

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MoMI commemorates Jim Henson's birthday on September 22

A celebratory afternoon including live music, book event with special guests, puppetry workshop, fan meetup, and more—anchored by *The Jim Henson Exhibition*



Pictured: The entrance of *The Jim Henson Exhibition* (Photo by Thanassi Karageorgiou) | [Press gallery](#)

Astoria, New York, September 10, 2024 — Museum of the Moving Image, home of *The Jim Henson Exhibition*, will commemorate Jim Henson's birthday two days early on Sunday, September 22, 12:00–6:00 p.m., with an afternoon featuring special guests and discussion, book signing, a puppet workshop, collectible swap meet, live music in the courtyard, and more to be announced later. Henson, who was born on September 24, 1936, would have turned 88 this year.

This fun afternoon for the whole family is anchored by a visit to *The Jim Henson Exhibition*, a dynamic experience exploring Henson's groundbreaking work for film and television and his transformative impact on culture. MoMI's exhibition, which opened in 2017, is the only permanent destination in New York City where the public can come face-to-face with 50 beloved characters from the worlds of *The Muppet Show*, the Muppet movies, *Sesame Street*, and other productions released during Henson's lifetime.

All afternoon on September 22, the Museum will offer free activities and special treats! Brian T. Carson and his puppet Silly Willy will lead a workshop to teach the basics of

puppeteering for the screen (1:00–5:00), plus a courtyard music performance by John Koozin and the Neighborhood (3:30), and the pop-up **Swa(m)p Meet: Henson Collectibles Marketplace** (3:00–6:00) will feature fun keepsakes from various vendors. No reservations are required for these activities, which are part of the Museum’s Open Worlds initiative.

At 1:00 p.m., the Museum presents **Jim Henson’s Imagination Illustrated: Exploring the Archives of a Creative Mind**, a discussion with rare video clips and photos, featuring Karen Falk, Archives Director of The Jim Henson Company and Vice President of The Jim Henson Legacy, based on her book *Jim Henson’s Imagination Illustrated*. This presentation explores Henson’s story through the lens of his “Red Book” journal and personal and production material drawn from his archives, as well as rare video clips illustrating his creative thinking and the arc of his visionary career. Following the presentation, Jim Henson Legacy President Craig Shemin leads Henson trivia and giveaways. Guests who arrive early can enjoy a banjo performance by musician and Kermit collaborator Lucas Ross. Falk will sign copies of her book in the MoMI Shop following the program.

Museum admission includes a ticket to the 1:00 p.m. program; tickets must be requested upon arrival and will be given out on a first-come, first-served basis. Alternately, tickets may be purchased for the program directly, with the option of adding on gallery access for a small fee upon arrival.

A sold-out musical walking tour through Jim and Jane Henson's New York City will be led by Heather Henson, Joe Hennes (Tough Pigs), and friends.

For more information about programs, visit movingimage.org/henson-birthday-2024.

The Jim Henson Birthday Celebration is supported by a Market New York grant from Empire State Development and I LOVE NY/New York State's Division of Tourism, awarded through the Regional Economic Development Council initiative.

Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI) is the only institution in the United States that deals with the art, technology, enjoyment, and social impact of film, television, and digital media. In its facility in Astoria, New York, the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, and creative leaders; and education programs. It houses the nation’s most comprehensive collection of moving image artifacts and screens over 500 films annually. Its exhibitions—including the core exhibition *Behind the Screen* and *The Jim Henson Exhibition*—are noted for their integration of material objects, interactive experiences, and audiovisual presentations. For more information about MoMI, visit movingimage.org.

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[Press images are available here.](#)

Museum of the Moving Image is located at 36-01 35 Ave, Astoria, Queens, New York.

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Council; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation).