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PUPPETS PULL HEARTSTRINGS TO TEACH AND DELIGHT

~ Mermaid Theatre Brings Bunnies and Moonbeams to the Carpenter Center ~

LONG BEACH, CA – Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia will share a staged adaptation of *Goodnight Moon* and *The Runaway Bunny* on November 13 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Carpenter Center on the campus of Cal State Long Beach. This playful production brings fanciful scenery, music, and master-puppeteering to the stage, designed to engage children ages 3-8.

Goodnight Moon is a celebration of familiar nighttime rituals, while *The Runaway Bunny*, a pretend tale of leaving home, evokes reassuring responses from the bunny's loving mum. Both tales feature soothing bunny-banter and dream-like imagery, which never fail to infuse young readers with a sense of security. Mermaid Theatres' staged adaptations bring a new appreciation to these stories that have delighted several generations.

Mermaid Theatre has earned international acclaim for uniquely interpreting a host of children's books, and travels the world with their endearing productions. The puppeteering involved is both innovating and masterful, and the use of original music and colorful set designs are crafted to immediately engage their young audience. For many children, these shows are their introduction to live theatre, and Mermaid Theatre seizes that opportunity to educate and entertain.

Few writers have been as attuned to the concerns and emotions of childhood as Margaret Wise Brown (1910–1952). Brown, a former teacher, believed that very young children could be fascinated by the simple pleasures of the world around them. Few had previously attempted to write specifically for children aged two to five, and Brown created some of the most enduring and beloved children's books of all time as well as developed the concept of the first durable board book. Clement Hurd (1908–1988) graduated from Yale University and studied painting in Paris in the 1930s with Fernand Léger and others. His engaging semi-abstract style became world-famous with the publication in 1942 of *The Runaway Bunny* and *Goodnight Moon* in 1947 – collaborations with Brown that became two of the 20th Century's best-known children's books.

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(Carpenter Center cont.)

**Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny
Carpenter Performing Arts Center * 6200 E Atherton Street, Long Beach, CA 90815
Sunday, November 13 @ 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.**

Single tickets: \$25/\$20 for subscribers. For tickets or more information, visit CarpenterArts.org or call the Carpenter Center Ticket Office at (562) 985-7000. Our season is made possible in part by Media Partner KPCC 89.3-FM.

ABOUT THE CARPENTER CENTER

Founded in 1994, the Carpenter Performing Arts Center seats 1,062 patrons. The Center is named after pop music duo Richard and Karen Carpenter, who both attended California State University, Long Beach. For more than 20 years, the Carpenter Center has brought hundreds of professional performances to the CSULB campus. Both established stars and the gifted talent of the future have delighted Carpenter Center audiences with music, dance, comedy and much more.

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