

For Immediate Release

Brown Books Publishing Group Signs Three Books by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson

New York Times best-selling author team Michael Sampson and the late Bill Martin Jr. (*Chicka Chicka 1, 2, 3, Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See?*) have signed the global rights of their next three books to Tom Reale of Brown Books Publishing Group. Each of these three books will be written in the same cadence that readers have come to know and love for decades from the beloved author team. These books will also be introducing the talent of Argentinian artist Nathalie Beauvois as illustrator. *Armadillo Antics* will be the first of the three books to publish in April 2022, followed by *Ten Little Squirrels* in Fall 2022, and *Bing! Bang! Chugga! Beep!* in Spring 2023. All three will be published under the Brown Books Kids imprint.

All three titles were represented to Brown Books Publishing by Ron Zollshan with Kirchoff Wohlberg in the deal while Nathalie Beauvois was represented by Deborah Wolfe Ltd. with IllustrationOnline.com.



Bill Martin Jr. truly was "America's favorite children's author." He wrote for almost 60 years. He was the author of the classic text *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*, which was illustrated by his dear friend Eric Carle, as well as dozens of other books for children. He was inducted into the Reading Hall of Fame by the International Literacy Association. He lived in New York until 1993 when he moved to Texas. Through the years he gave children some of their favorite books, including *The Ghost-Eye Tree*, *Barn Dance!*, *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* and many more.

Michael Sampson has recently been named a Fulbright Scholar! While earning his Ph.D. in Reading at the University of Arizona during the 1970s, he met and established a lifelong friendship and professional relationship with mentor and colleague, Bill Martin Jr. Over the years, Sampson and Martin have written 21 books together, including bestsellers such as *Chicka Chicka 1, 2, 3*, *Swish!*, *Kitty Cat, Kitty Cat, Are You Waking Up?*, *Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See?*, to name a few. Sampson has additionally authored several of his own children's books, including the classroom favorites: *Caddie the Golf Dog*, *Trick or Treat?*, *The Football That Won*, and *Star of the Circus*. Sampson has served as dean at the School of Education at St. John's University in New York City. Sampson continues to do author visits and teacher in-services across the nation and the world.



Nathalie Beauvois is an illustrator living in Argentina. She has a graphic design background in advertising and has also studied industrial design. Nathalie started her career in the art departments of ad agencies and eventually transitioned into freelance illustrating. Since then, she has illustrated many books and magazines from countries all over the world. Her creations start the traditional way (pencil and paper) and then mix in techniques such as watercolor, collage, vector drawing and photoshop coloring. She also bakes great cakes!