

Three Little Mammoths



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Once upon a time,
at the very beginning of time,
there was a big BANG!

Then, there were stars. [Do stars
make a sound?]

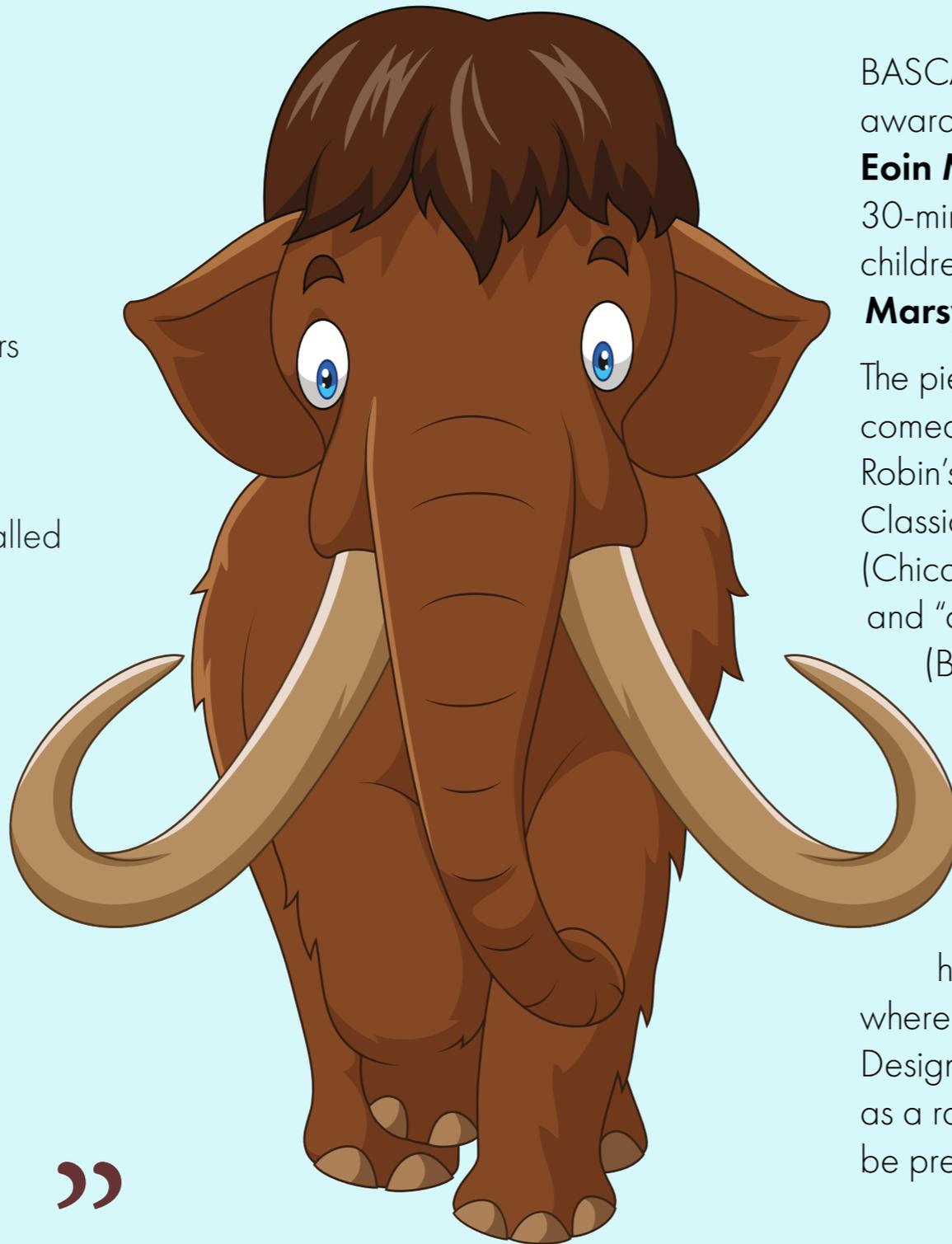
Around the stars spun planets.
And one of the planets was called
'Earth'.

Don't believe me? You're
sitting on it right now.

And if you're not sitting,
then sit down immediately,
because the story is about to
begin.

This is the story of the
Three Little Mammoths.

”



BASCA winner **Robin Haigh** and
award-winning author of The Hug
Eoin McLaughlin are creating a
30-minute adaptation of the classic
children's tale Three Little Pigs, for the
Marsyas Trio.

The piece will be narrated by a
comedian or actor, tapping into
Robin's "vibrant, witty" (Chicago
Classical Review), "irreverent"
(Chicago Theatre Review),
and "completely refreshing"
(British Composer Awards)
compositional style.

Not musical theatre, nor
opera, nor narration
accompanied by music,
spoken word and music walk
hand in hand in this adventure
where everything is...different.
Designed for primary-age children,
as a radio play which will eventually
be presented on stage, Three Little

Mammoths uses humour to musically
engage young children's imagination,
nurturing their love for music through a
well-known story, in a proven format.

In part supported by the Arts Council
England's Emergency Response Fund
and Fidelio Charitable Trust, this is
an opportunity to create a high-
quality piece with real care and
artistry, providing both an ecstatically
memorable first experience of
chamber music for children and a
welcome new take on a familiar story
for carers and educators.

McLaughlin's characters, with their
signature lovable pathos, come to life
to deliver a message about the world
right now.



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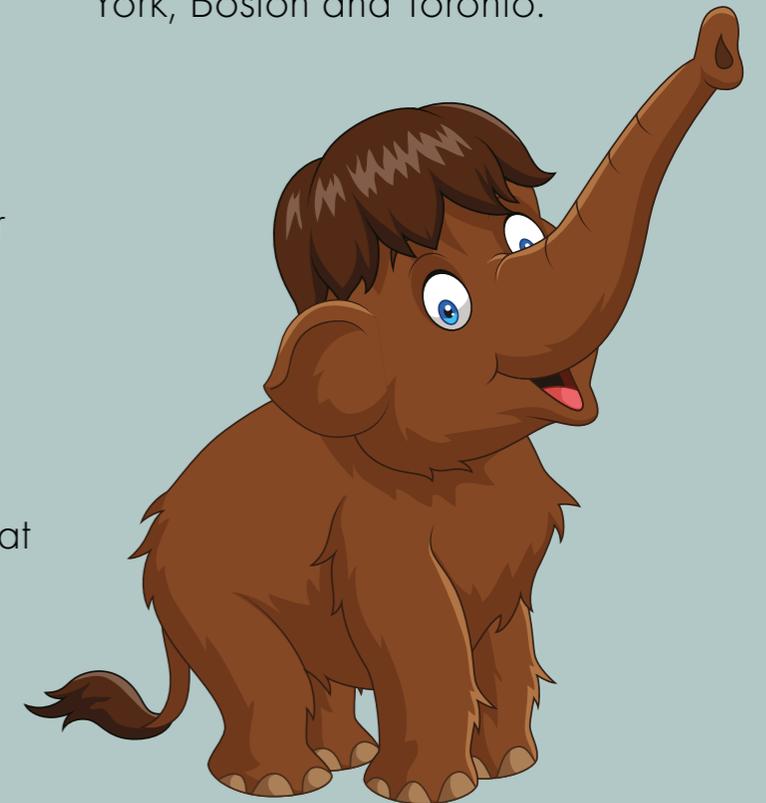
ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The London-based **Marsyas Trio**, formed in 2009 by graduates of the Royal Academy of Music, is the UK's leading flute, cello and piano ensemble. Olga is originally from Belarus, Helen from Australia, and Val from Canada; between them they play seven different instruments and speak six languages.

The Trio has been delivering engaging, innovative work on the concert stage and in the recording studio for over a decade. Unique within classical chamber music, their 'no-boundaries' ethos focuses on women composers and cross-arts collaborations.

Their latest CD, *In the Theatre of Air* (NMC Recordings 2018) debuted at No.7 (right after Yo-Yo Ma!) on the classical charts and was one of NMC's highest performing CDs

in 2018/19 with over 30,000 digital downloads. The disc's international exposure includes warm reviews in Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine (4-stars) and Tempo, and inclusion in the Sunday Times' The Weeks' Essential New Releases. The Trio's work has been supported by numerous grants, including the HMUK's Do it Differently Fund, which enabled the Trio to tour New York, Boston and Toronto.



Irish children's author **Eoin McLaughlin** is published by Faber & Faber, Hachette, Walker and Pavilion. His debut picture book *The Hug* was named a 'Book of the Year' by The Guardian and has been translated into 19 languages. The follow up, *While We Can't Hug*, has been widely used to help children during the pandemic.



The Times described it as "an important historic record of the time". It was nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal and again named a 'Book of the Year' by The Guardian.

Born in Dublin, Eoin now lives in Surrey and is a creative director at Channel 4. He is adept at wittering, okay at whittling and terrible at whistling.





Since winning a British Composer Award aged 24, **Robin Haigh** has been commissioned by the London Symphony Orchestra, Britten Sinfonia, Royal Philharmonic Society, Sage Gateshead, Ligeti Quartet, and The Hermes Experiment.

Robin's approach to music is informed by his early experiences writing for the progressive metal band he played in as a teenager growing up Newham, East London. His pieces are often based on unusual concepts; he makes music from the sounds of howling dogs, he asks orchestral performers to play on recorders, and his comic chamber opera *The Man Who Woke Up*, which has been performed in London, Chicago, and Louisville, asks what it would be like to wake up and find oneself in an opera.

In 2018 he was commissioned by the LSO to write several pieces for a

storytelling concert, *Fergal is Fuming!*, for under-5s, which later toured to Dublin. In 2019, his educational piece *Hydrogen Helium Etcetera* was commissioned by St Andrews New Music Ensemble and performed to people of all ages in Edinburgh and St Andrews. Robin studied at Goldsmiths College and the Royal Academy of Music, and is coming to the end of an AHRC funded PhD at the University of York, where he also teaches.



Composer: [Robin Haigh](#)

Author: [Eoin McLaughlin](#)

Musicians: [Marsyas Trio](#) (flute, cello, piano)

Narrator: Comedian/actor TBD

Length: 30 minutes – live performance can be augmented to 45 minutes with warm-up games and participatory singing

Audience: Key stages 1 & 2 (ages 5-11)

Themes: Kindness, generosity, tolerance, celebrating differences, immigration

Sample audio: Click [here](#)



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