

For Immediate Release

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ABRAMS COMICARTS TO PUBLISH THE FIRST GRAPHIC NOVEL ADAPTATION OF FRANK HERBERT'S DUNE, BY HIS SON BRIAN HERBERT AND KEVIN J. ANDERSON, TO BE ILLUSTRATED BY RAÚL ALLÉN AND PATRICIA MARTÍN, WITH COVERS BY BILL SIENKIEWICZ

New York, NY – October 2019 – Andrew Smith, Senior Vice President and Publisher of Abrams ComicArts, announced today the forthcoming graphic novel adaptation of Frank Herbert's science-fiction masterpiece *Dune*, which will be adapted by Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson and illustrated by Raúl Allén and Patricia Martín. The deal for three books, including world rights, was negotiated by Smith and Charles Kochman, Editorial Director of Abrams ComicArts, with John Silbersack of Trident Media Group and Mary Alice Kier of Cine/Lit Representation. Kochman will be coediting the graphic novels with Charlotte Greenbaum, Editor. The original novel will be adapted into three parts, the first of which will publish October 2020 in hardcover and e-book editions with a 100,000 copy print run. Comics legend Bill Sienkiewicz will create the series logo and a triptych of original art across all three covers.

Brian Herbert says, "I am pleased to present this faithful graphic novel adaptation of my father's masterpiece. This is the first time *Dune* has ever been published in this format and will introduce many new readers to Frank Herbert's fantastic universe."

Kevin J. Anderson adds, "The most exciting part for me is that this is a definitive, scene-for-scene adaptation of *Dune*, faithful to the story as Frank Herbert wrote it, but brought to a visual form. This will be the true graphic novel version of *Dune*."

Dune was first published in 1965 and won the Nebula Award, shared the Hugo Award, and formed the basis of what is undoubtedly considered the grandest epic in science fiction. It will also be the subject of a new film coming out in 2020. Frank Herbert's epic masterpiece is set in the far future amid a sprawling feudal interstellar society and tells the story of Paul Atreides as he and his family accept control of the desert planet Arrakis, the only source of spice, the most important and valuable substance in the cosmos. Faithfully adapted as a graphic novel by Brian Herbert, son of Frank Herbert, and Kevin J. Anderson, both of whom are *New York Times* bestselling authors, *Dune* explores the complex, multilayered interactions of politics, religion, ecology, technology, and human emotion as the forces of the empire confront each other for control of Arrakis.

"It is an honor to add the graphic novel adaptation of *Dune* to the Abrams ComicArts list," says Kochman. "*Dune* has been acknowledged as the inspiration for *Star Wars* and *Game of Thrones* and is even more relevant today than when it was first published, presaging the effects of global warming, water shortages, and increased political upheavals in the Middle East. We are excited by the opportunity to work with Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson, taking this seminal work by Frank Herbert and introducing it to a new generation of readers."

A multifaceted marketing and publicity campaign for *Dune: The Graphic Novel* is planned, including major print and digital advertising campaigns, strong retail promotion across all channels, and a national author tour.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Frank Herbert (1920–86) was the author of *Dune* and its five sequels, as well as numerous other highly praised novels. Herbert became internationally famous for his science fiction novels and was also a newspaper journalist, photographer, short story writer, book reviewer, ecological consultant, and lecturer. His novel *Dune* is one of the bestselling science fiction novels of all time, and the series is widely considered the archetype for all science-fiction that followed. *Dune* is the most admired science fiction novel ever written.

Brian Herbert is the son of legendary science fiction author Frank Herbert and has written the definitive biography of him, *Dreamer of Dune*, a finalist for the Hugo Award. Brian has also written many highly imaginative novels, including the Timeweb trilogy, the ecological fantasy *Ocean* (with his wife, Jan), *The Little Green Book of Chairman Rahma, The Unborn,* and *The Assassination of Billy Jeeling.* His earlier acclaimed novels include *The Stolen Gospels, Sudanna Sudanna,* and *Sidney's Comet*, as well as *Man of Two Worlds* (written with his father). Brian has collaborated on many novels in the Dune series with Kevin J. Anderson, all of which became international bestsellers, and they also collaborated on the Hellhole trilogy. Brian comanages the legacy of Frank Herbert and is an executive producer of the new motion picture *Dune* and the forthcoming TV series *Dune: The Sisterhood.* He and his wife live in Seattle, Washington.

Kevin J. Anderson is an American science fiction author of more than 50 bestsellers. In addition to his original novels, he has written spin-off novels for Star Wars, StarCraft, and The X-Files, and with Brian Herbert he is the coauthor of 14 novels in the Dune series. Anderson has also written numerous comic books, including *Star Wars* and *Predator* for Dark Horse, *Justice Society of America* for DC Comics, *Starjammers* for Marvel, *The X-Files* for Topps, as well as original titles for IDW and Wildstorm. He currently resides in Colorado, with his wife.

Raúl Allén grew up in the town of Valladolid, Spain. He graduated with a degree in fine arts from Salamanca University and moved to Boston to study illustration and design. He currently lives in Spain. Allén has worked for Marvel Comics, Valiant, and DC Comics, with writers such as Matt Fraction, Ed Brubaker, Warren Ellis, Jeff Lemire, Matt Kindt, and Peter Milligan. Allén has also worked on more than a hundred covers for Valiant, Image, Boom! Studios, and Penguin. He has also worked for Quentin Tarantino, *Playboy, Rolling Stone*, the *New York Times*, *Billboard*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. Allén's work has been exhibited in New York, Boston, Washington DC, Rome, Berlin, Stockholm, Buenos Aires, Madrid, and Barcelona. When he is not drawing, Allén directs, shoots, and animates music videos.

Patricia Martín is a letterer, comics artist, and illustrator nominated for multiple Harvey Awards. Born in Spain, she always felt the need to communicate either through writing or drawing. Martín began her career in the field of book publishing with companies such as Oxford University Press, El Jinete Azul, and Barbara Fiore Editora, working on lettering and design. Later on she moved to the illustration and comics industry, and for the last four years he has worked on *Wonder Woman* with Steve Orlando, *Bloodshot Reborn* with Jeff Lemire, *Ninjak* with Matt Kindt, and *Secret Weapon*s alongside artist Raúl Allén.

Bill Sienkiewicz is an Eisner Award–winning, Emmy-nominated artist best known for revamping the style of comics and graphic novel, most notably with Marvel Comics and DC Comics, earning him an international reputation and cult status across media industries. In 1984, Sienkiewicz was chosen by

David Lynch to illustrate the comic book adaptation of his *Dune* movie for Marvel Comics. Sienkiewicz's work has graced museums and galleries worldwide; advertising campaigns for Nike, MTV, the 2006 Winter Olympics, and Nissan; and magazines such as *Entertainment Weekly* and *Spin*. He lives in Los Angeles, California.



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