



## Debut Tour For Mermaid's Latest Flagship Production

**M**ermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's elegant new show, **THE RAINBOW FISH**, is a striking addition to the company's repertory of beloved children's classics. The hour-long stage adaptation of Marcus Pfister's colourful story also features two whimsical companion tales, **RAINBOW FISH DISCOVERS THE DEEP SEA** and **OPPOSITES**. A myriad of glittering puppet sea creatures and charming original music are certain to engage young audiences, as well as their parents, grandparents and teachers.

A ten-show debut engagement at Two River Theatre in Red Bank, New Jersey from December 15-18, 2017 will be followed by a two-month tour of venues and festivals in Canada and the USA during the spring of 2018. Extensive North American touring is scheduled for the 2018-2019 season, as well as an eighteen -performance engagement in Singapore - Mermaid's eleventh visit to that country. It is anticipated that a Mandarin-language version will visit China in subsequent seasons.

The first of three tales introduces the most beautiful fish in the sea, whose scales shimmer in all the colours of the rainbow. He is admired – and resented - by the entire underwater world, until a clever octopus advises him to give each fish one of his scales. Further adventures follow as Rainbow Fish finds the courage to explore the great unknown deep sea, discovering

a new world with wonderful sights and friendly creatures of all shapes, sizes and colours who are eager to make his acquaintance. The underworld wonderland is the setting for an introduction to the concept of opposites. As a fitting finale, the story ends with the most satisfying opposite of all —give and take—as Rainbow Fish shares one of his shining scales with a friend.

Author/illustrator Marcus Pfister was born in 1960 in Bern, Switzerland, where he attended art school and trained as a graphic designer before turning to the creation of innovative children's literature. Published in 1992, *The Rainbow Fish*, took the bestseller lists by storm. Now celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary, more than thirty million copies have been sold worldwide in different formats, appearing in over fifty different languages.

Mermaid's new show incorporates the artistic talents of Jim Morrow, director and production designer; Steven Naylor, composer; and Deborah Allen, who lends her storytelling skills to the role of narrator. Deborah MacLean and Struan Robertson served as associate designers, and Sarah Hayden Roy as scenic painter.

Performers Simon Rainville and Michael Venn were joined on the debut tour by Don Brownrigg, stage manager.



# Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia: 2017-2018 Season

National and International Touring • More than 350 performances & workshops at home and abroad

## SUMMER 2017

### **GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU & I LOVE MY LITTLE STORYBOOK**

China - June 19 – July 30 - 30 performances  
(Mandarin version) in

Beijing, Kunshan, Shanghai, Wenzhou, Fuzhou, Xiamen,  
Nanchang, Hangzhou, Ningbo, and Nanjing.

Institute of Puppetry Arts: Family and adult workshops in  
puppetry at the Shanghai Children's Art Theatre  
July 25 – August 5.

Conducted by Jim Morrow and Struan Robertson.

### **THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR & OTHER ERIC CARLE FAVOURITES**

Japan (Tokyo) - August 21-27 - 12 performances in 4  
theatres (Japanese version).

Singapore – Victoria Theatre - October 6 – 15  
14 performances

Fall/ Winter 2017 – Spring 2018

### **THE RAINBOW FISH (also RAINBOW FISH DISCOVERS THE DEEP SEA & OPPOSITES)**

Premiere North American performances of  
Marcus Pfister's stunning literary classic.

Two Rivers Theatre, Red Bank, NJ

December 15-18 - 10 performances

### **GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU & I LOVE MY LITTLE STORYBOOK**

Canada/USA October 5, 2017 – April 18, 2018  
130 performances (20 states and 2 provinces)

Spring 2018

### **GOODNIGHT MOON & THE RUNAWAY BUNNY**

Canada and the US January 28 – May 13  
90 performances

(14 states, 3 provinces)

### **ANIMATION: The Institute of Puppetry Arts**

tenth annual intensive for professionals.

April 23 – May 11 - Windsor, NS

### **THE RAINBOW FISH**

Canada and the US (includes Calgary and St. Albert  
Children's Festivals) April 17 – June 3 50 performances

### **ERIC CARLE CLASSICS (BROWN BEAR, THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR, THE MIXED-UP CHAMELEON)**

China (Mandarin version)

May-June Hangzhou, Beijing Nanjing, Ningbo,  
Suzhou, Wuxi, Shanghai

## LOCAL AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES:

### INSTITUTE OF PUPPETRY ARTS:

#### **A) PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM: ANIMATION**

a three-week intensive program for theatre professionals,  
community recreation leaders and educators The tenth  
annual event is scheduled for April 23 – May 11, 2018.

The sessions are designed for those with a strong  
interest in puppetry and physical theatre and the desire  
to expand their range of abilities. Participants are exposed  
to a range of puppetry styles, broadening their frame of  
reference and allowing common language and skills to  
emerge. The session culminates with an informal  
presentation, intended to showcase newly acquired  
competence.

**B) OUTREACH PROGRAM:** (year-round) A series of  
specialized puppetry workshop programs ranging from  
one-day sessions to ten-week sessions, designed for  
students from primary school through university. In  
addition to programs offered at the Institute's  
headquarters, instructors regularly travel to other  
communities in the Maritime region, and have established  
a teaching circuit in China.

#### **THE NUTCRACKER** (ongoing 1991 to the present)

An annual collaborative effort between Symphony Nova  
Scotia, Halifax Dance, and Mermaid Theatre of Nova  
Scotia. Twenty-seventh season

#### **MIPAC (MERMAID IMPERIAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE)**

A wide variety of music and theatre activities (including  
regular Mermaid performances) is annually hosted and  
presented in the 400 - seat theatre, known as MIPAC. The  
Performing Arts Series attracts diverse audiences from  
surrounding counties as well as the metro region, has  
earned the support of local sponsors, and has become  
recognized as a vital community initiative.

## LEADERS AT HOME ~ AMBASSADORS ABROAD

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's unique  
adaptations of children's literature have  
delighted more than 5.5 million young people in  
19 countries on 4 continents. The company  
performs annually for more than 300,000  
spectators, and ranks among North America's  
most active touring organizations. Closer to  
home, Mermaid maintains a strong local and  
regional presence through teaching,  
mentoring and presenting activities.

# The Institute of Puppetry Arts

Spreading Magic Far & Near

**F**ounded in 1998, Mermaid's teaching wing now boasts alumni on several continents. The Institute, which offers diverse classes at all levels of development as well as mentoring and outreach activities, has broadened its scope to include a teaching circuit in China directed to family participants, educators and community recreation leaders. Plans for the future include the launching of a substantial well-equipped studio space designed specifically for Institute activities.



Highbury Education Center Workshop



Puppets in the Park - Halifax Public Gardens



Shanghai Children's Art Theatre



Shanghai Children's Art Theatre



Animotion  
2017



# MIPAC

**Mermaid Imperial Performing Arts Center  
106 Gerrish Street Windsor, NS**

For online ticket sales and details about the 2017-2018  
Performing Arts Series, please see:  
[mermaidtheatre.ca/mipac](http://mermaidtheatre.ca/mipac) and [Ticketpro.ca](http://Ticketpro.ca)

## **MIPAC SCHOOL-TIME SERIES:**

For more information, please see  
[mermaidtheatre.ca/schooltime](http://mermaidtheatre.ca/schooltime)

### **GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU & I LOVE MY LITTLE STORYBOOK**

Thursday, Oct 5, 2017

### **IVAN COYOTE: TOMBOY SURVIVAL GUIDE**

Thursday, April 13, 2018

Kwatta Theatre's

### **MANXMOUSE**

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

### **GOODNIGHT MOON & THE RUNWAY BUNNY**

Monday, May 14, 2018

### **THE RAINBOW FISH** Wednesday, June 13, 2018

### **HAT FITZ AND CARA**

Saturday, September 16, 2017 - 8:00 PM

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's

### **GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU & I LOVE MY LITTLE STORYBOOK**

Wednesday, October 4, 2017 - 6:30 PM

### **WINDSOR GHOST WALK STAGE SHOW**

Thursday, October 26, 2017 - 7:30 PM

Eastern Front Theatre's

### **LULLABY: INSIDE THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION**

Thursday, November 2, 2017 - 7:30 PM

### **HILLSBURN** Saturday, March 10, 2018 - 8:00 PM

### **ROSIE & THE RIVETERS** Saturday, April 14, 2018 - 8:00 PM

### **DYLAN MENZIE** Friday, May 4, 2018 - 8:00PM

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's

### **GOODNIGHT MOON & THE RUNAWAY BUNNY**

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's

### **THE RAINBOW FISH**

Tuesday, June 12, 2018 - 6:30 PM

## **Thanks to our Season Sponsors:**

Amy Hunter, Clockmaker's Inn  
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Canada



## **MERMAID THEATRE STAFF**

Managing Artistic Director: Jim Morrow  
General Manager: Danny Everson  
Artistic Consultant for Music & Sound Design:  
Steven Naylor  
Administrator: Cathy White  
Office & Tour Coordinator: Jason Tucker  
Public Affairs Consultant: Sara Lee Lewis  
Production Manager: Deborah MacLean  
Production Associate & Workshop Coordinator:  
Struan Robertson  
Technical Director: Michael Jamieson  
House Manager: Heather Donahue  
Box Office Manager: Jess Weir

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2017/2018**

Chair: Ed Macdonald • Vice Chair: Jon Oulton  
Treasurer: Gary Johnson • Secretary: Alex Jurgens  
Directors: John Bregante • Andrew G.M. Kirk  
Linda MacDonald • Stephen Drahos • Andrew Sheehy

Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia is represented by:

## **KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT** (North America)

[info@kidsentertainment.net](mailto:info@kidsentertainment.net)

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## **AGENCE STATION BLEUE**

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Jim Morrow, Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia's  
Managing Artistic Director, welcomes Danny Everson as  
the company's new General Manager