Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia’s
The Very Hungry Caterpillar
and Other Eric Carle Favourites

Author/Illustrator: Eric Carle
Director/Production Designer: Jim Morrow
Composer: Steven Naylor
Narrator: Gordon Pinsent
Stage Manager: Kevin Olson
Performers: Ben Leger, Andrew Young

Sun, Mar 8, 2 pm
The Moore Theater • Dartmouth College • 2020

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Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia gratefully acknowledges the support of the Canada Council for the Arts and Arts Nova Scotia. Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and engages professional Artists who are members of Canadian Actors’ Equity Association under the terms of the Canadian Theatre Agreement.
About The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favourites
Mermaid’s compilations of five Eric Carle stories have generated remarkable statistics and earned considerable praise from audiences on several continents. In 2014, the production celebrated its fifteenth year of continuous touring and welcomed its two millionth spectator. Featuring innovative black-light puppetry and evocative original music, the fifty-minute production includes three beloved stories: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Little Cloud and The Mixed-Up Chameleon. To date over 3500 performances have been presented in thirteen countries. Presentations have been offered in Dutch, English, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, French and Mandarin.

About Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia
Founded in 1972, Mermaid Theatre’s unique adaptations of children’s literature have delighted more than five million young people in sixteen countries on four continents. Based in Windsor, a small rural town in Nova Scotia’s Avon Region, the company performs for more than 300,000 spectators annually, and currently ranks among North America’s most active touring organizations. Closer to home, Mermaid offers instruction at all levels through its Institute of Puppetry Arts, welcomes artists-in-residence through its Theatre Loft, and offers a vibrant performing arts series at MIPAC (the Mermaid Imperial Performing Arts Centre).

Eric Carle, Author/Illustrator
Eric Carle, internationally acclaimed author and designer, has written and illustrated more than seventy books for young children. Born in Syracuse, NY, he spent his youth in Germany where he studied fine art in Stuttgart prior to returning to the US in 1952 to work as a graphic designer for the New York Times and later as art director of an international advertising agency. His delightful books, which combine stunning collage artwork with an imaginative approach to learning, have sold more than 110 million copies worldwide. In 2002, the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art opened to the public in Amherst, MA. For more information, visit eric-carle.com and carlemuseum.org.

Jim Morrow, Director/Production Designer
Jim Morrow creates puppets for stage, television and film. He’s directed numerous shows for Mermaid, including Stella, Queen of the Snow; Guess How Much I Love You & I Love My Little Storybook; Swimmy,
Frederick, and Inch by Inch; and Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny; and he has designed many others. A gifted performer, he has toured extensively in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Japan. He serves as director of puppetry for Symphony Nova Scotia’s production of The Nutcracker, and frequently conducts master classes in puppetry in North America and abroad. Morrow is Mermaid Theatre’s Artistic Director.

**Steven Naylor, Composer**

Steven Naylor has created the music for more than a dozen Mermaid shows, including Stella, Queen of the Snow; Guess How Much I Love You & I Love My Little Storybook; Swimmy, Frederick, and Inch by Inch; and Goodnight Moon & The Runaway Bunny. His many other professional activities include original film and television scores; contemporary music composition and performance; university teaching and curriculum development; and a long-term international involvement with electroacoustic concert music. Naylor is Mermaid Theatre’s Artistic Advisor for Music and Sound Design.

**Gordon Pinsent, Narrator**

Born in Grand Falls, Newfoundland, Gordon Pisent is an actor, director, writer and singer of great versatility, and one of Canada’s most beloved artists. His work for more than three decades in theater, film, radio and television has earned him international recognition, as well as honorary doctorates from three universities. In 1999 he was named a Companion of the Order of Canada, the country’s highest award of merit.

**Kevin Olson, Stage Manager**

Kevin Olson is excited to join the Mermaid Theatre family! He has traveled across North America with Geordie Productions (Jabber), Carousel Players (Danny King of the Basement, The Remarkable Flight of Marnie McPhee), Kaha:Wi Dance Theatre (A Story Before Time, Here on Earth) and over a dozen productions with Smile Theatre. Enjoy the show!

**Ben Leger, Performer**

Ben Leger is beyond delighted to be reunited with Mermaid Theatre for this North American tour. The Cole Harbour native was first initiated in the #theatrelife in grade 11 when he played Roberto in Auburn Drive High School’s dinner theater Santa Baby (2009). From there he went on to continue his love affair with theater by attending The Fountain School of Performing Arts, where he performed in such shows as The Good Soul of Szechuan (2014), The Birds (2014), Our Country’s Good (2014) and The Seagull (2015). His most recent production was also with Mermaid Theatre, when they toured to China with The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favourites (2018). He would like to thank the entire creative team at Mermaid for being an absolute dream to work with and hopes everyone enjoys the show!

**Andrew Young, Performer**

Andrew Young has a passion for creating theater focused on puppetry, clowning and non-verbal storytelling. He has performed in Festival de Casteliers International Puppetry Festival, Nuit Blanche North, SummerWorks, Toronto Festival of Clowns, Night of Dread, Edge of the Woods Theatre Festival, Puppets Up! International Festival and Next Stage Theatre Festival as well as other various festivals across Canada. He splits his time bouncing between Toronto and Bruce County. Selected performance credits include Table Top Tales (SNAFU), Old Man and the River (Theatre Direct), Unjustly (Festival Players of Prince Edward County/Small Pond Arts), Snack Music (SNAFU), To The Last Cry (Theatre Lab), We Walk Among You (Artichoke Heart). andrewgyoung.com.
Upcoming Events

Passion for Bach and Coltrane
Imani Winds and Harlem Quartet
Tue, Mar 31, 7:30 pm
Classical winds and strings, a jazz trio and a poet weave together the music of two innovative geniuses.

CARTOGRAPHY
Thu, Apr, 7:30 pm
Through a fusion of dance, film and sensor technology, explore the tragedy and wonder of modern migration.

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If you do not wish to keep your playbill, please discard it in the recycling bin provided in the lobby. Thank you.