



INTERVIEW WITH:

SIMON FURMAN &
LAURENT LEFEUVRE

A BIG PART OF **MONSTER FUN** IS THE ONGOING STORY OF THE **LEOPARD OF LIME STREET**; ONE OF BRITAIN'S BEST LOVED SUPERHEROES. WE CAUGHT UP WITH WRITER **SIMON FURMAN** AND ARTIST **LAURENT LEFEUVRE** ABOUT **BILLY**, THE SPOOKY MYSTERY ABOUT **BILLY'S** POWERS, AND THE CONTINUING ADVENTURES OF THE **LEOPARD OF LIME STREET**!

TO START OFF, WE HAVE TO ASK, IN THE MONSTER FUN HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR STORY, TOTEM, WE SEE A MORE SUPERNATURAL SIDE TO BILLY AND HIS POWERS. IS THE MYSTERIOUS ORIGINS OF BILLY'S POWERS SOMETHING YOU'LL BE EXPLORING MORE IN MONSTER FUN?

SIMON FURMAN: WE'RE DEFINITELY DELVING MORE IN BILLY FARMER'S POWERS AND WHERE (AND WHEN) EXACTLY THEY CAME FROM. THE **TOTEM** STORY POSES THE QUESTION: DID SHEBA (THE 'RADIOACTIVE LEOPARD') GIVE BILLY HIS POWERS... OR JUST UNLOCK THEM? THAT'S SOMETHING WE'LL AIM TO ANSWER PRETTY DEFINITELY OVER THE COMING ISSUES OF **MONSTER FUN**.

SO READERS CAN EXPECT TO SEE A NEW TAKE ON THE SUPER HERO ORIGIN STORY HERE, AS BILLY'S PAST IS EXPLORED AS THE STORY GOES ON?

SF: YES, AND WE START DOING EXACTLY THAT IN FIRST ISSUE OF **MONSTER FUN**, AND GO FROM THERE! THE STORY IN ISSUE ONE WAS CALLED **BIRTHRIGHT** AND IT'S BILLY WONDERING MORE ABOUT HIS ACTUAL PARENTS AND WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM. BILLY LIVES WITH UNCLE CHARLIE AND AUNTIE JOAN AFTER LOSING HIS PARENTS, BUT ARE THERE A LOT OF FARMER FAMILY SECRETS TO UNCOVER!

HAS THAT INFLUENCED WHAT SORT OF TALES YOU'LL BE TELLING - IS THERE AN ONGOING STORY, LIKE A FIRST YEAR STORY ARC, WE'RE LOOKING AT HERE?

SF: DEFINITELY! THE FIRST ARC IS ALL ABOUT EXPLORING BILLY'S PAST AND HERITAGE, AS WELL AS INTRODUCING A PROPER "ROGUE'S GALLERY" OF ENEMIES FOR THE **LEOPARD OF LIME STREET**. EVERY SUPER HERO NEEDS VILLAINS TO FIGHT, AFTER ALL!

CURRENTLY BEING ONE OF THE ONGOING STORIES IN THE COMIC, WILL THE LEOPARD OF LIME STREET BE APPEARING IN EVERY ISSUE OF MONSTER FUN?

SF: THEY'LL HAVE TO PRISE ME OUT OF **MONSTER FUN** WITH A CROWBAR! I'M IN FOR THE DURATION, SO EXPECT MORE EXCITING STORIES INVOLVING THE **LEOPARD OF LIME STREET** IN UPCOMING ISSUES!

WHAT WAS IN LIKE SEEING THE LEOPARD STORY IN THE HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR? WAS IT A HIT?

SF: I THINK SO, YEAH. OLDER READERS IN PARTICULAR ENJOYED THE STORY, AND HOPEFULLY AS WE MOVE THE STORY FORWARD WITH EACH ISSUE THEY'LL CONTINUE TO BE INVESTED IN THE STORY.



BUT REALLY MY HOPE IS THAT ALL READERS ARE JUST ENJOYING THE SPOOKY TONE, THE MONSTROUS ENEMIES, AND FIND BILLY'S QUEST TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT HIMSELF RELATABLE AND INTRIGUING.

LAURENT LEFEUVRE: A FEW READERS HAVE CONTACTED ME TO TELL ME NICE THINGS, AND IT'S VERY NICE TO READ. IT'S GREAT TO KNOW THERE ARE SO MANY FANS OF THE COMIC STRIP OUT THERE RIGHT FROM THE START IN THE SPOOKTACULAR!

LAURENT, YOU'VE CREATED A REALLY DISTINCTIVE LOOK WITH THE ART FOR LEOPARD. WILL THAT STYLE BE CARRIED ON BEYOND THE FIRST ISSUE?

LL: ON THE SCRIPT SIDE, SIMON BUILDS OUT AND ENRICHES THE STORY, WHILE I TRY TO BRING OUT THE GREAT MODERNITY OF THE STORYTELLING AND THE IMPECCABLE DYNAMISM OF COMIC BOOKS THAT GIVE THE SERIES A REAL EXCITING PUNCH! SO DEFINITELY EXPECT MORE ART FROM ME IN THE FUTURE - LEOPARD IS SUCH A GREAT SERIES TO DO THE ART FOR, I LOVE IT!

CAN YOU TELL US WHAT CAN WE EXPECT FROM THE LEOPARD OF LIME STREET IN THE FUTURE?

SF: WELL... THE WHOLE THRUST OF THE STORYLINEW IS DESIGNED TO REALLY START PEELING BACK THE LAYERS OF THE LEOPARD OF LIME STREET, SO HOPEFULLY EVERY INSTALMENT HAS A TWIST OR TURN NO ONE SAW COMING! SO READERS WILL 100% WANT TO KEEP UP TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT... AND WHAT MASSIVE GAME-CHANGERS WE ARE GOING TO THROW AT

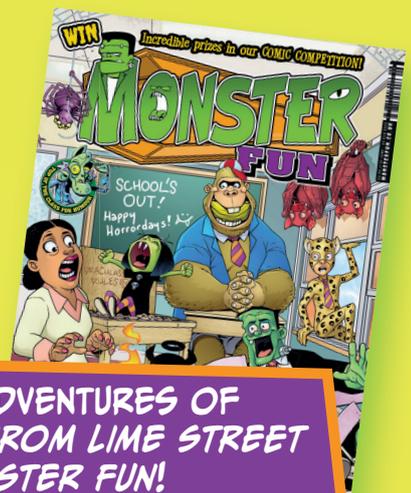
BILLY/THE LEOPARD NEXT!

LL: INDEED, WE'RE IN A PROCESS OF INTRODUCING A MYTHOLOGY TO THE SERIES, SO EXPECT TO SEE A FULL AND VIBRANT WORLD THAT GROWS WITH EACH ISSUE OF MONSTER FUN!

AND FINALLY, WHAT'S NEXT FROM YOU BOTH?

SF: MORE CREATOR-OWNED PROJECTS, MORE TRANSFORMERS, AND A BUNCH OF EXCITING THINGS I CAN'T TALK ABOUT YET. BUT THE LEOPARD FROM LIME STREET IS TOP RIGHT NOW - LOVING EVERY PAGE, EVERY PANEL OF IT!

LL: I'M DOING MORWWWE OF MY FOX-BOY SERIES, AND DRAWING SIMON'S WONDERFULLY EVOCATIVE SCRIPTS OF THE LEOPARD AT THE SAME TIME. I'M HONOURED TO BE A PART OF IT, AND I HOPE THAT READERS WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED IN WHAT WE HAVE IN STORE. SO LONG LIVE THE LEOPARD!



READ THE ADVENTURES OF THE LEOPARD FROM LIME STREET IN MONSTER FUN!