

Rough Draft:

I've always admired Henson's muppets, along with their TV show, and feature films, as I'm sure generations of people have and continue to do. He could run a gamut of emotions with a slight of his hand. And while didn't decide to become a puppeteer, his art and talent and his belief in himself and the people he works with, made it all came together wonderfully. He is quoted in the documentary, "...I'm not a ventriloquist and I don't try to hide the fact that my lips move, but the truth of the matter is that the frog is a great deal more interesting to look at, and um... who notices what the bearded man is doing?"

His world of puppetry played a hand in shaping my childhood. Though only after watching this documentary, i've coming to realize how many projects he was truly a part of. This biographical documentary has some amazing video clips from Henson's early TV days, his commercials from the late '60s, as well as post-Sesame Street that were stunningly creative and beautiful. This 85-minute long film from the PBS show Great Performances mixes the history of Henson's projects with plenty of sketches that any fan age 6 and older should enjoy. Begining in 1955 with "Sam and Friends", and onto spot on the Jimmy Dean show, where Jim reintroduced puppetry into the mainstream. Continuing with the transition from the proscenium to the tv screen: Sesame Street, The Muppet Show, Fraggle Rock; and even further, creating entirely new worlds in film (*The Dark Crystal* and *Labyrinth*) to short '60s TV commercials that achieved branding and a laugh in six seconds.

The film shows the imaginative range of Henson and his creations, such as bits from the afformentioned The Jimmy Dean Show; shots from his 1965 Oscar-nominated short, Time Piece; appearances on The Ed Sullivan Show and The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson; his explanation of Wall Street on Nightline; and Miss Piggy's comedic apperance on 60 Minutes. Produced after Henson's death at age 53 in 1990, the special includes interviews from those who remember him best--his wife Jane, son Brian, friend and co-worker Frank Oz, and head writer Jerry Juhl. And a surprisingly appraising interview on Henson from film director Francis Ford Coppola.

It truly highlights the soft-spoken genius about Jim; he was intriguing, and his motivation was contagious to the people who surrounded him. It really was *The World of Jim Henson*.

Works cited Cited: PBS Documentary, Great Performances; The World of Jim Henson,
November 24 1994 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEWB0zuZvII&t=791s>

Started out as making puppets as getting a job

A hand in a sock-a puppet show for adult
Poison to poison- wicked sense of humor

Donald sunning

Jim Henson and Frank Oz worked together on the Jimmy Dean Show

He wasn't rebellious, he was a free spirit and wanted to use his energy. He questioned the rules.

But he knew these guys knew how to deliver a punchline.

The exposure of Ralph introduced the world tot world of Jim Henson

Time piece was about time.

Joan and Jon wanted to bring Jim onboard and apply his muppets to this children's show, called
Sesame Street.

Carrol spinner played Big bird, an embodiment of child.

The language and art was disciplined, but so brilliant. His art is so accessible.

The muppet show was a 20-year success overnight.

The instigator of fun and silliness

He allowed for the looniness There was this silly anarchy about the muppets, that allowed for all aspects of the show to be funny.

Frank was a comic genius

Time peice vs the muppets

He wanted to break out of the

He had a legacy of decency and social values.

He presented the world with real life, but he wouldn't think so.

Jim seemed to have no fences or boundaries.

Brian fraud

1955: A Hand in a Sock

1963: A Spirit About It

1969: Something More Enduring

1976: His Electric Train

1979: Nothing Was Impossible

1982: A Cavernous Place

1987: A Walking Idea Machine

1990: The Rainbow Connection