

The Secret Mountain

SPRING
SUMMER

2024

STORIES AND MUSIC
FOR ALL EYES AND EARS!



the secret
mountain

MMS

selling excellent children's books and digital

AROUND THE WORLD



Amondo, Son of the Baobab

Play by **Hélène Ducharme** Illustrations by **Judith Gueyfier**

Performances by **Philippe Racine, Patrick Emmanuel Abellard, Widemir Normil, Sharon James, Aboulaye Koné** and **Nathalie Cora**

📍 AFRICA / COMMUNITY / HERITAGE / SELF-DISCOVERY

A tale passed down from generation to generation about a boy's heroic quest to save his village.

In West Africa, a magnificent baobab presides over a village beset with a terrible drought. Young Amondo, known as "The One Who Unites", is the only person who can restore hope to the villagers by freeing the water from the spell cast by the sun. But in order to succeed, he must complete four difficult tasks...

The play, followed by seven songs in Bambara, transports us to the extraordinary world of African folklore, to a time when the moon, trees and animals spoke to humankind.

📍 Dora Award-winning play that has been performed throughout the world over 800 times!

📍 Teaching guide available online at www.thesectionmountain.com/resources.

Hélène Ducharme is a playwright, director, actress and puppeteer, and has been artistic director of the company Théâtre Motus for the past 25 years. **Judith Gueyfier** has illustrated more than 30 picture books including "Chandra's Magic Light", published by Barefoot Books.

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-070-1**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 11 / 48 pages

🔊 9 recordings online (68 minutes)

📱 QR code to major streaming platforms

🕒 7 to 9 years / **£11.99**



ALSO AVAILABLE
WITH QR CODE



Songs in the Shade of the Cashew and Coconut Trees

From West Africa to the Caribbean (Book 1)

📍 AFRICAN / LANGUAGES / COMMUNITY / HERITAGE / LULLABIES

Nathalie Soussana / Judith Gueyfier

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-044-2**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 9.5 x 9.5 / 36 pages

🔊 12 recordings online (23 minutes) 📱 QR code to major streaming platforms 🕒 5 to 9 years / **£11.99**



Songs from a Journey with a Parrot

From Brazil and Portugal (Book 1)

📍 LATIN AMERICA / PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY / HERITAGE / LULLABIES

Magdeleine Lerasle / Aurélia Fronty

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-047-3**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 9.5 x 9.5 / 36 pages

🔊 15 recordings online (23 minutes) 📱 QR code to major streaming platforms 🕒 5 to 9 years / **£11.99**



Songs in the Shade of the Olive Tree

From Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and France (Book 1)

📍 AFRICA ARABIC / BERBER COMMUNITY / HERITAGE / LULLABIES

Hafida Favret / Magdeleine Lerasle / Nathalie Novi

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-045-9**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 9.5 x 9.5 / 36 pages

🔊 16 recordings online (18 minutes) 📱 QR code to major streaming platforms 🕒 5 to 9 years / **£11.99**



JANUARY 2024

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-925108-70-2**
 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 80 pages
 25 recordings (43 minutes) CD + Digital
 download + streaming platforms
 3 to 7 / **£9.99**

Songs on the Vanilla Trail

Lullabies and Nursery Rhymes from East and Southern Africa

Collected by **Nathalie Soussana** Illustrated by **Magali Attiogbé**

AFRICA / COMMUNITY / HERITAGE / SELF-DISCOVERY

An enchanting collection of 25 traditional songs that pay homage to the rich cultural heritage and multilingual communities of East and Southern Africa.

A wide array of styles—skipping rope songs from Mozambique, lullabies from South Africa, counting songs from Réunion, and traditional dance tunes from Madagascar—are all performed exquisitely by local musicians in more than a dozen languages and dialects. Vibrant artwork and homegrown instruments, such as the tube zither, kayamb, bobre, segakordeon, and ravanne drums round off this wonderful celebration of history, language, and culture.

Lyrics appear transcribed in their original language and translated to English, followed by a map of East and Southern Africa and extensive notes describing the cultural background of each song.

WINNER OF THE CHILDREN'S AFRICANA BOOK AWARD

Nathalie Soussana is the author of several musical picture books, including the Parents' Choice Gold Award-winner *Songs from the Garden of Eden*. She resides in France. **Magali Attiogbé** has illustrated several children's books and work for clients such as Flammarion, Gallimard Jeunesse, Larousse, and Fondation Cartier. She was born in Atakpamé, Togo, and currently lives in France.



HARDCOVER PICTURE BOOKS WITH CD
 Recordings also available on
 major streaming platforms



JANUARY 2024

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-20-5**
 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 64 pages
 19 recordings (39 minutes) CD + Digital
 download + streaming platforms
 3 to 7 / **£9.99**

The Hummingbird Sings and Dances

Latin American Nursery Rhymes and Lullabies

Collected and illustrated by **Mariana Ruiz Johnson** Recordings by **Grupo Cántaro**

AMERICAS / SPANISH COMMUNITY / HERITAGE

An extraordinary collection of traditional nursery rhymes and lullabies in Spanish that have withstood the test of time.

Warm, colourful illustrations with earth-toned backgrounds provide the setting for this endearing repertoire of family-friendly songs from 17 different countries. Solid musicianship supporting lively vocal performances transport the young listener into a playful, fanciful world inhabited by singing frogs and dancing skeletons!

Includes a map of Latin America and complete lyrics in Spanish with English translations.

Mariana Ruiz Johnson studied fine arts and illustrations in Argentina. She has published several books for children as an author and illustrator in Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa and the United States. In 2015, she won the international "Silent Book Contest" at the prestigious Bologna Children's Book Fair with her book *Sleep Tight*. **Grupo Cántaro** is a Mexican musical-vocal ensemble founded in 1979 that is dedicated to composing, arranging and performing songs for children. They have released seven albums.



HARDCOVER PICTURE BOOKS WITH CD
 Recordings also available on
 major streaming platforms

STORIES WITH SONGS



LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-072-5**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 11 / 48 pages

🔊 3 recordings online (15 minutes)

🎧 QR code to major streaming platforms

🕒 3 to 7 years / **£11.99**

Glory Days in New Orleans! (Book 2)

We're a Possum Family Band

Story by **Bia** Songs by **Bia, Erik West-Millette** and **Olaf Gundel**

Illustrations by **Fanny Berthiaume** Performances by **Alexa Devine, Olaf Gundel** and **Annick Brémault**

🎵 JAZZ / LOUISIANA / FAMILY / HUMOUR

A lighthearted tale about two possum musicians who make their way to New Orleans and discover jazz.

Mama and Papa Poss continue their musical odyssey on a boat bound for The Big Easy. Take a trip down the Mississippi with the marsupial couple to the city that invented jazz in this swinging and scatting story!

📖 Explanatory notes on jazz and the city of New Orleans included.

🔊 Recorded narrated story followed by the songs "Alley Cat", "Oh, When the Saints!" and "Possum Anthem"

Glory Days in New Orleans! is the second story in the *We're a Possum Family Band* series, which follows the Poss duo on their travels across North America to the birthplaces of Cajun, jazz, country, rock'n'roll, blues, and traditional French-Canadian music.

Bia Krieger, better known as **Bia**, is a Brazilian-born singer-songwriter and author who now lives in Montréal. She is fluent in French, Portuguese, Spanish and English. Her first album in the late 90s was awarded the prestigious Grand Prix of the Charles-Cros Academy in France. To date, she has released over ten albums. **Fanny Berthiaume** spent several years working for Raynault VFX and contributed to famous productions such as "Beauty and the Beast," "X-Men: Apocalypse" and "Wild."

Rockin' the Bayou Down in Louisiana! (Book 1)

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-043-5**

Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 11 / 48 pages

4 recordings online (15 minutes)

QR code to major streaming platforms

3 to 7 years / **£11.99**





LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-046-6**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 11 / 48 pages

🔊 20 recordings online (65 minutes)

🎧 QR code to major streaming platforms

🕒 3 to 7 / **£11.99**

A Feast Beneath the Moon (Book 2)

We're a Possum Family Band

Story by **Bia** Songs by **Bia, Erik West-Millette** and **Olaf Gundel**

Illustrations by **Fanny Berthiaume** Performances by **Alexa Devine, Olaf Gundel** and **Annick Brémault**

🔊 **FRIENDSHIP / ADVENTURE / CELEBRATION / ANIMALS**

Once upon a time there were four friends who always had oodles and oodles of fun together.

After their last adventure full of surprises, a sudden torrential rainfall forces Bertie and gang to take shelter atop Blue Mountain. When they emerge, they encounter an extraordinary girl named Alice, who can grow big or small at the snap of her fingers. Together, they spend a magical night singing and dancing under the moon and shooting stars!

A sequel to *A Picnic in the Sun*, this imaginative musical tale is interspersed with four beloved traditional songs and 14 original tracks performed with pizzazz and emotion.

Christiane Duchesne is the author of more than 80 children's books. She is a two-time winner of the Governor General's Literary Award in Canada and a finalist for the Hans Christian Andersen Award, among many others. **Marianne Ferrer** was born in Venezuela and immigrated to Canada in 1998. After attending Dawson College for illustration and design, she completed her education in graphic design at Université du Québec à Montréal. She recently published *The Invisible Garden* and *A Story about Cancer (With a Happy Ending)*.



A Picnic in the Sun (Book 1)

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-925108-69-6**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 11 / 48 pages

🔊 20 recordings (65 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 3 to 7 / **£11.99**



STORIES WITH SONGS



APRIL 2024

Tomorrow is a Chance to Start Over

Story, songs and illustrations by **Hilary Grist**

🎧 SLEEP / DREAMS / ADVENTURE / SIBLINGS

Ira and Isabelle, who live in a tiny red house by the sea, decide one night to escape the sound of the city's beeping cars and sail off to a faraway land where they learn from a new friend—a robin with a soft voice—that dreams really can come true. Includes the narrated story + 9 original heartwarming dream songs and an exquisite rendition of Johannes Brahms' classic "Cradle Song."

🏆 NATIONAL PARENTING PUBLICATIONS GOLD AWARD

🏆 PARENTS' CHOICE RECOMMENDED AWARD

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924217-29-0**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 52 pages

🎧 11 recordings (51 minutes)

🎧 CD + streaming platforms

🕒 0 to 5 / **£9.99**



MAY 2024

Music All Around

Story by **Gema Sirvent** Illustrations by **Lucía Cobo**

🎧 SEA / FOREST / SYMPHONY / ANIMALS

A poignant reminder to pause and listen to nature's secret rhythms and sounds.

Sofia is off to her grandparents for the holidays. She leaves her seaside home, its singing waves and whispering sand, knowing that the sounds of the forest await her. Amongst the dark pines and the majestic oaks, she'll discover the music of the night, the songs of a fox, an owl, and a wolf. At a clearing in the woods, she'll feel the wind blowing as it does on the beach. She'll wave her invisible baton to the stars, offering the music from the sea as a gift to the forest.

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-86-1**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 40 pages

🎧 2 recordings (12 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 5 to 7 / **£9.99**



JULY 2024

Summer Moonlight Concert

Story and illustrations by **Han Han**

🎧 CHINA / NIGHTTIME / COMMUNITY / MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

A touching reminder of how music can bring people together.

Xiaomi will never forget the magical sounds she heard one hot summer evening when the power went out in her family's apartment building. It happened while her parents were preparing dinner. Her father lit candles and suggested they take their musical instruments to the courtyard to perform for their neighbours. Xiaomi danced as her father played the erhu and her mother the accordion. The songs made their way into each home, and soon, everyone joined the concert, laughing and singing under the moonlight.

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-87-8**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 40 pages

🎧 2 recordings (12 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 5 to 7 / **£9.99**



JULY 2024

A Gift for Sophie

Story by **Gilles Vigneault** Illustrations by **Stéphane Joris** Recordings by

Martha Wainwright, Thomas Hellman, Paul Campagne and Jessica Vigneault

🎧 FAMILY / FRIENDSHIP / SHARING / COMING OF AGE

A heartwarming tale about friendship and sharing wisdom between generations.

Sophie and Emilio spend their days enjoying life's small discoveries in a tiny seaside village with their best pet friend "Sir" and a mischievous crow. Sophie's regular visits and gift exchanges with her great-uncle lead to teachings about how value is determined by the intentions of the heart. The wisdom found in Old Man Tom's eloquent quote, "It's all in the nature of things," sums up this poetic tale of friendship, values, mentorship, overcoming loss, and rites of passage.

🏆 WINNER OF THE PARENTS' CHOICE RECOMMENDED AWARD

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-923163-98-7**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 44 pages

🎧 10 recordings (33 minutes)

🎧 CD + streaming platforms

🕒 7 to 9 / **£9.99**

SING ALONG



JULY 2024

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-071-8**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 9.5 x 9.5 / 48 pages

🎧 13 recordings online (42 minutes)

🎧 QR code to major streaming platforms

🕒 3 to 5 years / **£11.99**

I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly

Songs by **Alan Mills** Illustrations by **PisHier**

Performances by **Thomas Hellman** and **Émilie Clepper**

🎧 **FOLK SONGS / ALPHABET / COUNTING / SEASONS / HUMOUR**

A fresh rendition of a classic children's tune followed by a buffet of silly sing-along songs.

Get to know a quirky old lady who swallows a heap of animals—from a dog, cat, bird and spider to that infamous little fly. The children's classic sets the table for several timeless folk tunes, written over 50 years ago. Tongue-in-cheek and smart at heart, this buffet of singalong alphabet, counting and rhyming songs is jaw-droppingly silly as it is devourable.

Alan Mills was a folksinger, writer, and actor who released several albums on Folkways Records. His performance at the 1960 Newport Folk Festival was preserved on a Vanguard recording. He also found lasting success as a singer with the CBC radio show Folk Songs for Young Folk, which ran from 1947-59. He was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1974.



Sing Out!

Six Classic Folk Songs for Tomorrow

Recordings by **Sin and Swoon**

Illustrations by **Sophie Casson**

🎧 **FOLK MUSIC / TRADITIONAL / MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / ANIMALS**

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-85-4**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 7 x 10 / 176 pages

🎧 6 recordings (17 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 3 to 7 / **£13.99**



Free to Be Me

Recordings by **Sunflowers** Illustrations by **Maud Legrand**

🎧 **COUNTING / DAYS OF THE WEEK / COLOURS / EMOTIONS**

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-925108-91-7**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 40 pages

🎧 12 recordings (35 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 4 to 7 / **£9.99**



It's Raining Cats and Dogs!

Sing Along Animal Songs

Recordings by **Connie Kaldor, Al Simmons** and

Thomas Hellman Illustrations by **Marie-Ève Tremblay**

🎧 **DOGS / CATS / PETS / HUMOUR**

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924217-74-0**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8 x 8 / 36 pages

🎧 10 recordings (28 minutes)

🎧 CD + streaming platforms

🕒 4 to 7 / **£9.99**

CLASSICAL



The Piano

Story and illustrations by **Joaquín Camp**

🎵 **MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / EMOTIONS / CREATIVITY / FAMILY**

Music can give life to anything and everything.

That's exactly what happens when a boy and girl play their brand new piano for the first time. As they take turns tapping keys, the children discover that even the simplest melody can stir up a symphony of sensations.

This playful tale invites children to explore how music makes them feel. Hear how sounds attune to emotions. See how music colours the imagination. From synesthesia to onomatopoeia, these musical sketches show that learning big words and even bigger ideas can be as simple as PLINK, PLANK, PLONK.

Joaquín Camp studied illustration and graphic design at the University of Buenos Aires. As an illustrator, he has worked for several publishing houses throughout the world including Camelo-zampa (Italy), A Buen Paso (Spain), Fondo Cultura Económica (Mexico), Caterpillar Books (UK) and Greenbee (Korea). He was selected for Bologna Book Fair illustrators' exhibition in 2020 and, the same year, also won the International Illustrated Picture Book Contest, organized by the Library of Gran Canaria. He currently lives in Madrid.

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-054-1**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 9.5 x 9.5 / 44 pages

🎵 Video online (4 minutes)

🕒 5 to 7 years / **£11.99**



Maestro Evarista's Orchestra

Story and illustrations **Raquel Bonita**

🎵 **MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS / ANIMALS / COUNTING / LEADERSHIP**

Unfold an orchestra of nine animals and eight instruments in this heartwarming tale.

Maestro Evarista is a conductor in search of an orchestra. With a heavy cart full of instruments, the little lizard sets out to find musicians. One by one, she comes across an assortment of animals who lighten her load as they pick their parts in what becomes a ten-member menagerie. Her cart finally empty and her heart full, Maestro Evarista takes the lead in a concert that proves big dreams do come true with a little hard work to see them through.

In a twist on the classic accordion format, this tale unfolds page by page and animal by animal until the full orchestra is presented across a panoramic, ten-panel spread. Introduced in rhyming verse, a vibrant cast of characters appears against a bold black backdrop to set the stage for readers of all ages. Scan the QR code to read along to the narrated story and soundtrack online.

Raquel Bonita is a graduate of the School of Professional Illustration in Madrid and began her career as an illustrator working for established publishers in Spain such as Jaguar, Combel and Edebé. Her work has often been selected for exhibits at some of the world's most respected literary events, more recently at the Bologna Children's Book Fair, the Shanghai International Children's Book Fair and the Sharjah Reading Festival. Originally from Northern Spain, she now lives in Copenhagen, Denmark.

LISTEN TO THE RECORDINGS



MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-89836-016-9**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 8.75 x 9.5 / 24 pages

🎵 Video online (4 minutes)

🕒 3 to 5 / **£11.99**



Little Stories of Great Composers

Stories by **Ana Gerhard** Illustrations by **Marie Lafrance** Recordings by **I Musici de Montréal**

▶ CLASSICAL MUSIC / HISTORY / MOUSE / SEASONS

Music can give life to anything and everything.

Travel back in time with Minim, a charming cheese-loving mouse who encounters composers like Mozart, Schubert, and Vivaldi on his adventures and discovers an appreciation for classical music along the way.

Ana Gerhard studied as a concert pianist at the National Conservatory of Music in Mexico City and is a renowned music educator. She is a four-time recipient of the Parents' Choice Award. I Musici de Montréal is a Canadian chamber orchestra founded in 1984 that has toured internationally, performing a broad repertoire that ranges from baroque to contemporary music. **Colm Feore** achieved fame as one of Canada's premiere stage actors, playing virtually all of Shakespeare's leading men over numerous seasons of the Stratford Festival. He also frequently appears on television and film (*Chicago, The Amazing Spider-Man 2 and House of Cards...*). **Marie Lafrance** has earned three nominations for the Governor General's Literary Award, and she recently received the Ruth and Sylvia Schwartz Children's Book Award for *A Hen for Izzy Pippik*.

APRIL 2024



That's My Piano, Sir!

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-82-3**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 6.5 x 9.75 / 32 pages

🎧 2 to 4 recordings (12 to 16 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 7 to 9 / **£9.99**



A Delicious Taste of Mozzarella!

PYOTR ILVICH TCHAIKOVSKY

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-83-0**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 6.5 x 9.75 / 32 pages

🎧 2 to 4 recordings (12 to 16 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 7 to 9 / **£9.99**



Some Creatures Have All the Luck!

ANTONIO VIVALDI

MUSICAL PICTURE BOOK **978-2-924774-84-7**

📖 Hardback / Full colour / 6.5 x 9.75 / 32 pages

🎧 2 to 4 recordings (12 to 16 minutes)

🎧 CD + Digital download + streaming platforms

🕒 7 to 9 / **£9.99**



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Recordings for all musical picture books are available on music streaming platforms including Spotify, Apple Music and Youtube.




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FACTOR Canada 

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MMS
making excellent children's books and digital

