



d e s p u t e a u x + a u b i n

to simply dream



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d e s p u t e a u x + a u b i n is an artistic, proudly independent and non-subsidized production space employed by its two founders: H  l  ne Desputeaux and Michel Aubin. By creating d e s p u t e a u x + a u b i n, H  l  ne Desputeaux and Michel Aubin have given a name to a signature, a renowned graphic style. They are making official a common passion of imagining artwork destined to children, that has been theirs for these past 30 years ... Moreover, they have given themselves the right and the means of creating, producing, distributing and protecting their artwork. Thanks to d e s p u t e a u x + a u b i n, H  l  ne Desputeaux and Michel Aubin, more passionate and freer than ever, rediscover the pleasure of simply making kids dream!

www.desputeauxaubin.com



h é l è n e d e s p u t e a u x



Hélène Desputeaux's path takes two different routes which, though distinct, have made artistic creation and teaching converge. And it is children, very young children, who are at the center of these two disciplines! Since 1975, Hélène Desputeaux has explored color, pictures and the day to day lives of children: whether in her workshop or in her classroom, she worked "in the field" with and for children. That is how and why for Hélène Desputeaux, the actual creation of art and teaching are but one thing. That is also how and why Hélène Desputeaux created, freely and passionately more than one hundred children's books since 1983. She developed her colourful, special and lovable little world.



In her string of characters, we find baby Caillou illustrated by Hélène Desputeaux between 1989 and 1995, before she was pulled into far too long proceedings, because of which she almost lost control of her artwork. For more than 30 years, Hélène Desputeaux's colourful little world has been exhibited, nominated and prized; Hélène Desputeaux was interviewed, critiqued and received distinctions time and time again, here in Quebec and all over the world! Despite her success and recognition, between 1997 and 2006, Hélène Desputeaux created very few illustrations. Unfortunately, because of never-ending legal hearings concerning her baby Caillou, she was compelled to temporarily abandon her work of creating children books. During this long pause, Hélène Desputeaux went back to teaching and reunited with those she always destined her work to: children.

And that is how and why Hélène Desputeaux is now back, prouder, freer and more passionate than ever, with her colourful little world, her baby Caillou and her production house!

Hélène Desputeaux is a bachelor of visual arts (B.A.V.) (Laval University, 1981) and bachelor of education (B.Ed.) (University of Quebec at Montréal, 1984). She completed one year of a master's degree in Science education, pre-school and elementary education (University of Quebec at Montréal, 1985). Hélène Desputeaux also has a long and excellent musical training (Canadian Music competitions fellow and prize (piano) from 1969 to 1972).

m i c h e l a u b i n

Michel Aubin is a scenic artist, a puppeteer and an actor who participated in the creation and the broadcasting of many theatrical productions for children and in the film shooting of a few movies and television series. He also created a great number of workshop seminars for all ages. He is a part time photographer as well. He is the author, illustrator and graphic designer of ten or more children's books, quite often in association with H  l  ne Desputeaux. He also wrote many school book texts.

But most importantly, since 1983, Michel Aubin established the graphic design of almost all of H  l  ne Desputeaux's books. By overseeing the graphic environment in which H  l  ne Desputeaux's little world evolved, he set, with her and for her, the `d e s p u t e a u x + a u b i n` graphic signature, the same one we find in Caillou. This signature was interrupted during the proceedings he went through with H  l  ne Desputeaux.

In participating in 2006 in the birth of an autonomous artistic production space with his life and creative partner H  l  ne Desputeaux, he now becomes a producer! But, he will produce his own dreams and those of H  l  ne Desputeaux! The name of this production house is, of course, `d e s p u t e a u x + a u b i n !`

After a few years studying philosophy (Laval University), Michel completed a bachelor's degree in graphic design at University of Quebec at Montr  al in 1984.

