

Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth

presents

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

Funded in part by a gift from Selma Bornstein.

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.

Program

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.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. Copyright 1969 and 1987 by Eric Carle. All Rights Reserved. Published by Philomel Books. *Little Cloud* by Eric Carle. Copyright 1996 by Eric Carle. All Rights Reserved. Published by Philomel Books. *The Mixed-Up Chameleon* by Eric Carle. Copyright 1975 by Eric Carle. All Rights Reserved. Published by HarperCollins Publishers Inc.

About the Artists

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 Pisent, 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). andrewyoung.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.



For tickets or more info, call the Box Office at 603.646.2422 or visit hop.dartmouth.edu. Share your experiences! #HopkinsCenter

Hopkins Center Board of Advisors

Anne Fleischli Blackburn '91 P'23
Daniel Bryant '91 P'23
Kenneth L. Burns H'93
Les Chao '78 P'20
Barbara J. Couch
Kim L. Crockett '92
Rachel Dratch '88
Claire Foerster P'18 P'21
Lizanne Fontaine '77 P'04 P'09
Caroline Diamond Harrison '86 P'16 P'18,
Chair of the Board

Kelly Fowler Hunter '83 Tu'88 P'13 P'15 P'19
Michael A. Marriott '84 P'18
Nini Meyer P'22
Hilary Edson Polk P'19
Hilary Spaulding Richards '92
Laurel J. Richie '81,
Trustee Representative
Peter S. Vossall '92
Sharon Washington '81

Hopkins Center Directorate

Mary Lou Aleskie, Howard L. Gilman '44 Director
Michael Bodel, Director of External Affairs
Joshua Price Kol '93, Managing Director/Executive Producer
Jan Sillery, Director of Financial and Administrative Operations
Sydney Stowe, Director of Hopkins Center Film



Please turn off your cell phone inside the theater.



Assistive Listening Devices available in the lobby.



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