



ARCHAIA



**ARCHAIA AND THE JIM HENSON COMPANY ANNOUNCE NEW, ORIGINAL GRAPHIC NOVEL WRITTEN BY JIM HENSON AND JERRY JUHL**

***NEVER-PRODUCED, FEATURE-LENGTH SCRIPT FROM THE JIM HENSON COMPANY ARCHIVES TO BE ADAPTED INTO A HARDCOVER***

*Los Angeles, CA (August 4, 2010)* – Seeking to ignite imaginations and spark curiosity, The Jim Henson Company and Archaia announced they will publish an original graphic novel hardcover based on **A TALE OF SAND**, a never-before-seen screenplay written by **Jim Henson** and his friend and longtime collaborator **Jerry Juhl** that the two had worked on for many years in the 1960s. The project will be undertaken under the approval and supervision of The Jim Henson Company’s CEO **Lisa Henson**, and will be guided through the production process by Archaia Editor-in Chief **Stephen Christy**.

“Finding something like this in the archives of The Henson Company was like finding the creative equivalent of a Rosetta Stone,” said Christy. “This script is a peek into the early creative mind of Jim Henson, and is a unique vision that is so different from his work with *The Muppets*, *The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*, or any of his other later works. Archaia is proud, honored and extremely excited to team with The Jim Henson Company to present this work by Jim Henson as a fitting tribute to his legacy and as a fantastic treat for his fans all over the world.”

*A Tale of Sand*, a dark, existential feature-length screenplay that built off of ideas Jim Henson had been developing around the time he produced his Academy Award-nominated short film “Timepiece,” tells the story of a young man who hears, “Run, boy... run!” as he is kicked out of a dusty town in the middle of the desert. There’s nothing but sand in every direction, but run he does, with only a rucksack of odds-and-ends to his name, as he embarks on an oddball journey.

“*A Tale of Sand* was a very personal project for my father,” said Lisa Henson. “This hasn’t been seen by anyone outside of this company, and I feel very lucky that we can present his vision for this story in graphic novel format with Archaia, giving fans a glimpse at a piece of his creative legacy, and I hope they enjoy this look into his early creative process.”

Archaia and The Jim Henson Company entered into a multi-year publishing partnership in 2009 for Archaia to publish comics and graphic novels based on classic franchises like “Fraggle Rock,” “The Dark Crystal” and “Labyrinth,” as well as new, co-branded original properties.

*A Tale of Sand* is tentatively scheduled to debut in late summer 2011.



ARCHAIA



### **About Archaia**

Archaia has built an unparalleled reputation for producing meaningful content that perpetually transforms minds. Archaia is: *An Elegy for Amelia Johnson, Artesia, Awakening, Beautiful Scars, Berona's War, The Black Knight, Critical Millennium, Cyclops, The Dark Crystal, Dark Fall, Days Missing, The Devil's Handshake, The Engineer, Everlast, Feeding Ground, Fraggle Rock, God Machine, The Grave Doug Freshley, Gunnerkrigg Court, Hybrid Bastards!, Inanna's Tears, The Killer, Killing Pickman, Labyrinth, The Lone and Level Sands, Lucid, Miranda Mercury, Moon Lake, Mouse Guard, Mr. Murder Is Dead, Okko, One in a Million, Primordia, Return of the Dapper Men, Robotika, Saga, The Secret History, Some New Kind of Slaughter, Starkweather: Immortal, Syndrome, Titanium Rain, Trial By Fire, Tumor* and 10 more new titles in 2010.

For more information on Archaia or any Archaia titles please visit [www.Archaia.com](http://www.Archaia.com). Archaia can also be found on Facebook ([facebook.com/archaiacomics](https://facebook.com/archaiacomics)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/archaiacomics](https://twitter.com/archaiacomics)).

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The Jim Henson Company has remained an established leader in family entertainment for over 50 years and is recognized worldwide as an innovator in puppetry, animatronics and digital animation. Best known as creators of the world famous Muppets, Henson has received over 50 Emmy Awards and nine Grammy Awards. Recent credits include the Emmy® nominated "Sid the Science Kid," "Dinosaur Train," "Wilson & Ditch: Digging America" and "Pajanimals." Features include "The Dark Crystal," "Labyrinth," "MirrorMask," and "Unstable Fables" and television productions include "Fraggle Rock" and the sci-fi cult series "Farscape."

With additional locations in New York and London, The Jim Henson Company is headquartered in Los Angeles on the historic Charlie Chaplin lot, complete with soundstage and postproduction facilities. Independently owned and operated by the five adult children of founder Jim Henson, the Company is also home to Jim Henson's Creature Shop™, a pre-eminent character-building and visual effects group with international film, television and advertising clients, as well as Henson Recording Studios, one of the music industry's top recording facilities known for its world-class blend of state-of-the-art and vintage equipment. The Company's Henson Alternative brand has recently announced the national tour of "Stuffed and Unstrung," a live puppet improvisational show named one of the top 10 "Best Stage Shows of 2010" by *Entertainment Weekly*.

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