



Spotlight on Books

Do you remember the NFB animated vignette that played on TV during the late 70s/early 80s? It featured the great folk song by Wade Hemsworth, *The Log Driver's Waltz* performed by the Mountain City Four featuring Kate & Anna McGarrigle. (The film is still available to stream on the National Film Board website.)

For a new generation, Jennifer Phelan has exquisitely illustrated a new picture book to introduce the song. Her art remains true to the short film but with a bit of updating – in particular with the depiction of our young heroine. In Phelan's words "Early on, I was a little concerned about how to capture the dancing from the animation as stills. But almost naturally, all the flipping, flipping, flipping of the unexpected resulted in a sort of spirit of movement and grace that gives this children's book adaptation a life of its own. It's a book for everyone :)."

It is truly a book that will have a life of its own – filled with wonder that will take children on a magical journey. For those who remember the film, it will take them back in time.

Check out the page of the young woman in front of the mirror – you may find an homage to the original singers! This book may have you wanting to get up and dance a waltz – *The Log Driver's Waltz*.

Kris Solowy, Library Technician

March 4, 2019