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Sound Venture Productions announces post production is underway for The Toy Castle

Neil Bregman, President of Sound Venture Productions is pleased to announce principal photography is now complete and post production is underway for their new 26 X 30 minute live-action pre-school television series entitled The Toy Castle.

Four months of intensive script development led by Executive Story Editor Nancy Trites Botkin and three months of set, prop design and construction paved the way for nine weeks of principal photography which wrapped up in Winnipeg on May 20th. The Toy Castle will premiere on Treehouse TV in September 2000.

The Toy Castle is based upon the characters from The Tin Soldier, Sound Venture Production's 1992 Christmas special. The fanciful cast of characters was designed by Mary Kerr and includes a Ballerina and Soldier as leads as well as a Sailor, China Doll, Strongman, Rag Doll, Goblin, Clown, Frogs, and Mice family in supporting roles. The cast are all ballet dancers who perform the stories to narration by Rick Jones. This unique use of dance and real-life characters sets The Toy Castle apart from all other children's series.

To accomplish this, Sound Venture entered into an agreement with one of Canada's premiere ballet companies, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, who has supported the production by assisting with all dance related services including wardrobe facilities, rehearsal halls and casting. Almost all of the dancers are from the RWB's Aspirant and Apprentice Programs, with the two lead roles performed by former principal dancers, Elizabeth Olds and Jordan Morris. "We are very excited to be a part of this wonderful series," says Executive Director Andrew Wilhelm-Boyles. "The Toy Castle presents stories to young children in a fun and whimsical way, at the same time teaching valuable life lessons. It is an excellent introduction to ballet and the arts for a pre-school audience and their parents, and we are delighted to be a part of it."

The Toy Castle is produced by Sound Venture Productions in association with YTV Canada Inc./Treehouse TV, Saskatchewan Communication Network, TFO (TVOntario) with the participation of the Canadian Television Fund (License Fee Program) and the support of the Shaw Television Broadcast Fund, the Shaw Children's Programming Initiative and the Rogers Cable Broadcast Fund and Rogers Telefund. International distribution is handled by Sound Venture International.

Neil Bregman is the Executive Producer, Katherine Jeans is the Director and Producer, Mary Kerr is the Production Designer and Timothy Spain is the Choreographer.

Sound Venture Productions is an Ottawa-based independent production company specializing in the creation of performing arts, culture, documentary, and children's programming. For a complete program catalogue, visit our website at www.soundventure.com.

For more information about The Toy Castle please contact:
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