



"The Beauty Sleeping In The Woods" or Sleeping Beauty

**A vivid, lively, dramatic production
of the beloved French Folk Tale**



Written especially for the marionette theatre, this production is full of humor, suspense and magic that will charm children, teenagers and adults.

"The Beauty Sleeping In The Woods" is a classic french fairy tale which involves a beautiful princess, enchantment castles, knights and handsome prince, It is the first in the set published in 1697 by french author Charles Perrault.

At the christening of a long-wished-for princess, fairies invited as godmothers offered gifts, such as beauty, wit and musical talent. However, as her gift a wicked fairy who had been overlooked placed the princess under an enchantment, saying that, on reaching adulthood, she would prick her finger on a spindle and die. A good fairy, though unable to completely reverse the spell, said that the princess would instead sleep for a hundred years, until awakened by the true love's first kiss of a knight.

The story will enchant and enthrall, as the scenes come alive under the expert showmanship of Richard Elsenpeter.

The Elsenpeter Marionettes tradition of puppetry started in Elen, Germany, approximately 142 years ago, by Richard's great grandfather. Their traditional form of puppetry has been handed down through four generations. Mr. Elsenpeter describes his form of puppetry as the "old world or European style of puppetry." It's very nostalgic and is rarely seen anymore in America because of its technical difficulties.

All Elsenpeter Marionette productions are especially written for the Marionette theatre and every detail has been carefully designed to achieve a perfect dramatic production in miniature. Richard's skillful manipulation of the Marionettes transforms the two foot tall, hand-carved wooden dolls into living characters with definite personalities.



**"RICHARD, YOUR PERFORMERS
WERE FABULOUS AS ALWAYS"**
— Chester, IL



**"THE CHILDREN LOVED
WATCHING THE SHOW.
EVEN THE TWO YEAR OLD'S PAID ATTENTION"**
— St. Joseph, MO



**"MR. ELPENPETER KEPT OUR YOUNG
AUDIENCE ENTHRALLED FROM THE
VERY FIRST STRAINS OF THE MUSIC
TO THE VERY LAST QUESTION AND
ANSWERS."**
GREAT SHOW, THANK YOU!
— West Frankfort, IL

**"THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND
PATIENCE, AND WILLINGNESS TO SHOW
OUR STUDENTS BEHIND THE SCENES. WE
REALLY APPRECIATED YOUR EXPLANA-
TIONS AND PERSONAL TOUCH. WOULD
LOVE TO HAVE YOU BACK NEXT YEAR"**
— Fort Madison, IA



**"THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR THE WONDERFUL PROGRAM
WHILE YOU WERE PERFORMING, THE CHILDREN WERE SO INTENT,
THIS WAS THE FIRST MARIONETTE PERFORMANCE MANY OF THEM
HAD EVER SEEN"**
— Kirksville, MO