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Press Kit &

Packhowl Media, independent producer of immersive audio fiction and Realm partner, launches a Kickstarter campaign to help fund the continuation of its ambitious political science fantasy epic, *The Madness of Chartrulean*.

<u>chartrulean.com</u>

Read now







The Madness of Chartrulean, Ambies-nominated sci-fi podcast, is crowdfunding for season two

THE KICKSTARTER LAUNCHES TODAY FOR THE "OPPENHEIMER-MEETS-DUNE" EPIC



VOL. 1 COVER ART BY ANH LE

[AUSTIN, August 31, 2023] — Packhowl Media, an independent audio fiction production company and Realm partner, is thrilled to announce the launch of a Kickstarter for the second season of its awardnominated political science fantasy podcast, The Madness of Chartrulean.

Showrunner H.M. Radcliff is raising funds to support the independent production, which includes an original score by award-winning composer Sean Renner (Hulu's Das Boot, The Tobacconist) and a cast led by Aud Andrews, who received a 2023 Ambies nomination for Best Performance in a Fiction Podcast for his performance as Chartrulean.

Described as a unique fusion of Oppenheimer, Dune, and Shakespearean tragedy, its first season has been praised for its cinematic sound design, cerebral and sprawling story, and enigmatic performances from more than 50 voice actors.

"Chartrulean is a one-of-a-kind audio adventure," said Nick Prufer, Founder and Chief Content Officer of Apollo Podcasts. "It raises the bar of production with its incredibly detailed sound design, breathtaking character development, and a story that will keep you guessing.".

The show was an official selection for prestigious web festivals including L.A. Web Fest and the Baltimore Next Media Web Fest. Its second season will be its first as a Realm partner.

"This ambitious audio drama, with its captivating fusion of Shakespearean tragedy, dark fantasy, and classic sci-fi elements, seamlessly aligns with Realm's commitment to delivering immersive and captivating storytelling," says Krystle Waters, Network Lead at Realm. "We can't wait to introduce the new season to our dedicated Realm listeners."

Set on the fictional planet of Arcas, The Madness of Chartrulean follows Chartrulean, a failed messiah battling cosmic forces against the backdrop of technology, religion, war, politics, and ecology. The second season takes Chartrulean to the desert city of Idrica, where he is accompanied by Havelion, his protege, and Sophrosyne Starbringer, a princess on a parallel quest for self-discovery.

The Kickstarter campaign, running from August 31 to October 1, seeks to raise \$4,900 for the production and will offer backers the chance to be a part of the production process, with early releases, VIP access, and limited merchandise available exclusively to supporters.

For more information and to support the Kickstarter campaign, visit chartrulean.com. You can listen to Vol. 1 on most popular podcast platforms, and subscribers on Apollo (mobile app) gain access to ad-free episodes, deleted scenes, and supercuts. Sean Renner's original soundtrack is streaming on most music platforms.

For media inquiries contact: H.M. Radcliff, director of Packhowl Media <u>Downloadable media</u> Email: info@packhowlmedia.com Website: <u>https://www.chartrulean.com</u> Kickstarter: <u>https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/packhowl/the-madness-of-chartrulean-vol-2</u>

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"By far the most intriguing science fiction series since the Expanse... It has the grandness and lore of Dune combined with the great poetic stylings of the Greek classics."

Review by Steve Foot, Audible

"The creators of TMoC have absolutely mastered cinematic sci-fi audio drama... From the first minute, the show genuinely sounds other-worldly and it makes the complex, meticulous world building so believable."

Review by AMC on Podchaser

ART BY ANH LE



Awards & recognition

Aud Andrews, who stars as the titular character Chartrulean, was nominated for Best Performance in a Fiction Podcast by The Ambies 2023, alongside Dominic Monaghan, Billy Boyd, Cole Sprouse (winner), and more big industry names (<u>Hollywood Reporter</u>).



"It is always a delight to be able to portray a character, like Chartrulean, who is cerebral and emotionally complex. Spending time in that headspace was both fascinating and cathartic" says Andrews.

-Aud Andrews, voice of Chartrulean

The show has also received nominations from L.A. Webfest (Best Director, Best Sound Design, and Best Sci-Fi Fantasy Podcast), and is an official selection of Minnesota, Baltimore, and Apulia Webfests.



About The Madness of Chartrulean

IS IT THE TECHNOLOGY WE PIONEER, OR IS IT THE QUALITY OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT WE CARRY WITH US TO NEW FRONTIERS?

Synopsis: Chartrulean was destined to be the savior the people wanted, but abandoned a life of piety to become what he believed the world needed. He ended a war, but now mysterious cosmic forces drive him to madness, and the timing couldn't be worse. A delicate game of politics is afoot, and Chartrulean is torn between those he's grown to trust and the gods he's angered. He must reconcile with both before succumbing to the madness he created.



The story takes place on Arcas, a world that mirrors our own. Arcas is dying from industrialization, and the slow diminishing of resources has its people looking to the stars for hope.

This is relevant to our own world as we grapple with pollution, climate change, deforestation, and other ecological disasters that may have an impact on the longevity of our species.

<u>Read more</u>

Genre: Sfi-fi, fantasy, political drama Language: English

70k downloads

4.7 average rating (Apple Podcasts & Spotify)

3k subscribers

Iohrs of content 13 full length episodes 5 story compendiums I minisode Havelion's Journal (Interactive) 2hrs of Original Soundtrack





EXCLUSIVE CONTENT AVAILABLE ON

Volume 1 was independently distributed in thirteen episodes and five short story compendiums between September 8, and December 15 2022.

Its parent company, Packhowl Media, joined the Realm network in February, 2023. *The Madness of Chartrulean* is joined by *The Nebulous Saga*, and *Tales for Howling at the Full Moon (Anthology)*.

Distributed by

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"This show combines [a great story and outstanding sound design] in a way that I'd expect to hear from a big-studio production."

Review by Mr. Furious, Apple Podcasts

"This has been a truly breathtaking experience for me, to listen to this story, to listen to Chartrulean's doubts and mental health has touched me more than most stories I have come across in the Last 10 years. A true masterpiece to rate alongside Dune."

Review by S.G. Mulholland

"The ethereal music, the excellent sound design, the brilliant performances all make this an outstanding immersive experience."

Review by Olivier Bosman

ART BY RAYVEN STUDIOS

About the Creators

H.M. Radcliff is the visionary behind The Madness of Chartrulean and the director of Packhowl Media. Inspired to break free from the constraints of traditional film and video production, Radcliff embraced podcasting as a creative outlet. As a staunch advocate of independent art, Radcliff strives to create impactful stories and unite creators under one roof to amplify each other's work

By day, she is employed by <u>Dell Blue</u>, the internal media agency for Dell Technologies.





The score is composed by Sean Renner, whose film and television credits include all three seasons of the Sky TV/Hulu television series Das Boot, nominated for 9 German Television Academy awards including "Best Music," as well as the feature film The Tobacconist (2019), for which he was nominated for a Jerry Goldsmith Award for the song "Underwater." The score was recorded with the Invoke Sound string quartet from Austin, TX.

About Packhowl Media

Packhowl Media is an independent production company committed to creating high-quality audio fiction. It aims to amplify the voices of marginalized creators and build a thriving community of independent audio fiction enthusiasts. Its award-nominated lineup of shows includes *The Madness of Chartrulean*, *Tales for Howling at the Full Moon*, and *The Nebulous Saga*.





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