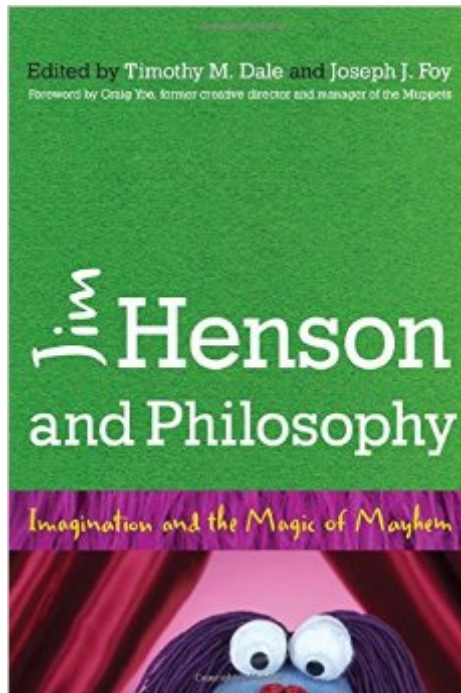


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Jim Henson And Philosophy: Imagination And The Magic Of Mayhem



Synopsis

Jim Henson's creations have inspired generations with characters that are among the world's most recognizable cultural icons. From Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy and their Muppet friends to the legendary Sesame Street and Children's Television Workshop, Henson revolutionized children's educational entertainment. Combining live action and puppeteering into fantastical narratives like *The Dark Crystal* and *Labyrinth*, as well as the whimsical *Fraggle Rock* and *The Storyteller*, Henson transformed imagination into reality, weaving together powerful philosophical messages on identity, community, diversity, love, death, and friendship. Henson never shied away from exploring deep questions, nor did he underestimate the ability of children (or adults) to grapple with profound philosophical questions. *Jim Henson and Philosophy* explores the entertaining and educational world of the genius's creations, revealing what it is about Henson's world that has touched us so deeply and improved our lives in such meaningful ways. Contributions by: Lauren Ashwell, Kimberly Baltzer-Jaray, David R. Burns, Samantha Brennan, Amanda Cawston, Brooke Covington, Christopher M. Culp, Ryan Cox, Natalie M. Fletcher, Victoria Hubbell, Dena Hurst, Christopher Ketcham, S. Evan Kreider, Shaun Leonard, Jennifer Marra, Michael J. Muniz, Laurel Ralston, Rhona Trauvitch, and Sheryl Tuttle Ross

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Customer Reviews

As a fan of the Muppets, I was pleased to find a pre-publication copy of this book at the BookExpo in New York City. *Jim Henson and Philosophy* is a collection of twenty one essays, which

examine a variety of topics as seen in the light of the Muppets and Sesame Street. The academic essays come with footnotes, which are placed at the end of the book. The essays start with easy everyday subjects such as the feminism of Miss Piggy and the leadership style of Kermit. Soon the essays go into deeper subject matter: ethics and philosophy. Are Statler and Waldorf stand-ins for Plato and Aristotle? The meaning of Muppet reality is examined. Do the Muppets exist in their own fictional world or in our reality, the world of people, or do they cross the plains of reality? The collection of essays, which make up *Jim Henson and Philosophy* • comprises a complete liberal arts education. I could have spent my college years watching the Muppets instead of going to classes. On second thought, perhaps that is what I did.

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