages the 400-seat facility, which was acquired by the company in 2003 and upgraded with support from private and corporate citizens as well as ACOA, the Province of Nova Scotia's Office of Economic Development, the Department of Community Services, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

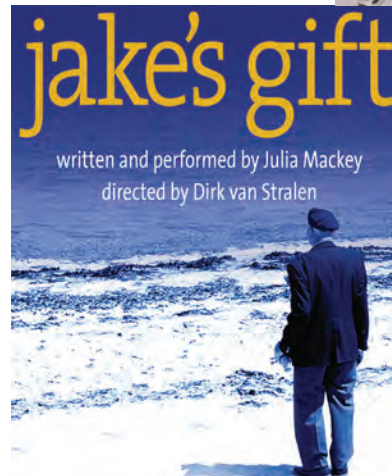
All proceeds from the Entertainment Series are directed towards ongoing renovations and upgrades to this valuable historic part of our community resource -The Mermaid Imperial Performing Arts Centre. For more information, please see: www.mermaidtheatre.ns.ca

THE 2009/2010 ROSTER WILL INCLUDE:



Maritime Marionettes
-The Bremen
Town Musicians

Buddy Wasisname
& the Other Fellers



Jake's Gift



MERMAID IMPERIAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Ashley Hopper, a fervent three-year-old fan, visits Mermaid's headquarters daily.

She's seen here in the company of a few of her favourite puppets, as well as at a recent MIPAC pre-bedtime performance of *GOODNIGHT MOON & THE RUNAWAY BUNNY* which many children attended in the pajamas.



JOIN US!

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia invites you to join us, and celebrate almost four decades of achievement. Become a member of our non-profit society, and keep us "on the road" at home and abroad. To date we've performed for more than four million spectators on four continents – with your help we'll augment our worldwide circuit, as well as visit every corner of Nova Scotia. We welcome inquiries about corporate partnerships and participation in community activities.

To learn more, please contact:
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Charitable registration number: # 119038768 RR 0001

MERMAID THEATRE STAFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
MANAGING DIRECTOR
ARTISTIC CONSULTANT FOR
MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN
LOGISTICS COORDINATOR
DIRECTOR OF YOUTHEATRE
ADMINISTRATOR
DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE
ASSISTANT TO THE
MANAGING DIRECTOR & MIPAC
COORDINATOR
OFFICE/TOUR MANAGER
PRODUCTION MANAGER
SHOP MANAGER

Jim Morrow
Sara Lee Lewis
Steven Naylor

Peter F. Smith
Christopher Heide
Cathy White
Jesse MacLean
Lisa Gleave

Karen Gasser
Deborah MacLean
Jonathan Ford

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SECRETARY
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Ed MacDonald
Gary Johnson
Beverly Smith
Wanda Joudrey
Pamela Kinsman
Linda MacDonald
Jon Oulton • Maura Ryan

MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA IS REPRESENTED BY

KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT

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GENERAL INFORMATION

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NEWSLETTER DESIGN

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NOVA SCOTIA

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