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## **Sound Venture Productions announces the commencement of principal photography for their new live-action pre-school TV series entitled "The Toy Castle"**

Neil Bregman, President of Sound Venture Productions is pleased to announce the commencement of principal photography for their new 26 x 30 min. live-action pre-school TV series entitled "The Toy Castle".

Following 4 months of intensive script development led by Executive Script Editor Nancy Trites Botkin, and 3 months of set and props design and construction, shooting for the series will begin on March 20th in a warehouse in Winnipeg. Principal photography will continue for 9 weeks until May 19th.

The Toy Castle is based upon the Mary Kerr designed characters from Sound Venture's 1992 CBC/SRC/Disney Channel Christmas special "The Tin Soldier", currently airing on YTV. The fanciful cast of characters which includes a Ballerina and Soldier as leads as well as a Sailor, China Doll, Strongman, Rag Doll, Goblin, Clown, Frogs, Mice and others in supporting roles, are all ballet dancers who dance and mime their stories to narration by Rick Jones. This unique use of dance and real characters sets it apart from all other children's series.

To accomplish this, Sound Venture has entered into an agreement with one of Canada's premiere ballet companies, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, who will support 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 2 leads being filled by ex-principal dancers Elizabeth Olds and Jordan Morris. "We are very excited to be a part of this wonderful TV series", says Executive Director Andrew Wilhelm-Boyles. "The Toy Castle presents dance to very young children in a fun and fanciful 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 Treehouse, SCN & TFO with the participation of the Canadian Television Fund (License Fee Program) and the support of the SHAW Television Broadcast Fund and the Shaw Children's Programming Initiative. International distribution is handled by Decode Distribution. While in Winnipeg, The Toy Castle is being managed and serviced by Mid-Canada Services.

Neil Bregman is the Executive Producer & Producer, Katherine Jeans is the Director and Producer 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](http://www.soundventure.com) .

For more information about The Toy Castle, please contact Neil Bregman (613) 241-5111 x250.