



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

If you have not renewed your membership and wish to do so, please contact Micahel Pilletere or myself.

Checkout the Albin Polasek Musuem’s exhibit “Maidens and Monsters”. This has some really classic science fiction art from the pulp era. For more info checkout: polasek.org/?page_id=532

This month also sees the beginning of the Orange County Regional Historical Center’s “Out of this World Extraordinary Costumes” exhibit. This exhibit will contain some costumes from science fiction film and television. The exhibit will start February 6. More info can be found at: thehistorycenter.org/exhibits/upcoming/outofthisworld

Next month I hope to do some more reviews and maybe some awards news.

Takumi Shibano
(柴野 拓美)

Takumi Shibano, the founder of Japanese Fandom, died last Saturday from pneumonia. He was 83.

Shibano was the founder of the first Japanese science fiction fanzine *Uchujin* in 1957. Many of the future pros in Japanese science fiction appeared in *Uchujin* including Sakyo Komatsu, 2007 Worldcon writer guest of honor.

Shibano translated many English works of science fiction including Hal Clement’s *Needle*, Larry Niven’s *Known Space* series, and E.E. Smith’s *Lensman* series. He also wrote three books of his own. Shibano worked as a consultant on several science fiction anime television series.

Shibano was the chair of the first Japanese science fiction convention in 1962. He attended his first Worldcon in 1967 thanks to a fan fund. Shibano was a guest of honor at the 1996 and 2007 World Science Fiction Conventions. The 2007 Worldcon, Nippon 2007, was held in Yokohama, Japan. Bringing to Worldcon to Japan was a goal of Shibano for years. At the Opening Ceremonies, Shibano said that (the first day of a Japanese Worldcon) was one of the best days in his life.

Nebula Awards Weekend

The Nebula Weekend will be held on May 14-16 at the Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront (1550 North Atlantic Ave) Cocoa Beach, Florida. The Nebula Weekend is held by the Science Fiction Writers of America. The Nebula Awards, Damon Knight Grandmaster Awards and the Andre Norton Award are presented this weekend.

Former OASIS Guest of Honor and Florida writer Joe Haldeman will be this year’s recipient of the Damon Knight Grandmaster Award. Haldeman has won 5 Nebulas, 5 Hugos and several other awards. He served as president of the SFWA. He was Guest of Honor at ConFiction, the 1990 World Science Fiction Convention. He will be the 27th Grandmaster.

Events

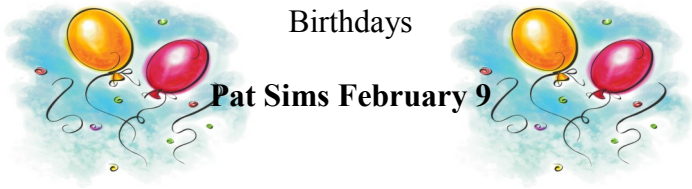
Tampa Comic Book and Toy Convention

February 6
Minnreg Building
6340 126th Ave N.,
Largo, FL 33773
\$5 admission

Guests: Pat Broderick (artist *Green Lantern*),
Chuck Dixon(writer *GI Joe* and *Batman*),
Nicola Cuti (creator of *E-Man*)
Drew Geraci (inker *Justice League*)
Amanda Stevens (comic and multimedia
writer)
Joel Wynkoop (B Movie King),
www.tampacomiconvention.com/

Birthdays

Pat Sims February 9



February OASFiS Calendar

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, February 14, 1:30 PM, Orange Public Library (Downtown Orlando, 101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32801, 407-835-7323). Come join us as we discuss the short fiction of Roger Zelazny.

Sci Fi Light

Saturday February 27, 6:30 PM, Anatolia Medterrian Cusine(7600 Doctor Phillips Boulevard Orlando, FL 32819-7231). Come join us and discuss **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins. For more info contact Steve Grant

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

Philip K. Dick Awards
(source *Locus* web site)

The 2009 Philip K. Dick Award nominees have been announced:

- ***Bitter Angels***, C.L. Anderson (Ballantine Spectra)
- ***The Prisoner***, Carlos J. Cortes (Ballantine Spectra)
- ***The Repossession Mambo***, Eric Garcia (Harper)
- ***The Devil's Alphabet***, Daryl Gregory (Del Rey)
- ***Cyberabad Days***, Ian McDonald (Pyr)
- ***Centuries Ago and Very Fast***, Rebecca Ore (Aqueduct Press)
- ***Prophets***, S. Andrew Swann (DAW)

The Awards are presented annually to a distinguished work of science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States. The winner and any special citations will be announced April 2, 2010 at [Norwescon 33](#) in SeaTac WA. For more, info see www.philipkdickaward.org.

British Science Fiction Award
(source *Locus* website)

Best Novel

Ark, Stephen Baxter (Gollancz)
Lavinia, Ursula K. Le Guin (Gollancz)
The City & The City, China Miéville (Macmillan)
Yellow Blue Tibia, Adam Roberts (Gollancz)

Best Short Fiction

"Sinner, Baker, Fabulist, Priest; Red Mask, Black Mask, Gentleman, Beast", Eugie Foster (*Interzone* #220)
The Push, Dave Hutchinson (Newcon Press)
 "Johnnie and Emmie-Lou Get Married", Kim Lakin-Smith (*Interzone* #222)
 "Vishnu at the Cat Circus", Ian McDonald (*Cyberabad Days*)

OASFiS People

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Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan.

"The Beloved Time of Their Lives", Ian Watson & Roberto Quaglia (***The Beloved of My Beloved***)

"The Assistant", Ian Whates (***The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction: Volume Three***)

Best Non-Fiction

Canary Fever: Reviews, John Clute (Becon)

"I Didn't Dream of Dragons", Deepa D. (*Deepa D.'s Blog*)

"Mutant Popcorn" film column, Nick Lowe (*Interzone*)

A Short History of Fantasy, Farah Mendlesohn & Edward James (Middlesex University Press)

Best Artwork

Cover art project for ***20,000 Leagues Under the Sea***, by Nitzan Klamer

Cover of ***Desolation Road***, by Stephan Martinière

"Emerald", Stephanie Pui-Min Law

Covers of *Interzone* issues #220, #224, and #225, by Adam Tredowski

There are only four nominees in the Best Novel category, and six nominees in the Short Fiction and Best Artwork categories, due to multiple ties. The awards are voted on by members of BSFA and the British Annual Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon). Winners will be announced during [Odyssey \(Eastercon 2010\)](#), to be held April 2-5, 2010 in Heathrow, London.

Daybreakers

(POSSIBLE SPOILERS)

Daybreakers is a vampire film written and directed by Michael and Peter Spierig. Willem Dafoe, Ethan Hawke and Sam Neill star in the film. The film was made in Queensland, Australia and was distributed by Lionsgate.

In the near future a plague has made vampirism a reality. By 2019, the majority of the population are vampires. Humans are on the verge of becoming extinct. Pure blood supplies are low. Vampires who do not get enough blood mutate into bat-like creatures and become feral. Bromley Marks, a pharmaceutical firm, is the chief supplier of human blood in this new vampire world. Bromley Marks' owner, Charles Bromley (Sam Neill), is determined to keep the supply going and avert global disaster. Dr. Edward Dalton, (Ethan Hawke) a hematologist, works for Bromley Marks. Dalton is trying to develop a blood substitute. Dalton encounters some humans on the run and helps them escape. One of the humans, Audrey (Claudia Karvan), asks Dalton to meet her in a remote location. Audrey introduces Dalton to Lionel "Elvis" Cormac. Cormac may have the solution to crisis. Can Dalton figure out the solution in time?

Despite its horror trappings, this feels like a science fiction film. Vampirism is treated as a disease rather than being supernatural. The Spierigs create a world of vampires. We see how this world is set up in first 10 minutes of the movie, which shows Dalton's commute to work each day. It's a nocturnal world. Blood is attained in coffee shops in the subway terminals. Cars are designed to keep the sunlight out and allow the driver to see the outside through cameras. The movie faces a very scientific problem, what happens to a society when resources are dwindling. The vampires are trying to find new resources (hunting free humans) and finding an alternative substitute. The film actually shows scientists setting up experiments to test their theories.

The film takes time to focus on character. Dalton is a reluctant vampire and fears losing what is left of his humanity. Bromley embraces his vampirism, since it prevented him dying of terminal disease. Still, he is frustrated that his daughter refuses to change over. Both humans and vampires want to live in a world free of fear.

The vampire makeup is very well done. The fangs are distinctive but not too long. Long fangs break the suspension of disbelief for me. It was also a good touch to give all the vampires amber-colored eyes. It gives them a distinct alien look.

The opening sequence showing Dalton's commute to work was very well shot. The lighting was great. It is our first look into this world. It gives the viewer a ton of exposition through visuals rather than dialogue.

The action is gory. There is blood, dismemberment, and extreme violence. It serves the story. This is a disparate world. Vampires and humans are determined to survive. The action is brutal but reflects this desperation.

Despite the incredible problems the protagonist face, the film still offers hope. More horror films should do so.

The Lovely Bones

(POSSIBLE SPOILERS)

The Lovely Bones is directed by Peter Jackson. Philippa Boyens, Peter Jackson, and Fran Walsh wrote the screenplay, which was based on the novel by Alice Sebold. It stars Saoirse Ronan, Mark Walberg, Rachel Weisz, Stanley Tucci, Susan Sarandon, and Michael Imperoli. The film was made by Film4 Productions and Wingnut Productions with Dreamworks and Paramount as distributors.

Susie Salmon (Saoirse Ronan) is 14-year-old teenage girl in the 1970s. On the way home from school, Susie is attacked and killed by a neighbor named George Harvey (Stanly Tucci). We see Susie go into the afterlife. There Susie is able to see how her family is affected by her death. She also gets to observe the actions of her killer. Will her family be able to deal with her death? Will her killer be caught?

Connie Willis said that ghost stories should be disturbing. Death is treated as very real in the film. There is no coming back from it like in superhero comics. This is disturbing; the movie makes it more disturbing, since Susie's life seems full of promise. Susie's afterlife has beautiful meadows and artifacts from Susie's life. A highly-respected critic says that the film implies that Susie is happier after her murder. Susie accepts her new situation because she really does not have any other choice.

The film makers do a good job establishing Susie's family life. The Salmons are not super perfect like the Bradys, or super dysfunctional. One sees parents trying their best to raise the kids and siblings who loved each other and occasionally irritated each other. When tragedy strikes, the family handles that in a believable fashion. One sees anguish and frustration and the unhappy by-products of both.

The scriptwriting team made the right changes in the plot in order to get the film to fit the time specification. The film could have benefitted with more time to focus on Abigail (Susie's mother), Ray Singh (Susie's first and only love) and Ruth Conners (a classmate who seems to be able to feel Susie). More time on Abigail would have cleared up some confusion people had over her leaving and returning to her family.

Stanley Tucci does a good job playing Harvey. He blends into the background. He is shown as a pathetic, lonely man and does not evoke any sympathy.

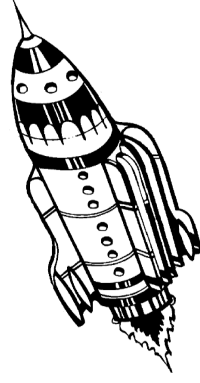
The effects really complement the film. No one knows for certain what the afterlife is. It should be fantastic, a place where anything can happen. The choices made in color and imagery make the afterlife scenes feel otherworldly. One sees a world not bound by any rules.

The film does a good job depicting a family dealing with a tragic loss which is not an easy thing to deal with. It is something that one never fully gets over. One learns how to deal and move on. The film presents this well.

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
IN ORLANDO

OASIS 23

May 28-30, 2010



Writer Guests of Honor
Sharon Lee and Steve Miller

Liaden series
Balance of Trade, Fledgling,
Carousel Tides

Artist Guest of Honor
Richard C Livingston
Conceptual Artist and Designer
Battlestar Galactica (2003)
Mulan, Tarzan(1999), Lilo and Stitch

Joe Fan
123 Sesame Street
Orlando, FL 32805

Hotel Information

\$89/night, single-quad
through 4/30/10
Mention OASIS for rate

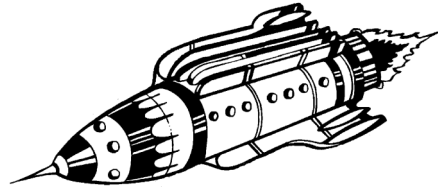
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Orlando, Florida 32801
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1-800-574-3160

Weekend Memberships:
\$30 until 1/1/10,
\$35 until 4/30/10,
\$40 at the door.

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www.oasfis.org

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Fan Guest of Honor
Michael Hinman
Creator & Site Coordinator of *Airlock Alpha.com,*
Rabid Doll.com, Inside Blip.com

Filk Guest of Honor
Rob Balder

Rich Fantasy Lives,
For Amusement Only,
"Always a Goth Chick",
"Sympathy for George Lucas",
PartiallyClips, Erfworld.

Gaming info will be at
www.warhorn.org/OASIS23/

Author Signings, Costume Contest,
Live Music and Comedy,
Anime and Video Programs,
Art Show and Auction,
Informative Panel Talks,
Artist Demos Books,
Cool Stuff for Sale,
Fun and Games
Charity Auction