

= Valérian and Laureline =

Valérian and Laureline (French : Valérian et Laureline) , also known as Valérian : Spatio @-@ Temporal Agent (French : Valérian , agent spatio @-@ temporel) or just Valérian , is a French science fiction comics series , created by writer Pierre Christin and artist Jean @-@ Claude Mézières . First published in Pilote magazine in 1967 , the final installment was published in 2010 . All of the Valérian stories have been collected in graphic novel album format , comprising some twenty @-@ one volumes plus a short story collection and an encyclopaedia . Valérian is one of the top five biggest selling Franco @-@ Belgian comics titles of its publisher , Dargaud .

The series focuses on the adventures of the dark @-@ haired Valérian , a spatio @-@ temporal agent , and his redheaded female colleague , Laureline , as they travel the universe through space and time . Valérian is a classical hero , kind @-@ hearted , strong and brave who follows the orders of his superiors even if he feels , deep down , that it is the wrong thing to do . On the other hand , his partner Laureline combines her superior intelligence , determination and independence with sex @-@ appeal . Influenced by classic literary science fiction , the series mixes space opera with time travel plots . Christin 's scripts are noted for their humour , complexity and strongly humanist and left @-@ wing liberal political ideas while Mézières ' art is characterised by its vivid depictions of the alien worlds and species Valérian and Laureline encounter on their adventures . The series is considered a landmark in European comics and pop culture , and influenced other media as well : traces of its concepts , storylines and designs can be found on science fiction films such as Star Wars , The Fifth Element , and Avatar .

Many of the stories have been translated into several languages , including English . The series has received recognition through a number of prestigious awards , including the Grand Prix de la ville d 'Angoulême . An animated television series , Time Jam : Valerian & Laureline , was released in 2007 .

= = Concept and setting = =

The original setting for the series was the 28th century . Humanity has discovered the means of travelling instantaneously in time and space . The capital of Earth , Galaxy , is the centre of the vast Terran Galactic Empire . Earth itself has become a virtual utopia with most of the population living a life of leisure in a virtual reality dream @-@ state while ruled by the benign Technocrats of the First Circle . The Spatio @-@ Temporal Service protects the planets of the Terran Empire and guards against temporal paradoxes caused by rogue time @-@ travellers . Valérian and Laureline are two such spatio @-@ temporal agents .

However , since the end of the story The Wrath of Hypsis (Les Foudres d 'Hypsis) in which Galaxy disappears from space @-@ time as a result of a temporal paradox the pair have become freelance trouble @-@ shooters travelling space and time offering their services to anyone willing to hire them while also searching for their lost home .

In the first two albums Valérian travels through time in a two @-@ seater device , the XB27 , which transports him to the various relay stations that Galaxy has hidden throughout time (e.g. in Bad Dreams (Les Mauvais Rêves) the relay is hidden below a tavern) . In subsequent stories Valérian and Laureline use the saucer @-@ shaped Astroship XB982 (which made its debut appearance in 1969 in the short story The Great Collector (Le Grand Collectionneur) . The astroship is able to travel anywhere using a spatio @-@ temporal jump , a sort of hyperspace drive enabling near @-@ instant transportation anywhere in space and time .

The initial albums were generally straightforward good versus evil adventure stories that employed a great many well @-@ worn clichés . However , thanks to Pierre Christin 's interests in politics , sociology and ethnology , as the series progressed the situations typically arose from misunderstandings or ideological differences between various groups that could be resolved through reason and perseverance . The core theme of the stories is an optimistic liberal humanism : the adventures are not about defeating enemies but about exploring , facing challenges , and celebrating diversity . Thus , according to academic John Dean , Christin " as a rule works into his

narratives political , environmental and feminist concerns ? thereby showing social ills are universal , no matter on what planet you land " .

Another concept that developed was Galaxy as a proxy for Western democracy ; contrary to its benign self @-@ opinion it is imperialistic and prone to a corrupt real @-@ politik . Other themes include :

Natural simplicity as superior to technological complexity .

Rejection of machismo , violence and war in favour of femininity and nature .

Distrust of power and the suppression of individuality .

Women being able to manipulate males sexually without being manipulated themselves .

These themes are underpinned by the vivid drawings of Jean @-@ Claude Mézières whose " visually stunning backgrounds : complex architecture , futuristic machines , otherworldly landscapes and odd @-@ looking aliens " , are what John Dean calls " staples of Mézières ' seeming boundless visual inventiveness " , resulting in what the artist Pepo Pérez likens to " National Geographic , but on a cosmic scale " .

= = Principal characters = =

= = = Valérian = = =

Valérian was born on Earth , in Galaxy , capital of the Terran Galactic Empire in the 28th century . He joined the Spatio @-@ Temporal Service in the year 2713 . He has been trained to think that Galaxy is always right ? even when he receives orders that go against his morals he will , reluctantly , follow them . He much prefers to be a man of action than sitting around pondering what course to take next .

The early stories present Valérian as a typical square @-@ jawed hero figure , who is strong and dependable (although an early running joke was that despite being a time @-@ traveller he is always running late , especially when summoned by his boss) . However , as the series progresses , he is increasingly portrayed as somewhat knuckle @-@ headed . In World Without Stars (Le Pays sans étoile) , he gets recklessly drunk on the colonists ' home @-@ made booze , in On the False Earths (Sur les terres truquées) , the historian , Jadna , views him as useful only as cannon fodder and nothing else while in Heroes of the Equinox (Les Héros de l'Equinoxe) , he comes across as woefully inadequate compared with the champions he is competing against . Although devoted to Laureline , he has been led astray by other women , such as in Heroes of the Equinox and Brooklyn Station , Terminus Cosmos .

When Galaxy disappears in The Wrath of Hypsis he contemplates following his fellows into oblivion , much to Laureline 's horror . Even afterwards , he feels the loss of Galaxy much more than Laureline , as it is his birthplace .

The name Valérian comes from Eastern Europe , although its origin is Latin , from valere (" to be strong ") . Valérian was created by Mézières and Christin as a reaction to the fearless boy @-@ scout (e.g. The Adventures of Tintin) and American superhero characters that were prevalent in comics available in France at the time . Instead they sought to devise a " banal character " with " no extraordinary means of action " . Eventually , with Christin feeling that they had gone too far with this angle and that the Valérian character had become too stupid , from The Ghosts of Inverloch (Les Spectres d'Inverloch) onwards , Valérian was made more sympathetic and given a greater piece of the action .

= = = Laureline = = =

Laureline is a peasant girl from 11th century France . In the debut adventure , Bad Dreams , she rescues Valérian from the enchanted Forest of Arelaune . When she accidentally discovers Valérian is a time @-@ traveller , he is forced to bring her back with him to Galaxy where she is trained as a Spatio @-@ Temporal Agent and assigned as his partner .

In the early stories Laureline generally sits in the background while Valérien saves the day in whatever situation the pair have found themselves in , but her position changes as the series develops . World Without Stars , in which the two characters are separated for most of the adventure , allows Laureline to step out from under Valérien 's shadow for the first time , and she proves to be more than an equal to Valérien in ensuring that their mission succeeds .

Welcome to Alflolol (Bienvenue sur Alflolol) brings Laureline 's rebellious nature to the fore ; unlike Valérien , she has not been born and raised by Galaxy and is prepared not only to question Galaxy 's authorities but to rebel openly against them when their orders run contrary to her sense of morality . It also demonstrates her impulsive streak ; she sides with the native Alflololians against Galaxy and Valérien with no thought for the personal consequences she may have to face herself . Her position as the true star of the series is cemented in Ambassador of the Shadows (L 'Ambassadeur des Ombres) , which is virtually a solo adventure for her as she searches the vast space station Point Central for the kidnapped Valérien and the Earth Ambassador . Later , when acting as independent agents , it is Laureline who questions the ethics of some of the jobs they are forced to take to make ends meet , notably in The Living Weapons (Les Armes Vivantes) .

Despite being independent and efficacious , Laureline is not afraid to exploit her considerable sex appeal if it is to her advantage . For example , she attracts the attention of the Emperor of Valsennar in World Without Stars and , dressed in leather gear and boots , she manipulates Crocbattler and Rackalust in Brooklyn Station , Terminus Cosmos and regularly charms the Shingouz when negotiating with them for information . She has appeared nude in some adventures . Mézières drew a picture of her for the French edition of Playboy in 1987 .

She also has a certain affinity for animals such as the Alflololian Goumon in Welcome to Alflolol , the Grumpy Converter from Bluxte , first seen in Ambassador of the Shadows , and the Tüm Tüm (de Lüm) and the Tchoung @-@ Tracer , both introduced in On the Frontiers (Sur les Frontières) .

The name " Laureline " was invented by Mézières and Christin who were seeking a name that would sound " medieval " and " soft " . The name has proven popular and there are now several thousand women in France named Laureline , the first one born in 1968 just a year after the publication of Bad Dreams . There have also been variations such as " Loreline " and " Laurelyne " . Laureline was initially created just for the first story , Bad Dreams , but recognising that they had a female character who was different from the bimbo types common to comics of the time , Mézières and Christin fell for her and , in response to positive reader feedback , retained her for the subsequent stories .

== Other characters ==

=== Mr Albert ===

Mr Albert is Galaxy 's contact on 20th century Earth . He makes his first appearance in Métro Châtelet , Direction Cassiopeia . He is a retired gentleman who drives an obsolete Renault 4CV and lives in the suburbs of Paris , France . He maintains a wide range of contacts in government and scientific circles as well as with many experts in fields outside the mainstream such as ufology , telepathy , and sorcery . He is also a pigeon fancier and uses his carrier pigeons to relay messages between some of his contacts . Unlike Valérien he tries to avoid getting involved in the thick of the action and never acts impulsively , always preferring to take his time about things . He enjoys the finer things in life : gourmet cuisine , fine wines and likes to take things easy .

The character of Albert is partially influenced by that of August Faust , the main character in the strip The Extraordinary and Troubling Adventure of Mr August Faust (L 'extraordinaire et Troublante Aventure de M. August Faust) , written by Fred and drawn by Mézières in 1967 .

=== The Shingouz ===

The Shingouz are aliens who make their first appearance in Ambassador of the Shadows and re

@-@ appear regularly throughout the subsequent albums . They are brown , short @-@ furred creatures , slightly less than a metre tall , resembling flightless birds with a snout instead of a beak . Their appearance is reminiscent of the main characters in the Mad magazine comic strip Spy vs. Spy .

Shingouz have a high alcohol tolerance and preference for strong alcoholic beverages , which they consume in large quantities . The Shingouz society is capitalist to the extreme . Shingouz want a profit from everything they do . They are especially adept in trading important and sensitive information to interested parties . Valérien and Laureline have struck up a relationship with a group of three Shingouz who have a particularly useful network of contacts in all the major space communities . They are especially fond of Laureline , which she often uses to her advantage in striking favourable deals with them .

= = Origins = =

Childhood friends Jean @-@ Claude Mézières and Pierre Christin had previously collaborated on the comic strip Le Rhum du Punch (Rum Punch) in 1966 while both were living and working in the United States . Upon their return to France they initially intended to create a Western strip but , with the genre already well represented in French comics thanks to Lucky Luke , Blueberry and Jerry Spring , Christin instead proposed that they turn their hand to science fiction , a genre he felt was unrepresented in French comics at the time . The decision to work in the science fiction genre was also influenced by the political climate in France at the time ; Mézières and Christin saw Valérien as a " backdoor " means to react against the prevailing doctrine of Gaullism . Although science fiction was not a favourite of Pilote editor René Goscinny , Goscinny wanted his magazine to be diverse and innovative and so agreed to commission Valérien .

There had been French science fiction comics before Valérien such as Kline 's Kaza the Martian (a childhood favourite of Mézières) , Roger Lecureux and Raymond Poivet 's Les Pionniers de l 'Espérance (The Pioneers of Hope) (which Christin found tired and repetitive) and Jean @-@ Claude Forest 's Barbarella . Barbarella is famous for its strong , female , titular character , but Christin has denied any influence on the character of Laureline stating that she was inspired by Simone de Beauvoir 's The Second Sex as well as the burgeoning feminist movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s . However , contemporary reviews of the early stories by Jean @-@ Pierre Andrevon describe the books as " Forestian " . Mézières and Christin were also heavily influenced by literary science fiction such as that by Isaac Asimov (especially The End of Eternity) , Jack Vance (especially The Blue World) , and John Brunner . Jean @-@ Marc and Randy Lofficier have also suggested that Poul Anderson 's Time Patrol books , about an official organization dedicated to protecting time from interference , are a major influence on the series .

Christin has also cited the whodunit genre ? notably novels by Georges Simenon and Ed McBain ? as an influence on Valérien since they taught him , as a writer , that all characters in a narrative must be seen to have motivations .

Mézières ' drawings in the early albums were influenced by such " comic @-@ dynamic " artists as Morris (Lucky Luke) , André Franquin (Spirou et Fantasio) and Jack Davis (Mad magazine) , leading Jean @-@ Pierre Andrevon to refer to Valérien as " a kind of Lucky Luke of space @-@ time " . As the series progressed , Mézières developed a more realistic style , akin to that of Jijé , though in more recent albums he has returned to the more cartoonish style of the earlier stories .

= = Legacy = =

= = = In comics = = =

Valérien 's arrival on the French comics scene was contemporaneous with the debuts of other notable French science fiction strips including Luc Orient by Greg and Eddy Paape and Lone Sloane by Philippe Druillet . The success of these strips would eventually lead to the creation of Métal

Hurlant , the highly influential French comics magazine dedicated to science fiction . The influence of Valérian has been noticed in such strips as Dani Futuro (by Víctor Mora and Carlos Giménez) and Gigantik (by Mora and José Maria Cardona) . The visual style of Valérian has also had an impact on some American comics artists , notably Walt Simonson and Gil Kane . Sometimes the impact of Valérian has gone beyond mere influence ; following a complaint by Mézières , the artist Angus McKie admitted that several panels of his strip So Beautiful and So Dangerous were copied from Ambassador of the Shadows .

= = = In other media = = =

Outside of comics , the Valérian series has been particularly influential on science fiction and fantasy film .

Several commentators , such as Kim Thompson of The Comics Journal , film critic Jean @-@ Philippe Guerand and the newspaper Libération , have noted certain similarities between the Valérian albums and the Star Wars film series . Both series are noted for the " lived @-@ in " look given to their various settings and for the diverse alien creatures they feature . Particular instances of similarities between the two series , which the above have cited , include :

The design of Valérian and Laureline 's XB982 astroship and the Millennium Falcon spaceship that appears in Episodes III ? VII of Star Wars .

A scene in There 's No Time Like the Present where Valerian escapes by falling into a laundry washing vat , exits through a portal at the bottom of the vat , and falls out of a hole at the bottom of the space station hanging from a sheet with The Empire Strikes Back where the character Luke Skywalker escapes Darth Vader by falling down a chasm , goes through a vent , and falls out of Cloud City hanging from an antenna .

A scene in Empire of a Thousand Planets (L 'Empire des Mille Planètes) where Valérian is encased in a liquid plastic and a scene in The Empire Strikes Back where the character Han Solo is encased in a substance called carbonite .

The slave @-@ girl costume worn by Laureline in World Without Stars and the costume worn by the character Leia Organa in the scenes where she is enslaved by Jabba the Hutt in Return of the Jedi

A scene in Empire of a Thousand Planets where one of the Authorities removes his helmet to reveal his burned and scarred face underneath and a scene in Return of the Jedi where the character Darth Vader removes his helmet to reveal the burned face of Anakin Skywalker .

The alien Shingouz and the Toydarian character Watto seen in The Phantom Menace .

The concept of the Clone wars , where a whole army has the face of a cloned single man (Valerian himself) is featured in the final scene of On the False Earths .

Mézières ' response upon seeing Star Wars was that he was " dazzled , jealous ... and furious ! " . As a riposte , Mézières produced an illustration for Pilote magazine in 1983 depicting the Star Wars characters Luke Skywalker and Leia Organa meeting Valérian and Laureline in a bar surrounded by a bestiary of alien creatures typical of that seen in both series . " Fancy meeting you here ! " says Leia . " Oh , we 've been hanging around here for a long time ! " retorts Laureline . Mézières has since been informed that Doug Chiang , design director on The Phantom Menace , kept a set of Valérian albums in his library .

Mézières has also noticed similarities between some of the sets in the 1982 film Conan the Barbarian and the planet seen in Birds of the Master (Les Oiseaux du Maître) and between some of the production sketches for the alien fighters in the 1996 film Independence Day and Valérian and Laureline 's astroship .

The 1999 Danish film Mifune 's Last Song , directed by Søren Kragh @-@ Jacobsen , features a character , Rud , who is a fan of Linda and Valentin (as Valérian is known in Denmark) who believes the character of Liva is in fact Linda (i.e. Laureline) .

Jean @-@ Claude Mézières himself has worked as a concept artist on a number of science fiction film projects . The first of these was in 1984 for director Jeremy Kagan who was attempting to adapt René Barjavel 's novel La Nuit des temps (The Ice People) . The film was never made . This was

followed , in 1985 , by a proposed adaptation of Arkady and Boris Strugatsky 's novel Hard to Be a God for director Peter Fleischmann . This film was eventually finished in 1989 though Mézières ' concepts for the film were barely used . The art Mézières produced for both projects was later published in Mézières Extras .

In 1991 Mézières began work producing concept art for the director Luc Besson for his film The Fifth Element . When the project stalled and Besson moved on to work on the film Léon in 1994 , Mézières returned to Valérien for the album The Circles of Power (Les Cercles du Pouvoir) . This featured a character , S 'Traks , who drove a flying taxi around a great metropolis on the planet Rubanis . Mézières sent a copy of the album to Besson who was inspired to change the background of Korben Dallas , the lead character of The Fifth Element , from a worker in a rocketship factory to that of a taxi driver who flies his cab around a Rubanis @-@ inspired futuristic New York . Mézières produced further concept drawings for Besson , including flying taxi cabs . He also re @-@ used certain aspects of the design of the space liner seen in the 1988 Valérien album On the Frontiers for the Fhloston Paradise liner seen in second half of the film . The Fifth Element was finally completed and released in 1997 . The importance of the four classical elements to the film is similar to the significance the elements have in the two @-@ part Valérien story Métro Châtelet , Direction Cassiopeia and Brooklyn Station , Terminus Cosmos . However , Besson has claimed that he first came up with the idea for the film at the age of 16 which would pre @-@ date the publication of these two albums .

= = = Awards = = =

Valérien and its creators have also received recognition through a number of prestigious awards . Most notably , in 1984 , Jean @-@ Claude Mézières was honoured with the Grand Prix de la ville d 'Angoulême for his comics work , including Valérien . Mézières and Christin also received a European Science Fiction Society award for Valérien in 1987 and the album Hostages of the Ultralum (Otages de l 'Ultralum) won a Tournesol award , given to the comic that best reflects the ideals of the Green Party , at the 1997 Angoulême International Comics Festival . The encyclopedia of the alien creatures found in the Valérien universe Les Habitants du Ciel : Atlas Cosmique de Valérien et Laureline (The Inhabitants of the Sky : The Cosmic Atlas of Valerian and Laureline) received a special mention by the jury at the 1992 Angoulême International Comics Festival in the Prix Jeunesse 9 ? 12 ans (Youth Prize 9 ? 12 years) category .

Valérien has also been nominated for a Haxtur Award in 1995 for The Circles of Power and for a Harvey Award in 2005 for The New Future Trilogy , an English @-@ language compilation of three of the albums .

= = Publication history = =

= = = Original publication = = =

Valérien first appeared on 9 November 1967 in issue # 420 of the Franco @-@ Belgian comics magazine Pilote , and every Valérien story from Bad Dreams to The Rage of Hypsis was initially serialised in Pilote . The second Valérien story , The City of Shifting Waters (La Cité des Eaux Mouvantes) , was the first to be collected in graphic novel album format by Dargaud . Since On the Frontiers , every Valérien story has debuted in album format . Seven short stories were also published in the digest @-@ sized Super Pocket Pilote in 1969 and 1970 and later collected in Across the Pathways of Space (Par Les Chemins De l 'Espace) in 1997 . The series was originally published under the title Valérien : Spatio @-@ Temporal Agent . However , with the publication of The Order of the Stones in 2007 , the series now goes under the title Valérien and Laureline .

On 22 January 2010 , the last album , L 'OuvreTemps (The Time Opener) , was published . With this album the authors concluded the entire comic series with the intention to prevent the series from

becoming weak , or staggering behind newer comics . However , Christin has written a 270 @-@ page Valérian and Laureline novel , Lininil a disparu (Lininil has disappeared) , and indicated that Valérian and Laureline will continue to live on in a yet unspecified form .

= = = English translations = = =

The first Valérian album to be translated into English was Ambassador of the Shadows which was serialised across four issues of the magazine Heavy Metal in 1981 (Volume 4 , Number 10 (January 1981) to Volume 5 , Number 1 (April 1981)) .

Ambassador of the Shadows was later republished in English in album format as were World Without Stars , Welcome to Alfollol and Heroes of the Equinox by the short @-@ lived Dargaud @-@ USA and Dargaud @-@ Canada between 1981 and 1984 and in the United Kingdom by Hodder @-@ Dargaud in 1984 and 1985 .

In 1989 it was announced that NBM Publishing were going to reissue the four English language albums published by Dargaud @-@ USA and also release a translation of Empire of a Thousand Planets but nothing seems to have come of this .

Heroes of the Equinox was republished in July 1996 in black and white by Fantasy Flight Publishing (an offshoot of Fantasy Flight Games) in two issues as standard American sized comic @-@ books as part of an unsuccessful attempt to translate and print several European comic book series including Spirou et Fantasio and Lucky Luke .

In November 2004 , iBooks published Valérian : The New Future Trilogy , collecting the albums On the Frontiers , The Living Weapons and The Circles of Power in one volume reduced to standard American graphic novel size . These were the only Valérian stories iBooks published and the company has since declared bankruptcy .

UK publisher Cinebook is currently publishing English language editions of Valérian at a rate of one volume every six months . Ten volumes had been published by the end of 2015 .

= = = In other languages = = =

Many of the Valérian stories have been translated from their original French into several other languages , including German (as Valerian und Veronique) , Dutch (as Ravian : Tijd / ruimte @-@ agent) , the Scandinavian languages (Danish , Icelandic , Norwegian and Swedish) (as Linda og / och Valentin) , Finnish (as Avaruusagentti Valérianin seikkailuja) , Spanish , Portuguese (as Valérian , agente espácio @-@ temporal) , Italian , Turkish , Polish , and Indonesian : .

= = Adaptations to other media = =

= = = Animated television series = = =

The notion of making an animated adaptation of Valérian dates back to at least 1976 . In 1982 , Mézières produced concept art for an episode titled The Asteroids of Shimbailil (Les Astéroïdes de Shimbailil) which was later published in 2000 as an appendix to the album release of Bad Dreams . In 1991 , Dargaud Films financed the production of a three @-@ minute pilot , directed by Bernard Deyriès and animated by Studio 32 in Paris and Luxembourg , but nothing came of this venture . Several stills from this pilot episode were published in Mézières Extras . Another pilot , directed by Florient Ferrier , was made by the French animation studio 2 Minutes in 2001 . Nothing came of this attempt either .

An animated series entitled Time Jam : Valerian and Laureline made its debut on Canal + Family in France on 20 October 2007 . In total , forty 26 @-@ minute episodes have been made . The series is a Franco ? Japanese co @-@ production , directed by Philippe Vidal .

The scripts have been written by a French team under the supervision of Peter Berts while Charles Vaucelles was responsible for the realisation of the characters and Vincent Momméja was

responsible for the design of the locations and spacecraft . Music is by Alexandre Azzaria . In the French dub of the series Valérian is voiced by Gwendal Anglade and Laureline by Mélodie Orru . Three trailers were released to promote the series : the first on 24 April 2006 , the second on 10 October 2006 and the third on 30 August 2007 .

The series differs from the original comics in that Valerian comes from the year 2417 , instead of 2720 , and meets Laureline in the year 912 instead of 1000 . Whereas in the comics Valerian takes Laureline back to the 28th century without any trouble , in the animated series this results in Earth disappearing from the solar system .

According to Animation World Network , " Time Jam - Valerian & Laureline sets out to answer the question : Where on Earth has Earth gone ? Valerian and Laureline , our two young heroes , seem to be the only representatives of the human race in the unsafe galaxy where the nightmarish Vlagos are conspiring to control the world . Sent out on an assignment by the head of STS (the Spatial @-@ Temporal Service) , Valerian and Laureline discover the existence of a time @-@ portal , a mysterious phenomenon , which may hold the key to the recovery of Earth . The series from Dargaud Marina mixes 2D and CGI animation with an anime touch " . The series has also been sold to Belgium , Spain , Israel and Morocco .

= = = Feature film = = =

In 2012 , it was announced that Luc Besson planned to make a movie for the big screen of Valérian and Laureline . The film will start shooting in January 2016 and will star Dane DeHaan and Cara Delevingne . It is to be released on July 21 , 2017 .