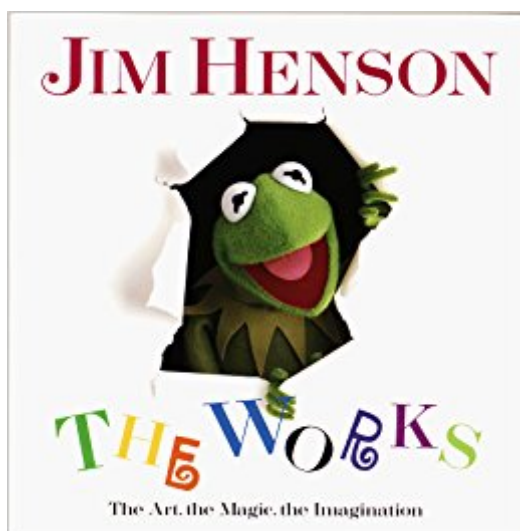


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Jim Henson: The Works - The Art, The Magic, The Imagination



Synopsis

The ultimate gift for Muppet lovers everywhere, this extraordinary tribute celebrates 40 years of Henson's creative genius--from his best-known inventions to his lesser known but equally fascinating notions for everything from designs for futuristic nightclubs and homes to experimental films. 500 color illus.

Book Information

Hardcover: 268 pages

Publisher: Random House; 1st edition (October 12, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679412034

ISBN-13: 978-0679412038

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.8 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 61 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #412,195 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Puppets & Puppetry #325 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Television > Shows #409 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Comedy

Customer Reviews

At the time of his death in 1990, Jim Henson had created some of the world's most beloved characters, invigorated the delicate art of puppeteering, and achieved in TV and films critical and commercial success unheard of since the heyday of Walt Disney. This oversize, colorful volume, sure to delight Henson's many fans, traces his career from local TV in the mid-1950s through the triumphs of Sesame Street and The Muppet Show, his leap into movies (The Muppet Movie, The Dark Crystal, etc.), and late projects like Fraggle Rock. The book also covers Henson's little-known forays into experimental film and the contributions of his Creature Shop puppetmakers to non-Henson movies. The authorized nature of this project gave Finch access to fascinating archival materials, such as behind-the-scenes photos. Unfortunately, it also results in an annoying lack of critical detachment and a one-dimensional portrait of Henson. Even so, Finch convincingly portrays Henson's visionary dedication to the craft of puppetry. The continuing popularity of Kermit, Big Bird, and Henson's other creations ensures that this showcase of them will be in demand for many years to come. Gordon Flagg

Christopher Finch was born in Guernsey in the British Channel Islands, and now lives in Los Angeles. He is an artist and photographer who had one-person shows in New York and California, and he is the author of almost thirty nonfiction books, including the bestsellers *Rainbow: The Stormy Life of Judy Garland*, *The Art of Walt Disney*, *Jim Henson: The Works*, and *Norman Rockwell's America*.

I first saw this beautiful book at a Jim Henson exhibit at the Smithsonian, and I really wanted it, but I didn't want to pay \$40 for it. I'm so glad I found it here on for less. *Jim Henson: The Works* is like having that entire exhibit and then some with you at home. The book goes in chronological order, starting with Henson's childhood, his first TV show, *Sam and Friends*; his experimental films and other projects; *Sesame Street*; *The Muppet Show*; the *Muppet Movies*; the *Dark Crystal* and *Labyrinth*; *The Storyteller*; *Muppet Vision 3D* (which I saw in Disney World and loved!); *Fraggle Rock*, *Muppet Babies*, and more. It's fully illustrated, informative and gorgeous! If you only get one Jim Henson book, this should be the one.

It's hard to believe Jim Henson has now been gone for over 16 years. Christopher Finch's book stands as a great testament to Henson's amazingly prolific work and his larger-than-life existence. Despite Henson's natural shyness and reticence and quiet manner, the thing that strikes you in the book is how many lives this guy touched. He bestowed livelihoods on literally thousands of people. Their gratitude is expressed in these pages time and again in fervent, emotional recollections. To say Jim Henson inspired devotion only begins to get at what this guy meant to his family, friends and employees. My hat is off to Christopher Finch for this wonderful collection, which is still available here as a beautiful and hardily-constructed first-edition hardback. Mr. Finch gets an extra level of respect for the decision (of which he no doubt had a say) to keep his name off the dustcover front. He's graciously stepped aside to let the lights shine warmly on Jim Henson.

I bought this for my fiancée for Christmas. As a life long Muppet fan I really couldn't have gotten anything better. The book is chock full of gorgeous photos, tons of great stories, and I can't think of a better book to get a fan of Jim Henson's legacy. There were several photos that were so touching and full of love that I couldn't stop myself from crying. I can't recommend this enough. Jim Henson was a genius, pure and simple and this book is a glorious representation of his gifts to the world.

I was so happy to get this book. I love that it starts from the beginning with the first crudely made puppets that Jim Henson and his wife made to how they progressed through time. It shows how new characters were developed and expanded. Fantasticly photographed all of the way.

Love and miss Jim Henson. Great book.

I just bought this as a birthday gift for someone who is a big Henson fan. She really loved it.

I loved this book. It is full of information on all of Jim Henson's creations and imagination. It's full of amazing pictures that show everything from behind the scenes of the muppet show to labyrinth's secrets to character sketches and designs. I recommend this book to any and all of Jim Henson fans. And everyone else too.

this book for what it is is awesome. however I was more interested in the artwork so I'll be returning it but if you're interested in reading more than looking you'll love it.

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