

## Jim Henson and Philosophy: Imagination and the Magic of Mayhem



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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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