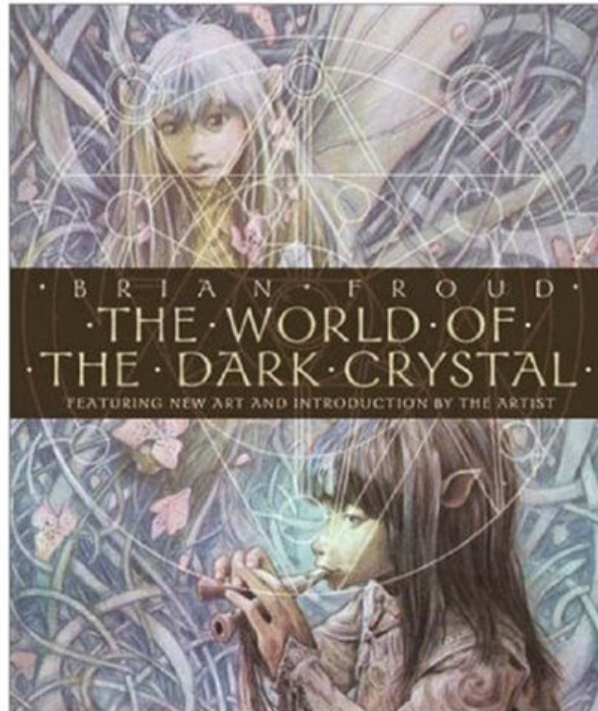


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The World of the Dark Crystal: The Collector's Edition

Brian Froud

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Brian Froud : The World of the Dark Crystal: The Collector's Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The World of the Dark Crystal: The Collector's Edition:

35 of 35 people found the following review helpful. Essential for anyone who loves The Dark CrystalBy Inspector GadgetAnyone who's seen this movie will be familiar with the breathtaking level of detail and effort that went into the production design. One could watch the film a hundred times over and still pick up on small things and be totally puzzled over the meaning of it all. When you think about it, The Dark Crystal is a small miracle. Not only is it a very grim kids film, hardly any of the mythology is explained and there's loads of subtext and hidden meanings. How many can say that about Finding Nemo?Brian Froud has always been fascinated with faeries and goblins and such so when he was hired by Jim Henson to work on this movie it must have been a dream come true. The first section of this book covers Froud's experiences working on the movie. It's an interesting read but the remaining part of the book requires the reader to have a vivid recollection of events in the film and patience to add it all up. Not an easy read or your typical 'making of' book at all.Two thirds of the book is told from the point of view of Aughra, the one and only of her race, the prophet born of rock and stone. She explains to us the history of her world, the great divide of the Urskeks and the creation of uUru and Skeksis.The depth of Brian Froud's imagination is astonishing. The triangular and circular imagery of the film is spelled out so vividly that several reads of each page are needed in order to fully understand it all. The quality of the presentation is of the highest standard. The book is a huge hardback with beautiful pictures in color, black and white and daguerreotype. Some pages are translucent trace paper laid over spirals to give

us a better idea of what they mean. A reproduction of Jim Henson's original presentation to potential backers of the film is included in the back page inserted in a pouch. Investment in this book is well worth the money for fans of the film and those interested in faery mythology and even art students. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Another World, Another Time... In the Age of Wonder By NiTE Owl What a great movie this was. Having grown up on the Muppets of the seventies I think I was predisposed to the Frouds creature design and how the overall story was presented. My kids also loved this 1982 film and now I watch it with the grandson. Truly the mark of a timeless classic. Anyone interested in more, as seen advertised here, there are a few interesting graphic novels available which I very much enjoyed. The Creation Myths trilogy offered by Archaia takes you back to the beginnings, when the Mystics and Skeksis were one entity, and how the whole conflict began. Then TokyoPop put out two smaller manga novels in 2007 that also predate the film, though not so distantly. Haven't got around to the current Shadows story arc. As to this big hardcover, it's a decent tie-in, with its stark imagery and celestial overlays. Oh, and before I go, the grandson (and I) anxiously await the new Funko Pop! ReAction figures that each contain a piece to assemble a Dark Crystal. Good Stuff! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A gorgeous book By Julie Merilatt This book is an amazing tome for anyone who grew up in adoration of The Dark Crystal. Brian Froud's illustrations and concepts are gorgeous and so incredibly creative. This book is delivered as a history of the World in which the film takes place. It is narrated by Aughra, "...the first and last," who witnessed thousands of years of creation and destruction. She monitors the cyclical suns, a spectator of the conjunctions that bring the wise urSkeks, and their division a thousand years later into the cruel Skeksis and the mystical urRu. Aughra alone knows the long history of the crystal and throughout the pages, describes life throughout the ages. There are so many subtleties that the book describes that I can't wait to watch the film again, knowing the significance of the shapes of rocks, the intricate details of the clothes the characters wear, and the elaborate symbolism peppered throughout. The art is gorgeous and the insights into the World of the Dark Crystal shed a new light on the film and its philosophy. Bravo!

Drawings depict the inhabitants and ancient culture of an unusual fantasy world.

From Publishers Weekly This lavish, oversized picture book revisits the collaboration between Froud, prominent fairy artist, and Jim Hensen, Muppeteer, in the creation of their cult favorite The Dark Crystal. Reissued after 20 years, this portfolio of sketches and backdrop paintings retains a certain mystique, crammed to the margins with moss-covered runes and medieval diagrams, and peopled by the movie's menagerie of grotesque, shambling puppets. Unfortunately, the narrative fails to support the elaborate art direction, offering a dim echo of the Lord of the Rings with none of the complexity or scope. The long-nosed Gelflings and vulturish Skeksis—as well as the whole hodge-podge of occult symbols and carefully antiquated tools—come across as strangely arbitrary, constantly reaching for a profundity that never appears. But for the many fans of the movie and young children interested in fantasy-adventure, the book will satisfy greatly. Also included in the package is a preliminary 20-page sketchbook for the production, unseen until now. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Brian Froud, award-winning artist, author, and designer, served as the concept designer of Jim Henson's films The Dark Crystal and Labyrinth. He is also the best-selling author of Abrams' newly released Lady Cottington's Fairy Album, as well as such blockbuster hits as Good Faeries/Bad Faeries, Lady Cottington's Pressed Fairy Album (with Terry Jones), and Faeries, his million-plus-copy bestseller, co-authored with Alan Lee and just re-released by Abrams in a special 25th-anniversary edition. Froud lives with his wife and son in Devon, England.