



Seeds & CIVILIZATION THE SERIES

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The MegaBlog is heating up for Portland author R.J. Archer

Portland, Oregon – November 18, 2006

National Geographic's November 7 article by Brian Handwerk about "Armchair Archaeology"¹ is exactly what Portland author R.J. Archer has been doing of late. When Archer set about conducting research for the third novel in his mystery/adventure series, *Seeds Of Civilization*, he developed an unexpected interest in underwater archaeology—especially in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. He began a blog hoping to consolidate information from experts in various fields—dive teams, satellite photo researchers, archaeologists and anthropologists. His blog at **www.TheMegaBlog.com** supports the idea that ancient maritime cultures existed along submerged coastlines all over the world and are now becoming "visible" thanks to Google Earth and other satellite photo sites. These once-inhabited areas were submerged by rising waters after the last Ice Age, supporting Graham Hancock's claim that ancient civilizations existed on Earth long before those of Egypt and Mesopotamia. Archer coined the term "*Mega-America*," to differentiate the Caribbean areas now covered by water from their land-based neighbors in *Mesoamerica*.

"As the experts come together and offer information from their individual areas of expertise, we should be able to develop a better picture of these early civilizations," says Archer. "It's my hope to publish a non-fiction report of my findings when the blog is complete, and I'll also draw information from it for my third novel."

Asked what awakened his interest in submerged monuments, he responded that Yonaguni Island—in Japan's southern-most chain—served as the stage for his second novel, *Tsubute*, (March 2006) and subsequent correspondence with Angie Micol of Satellite Discoveries provided key information for his upcoming third novel, *Triangle*, expected to be published in mid-2007. He explains that, "The term 'Mega' was borrowed from the name given to an alleged 'submerged city' off the coast of Cuba, discovered by a Canadian salvage team in 2000. I'm still trying to get credible evidence of its existence, but other recent discoveries may prove to be even more important. William (Bill) Donato's research around Bimini Road and Andros Island, in the Bahamas, may figure into my storyline for *Triangle*."



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 THE SERIES

R.J. Archer is the author of *TRACTRIX* and *TSUBUTE*, published in 2006 by NWIDI Press. They are books one and two of his mystery/adventure series titled *Seeds Of Civilization*. (See www.SeedsOfCivilization.com)

1 (<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2006/11/061107-archaeology.html>)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

R.J. Archer is a computer consultant and freelance writer who has called the Pacific Northwest home for more than 30 years. His recent mystery/adventure novels, *Tractrix* and *Tsubute*, (published by NWIDI Press), are the first two in a three-part series called *Seeds Of Civilization*. In the series, a team of amateur adventurers from Seattle follow real life archaeological mysteries in a search for answers about the age and origin of Earth's earliest civilizations. During investigations about the ancient Olmec of Mexico and the Yonaguni monument submerged off a southernmost island in the Japanese chain, they come up with answers that are truly "out of this world."

Research for his third novel, *Triangle*, to be released in 2007, led Archer to assemble published findings by many experts. In an effort to clarify these findings and encourage an exchange among the experts, he began his own blog at www.TheMegaBlog.com. He has published other non-fiction, including numerous articles on PC-related topics in both print and electronic magazines and he is currently a Contributing Editor for *The Office Letter* (officeletter.com), a weekly online newsletter that focuses on Microsoft's Office suite.

Mr. Archer holds a Bachelor of Science degree with dual majors in Physics and Mathematics from Portland State University.

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Photos and promotional material are available on the series Website.

For unanswered questions, please write to inquiries@SeedsOfCivilization.com.

To stay up-to-date on the Seeds Of Civilization series, visit

www.SeedsOfCivilization.com/whatsnew.htm or the main website

www.SeedsOfCivilization.com.