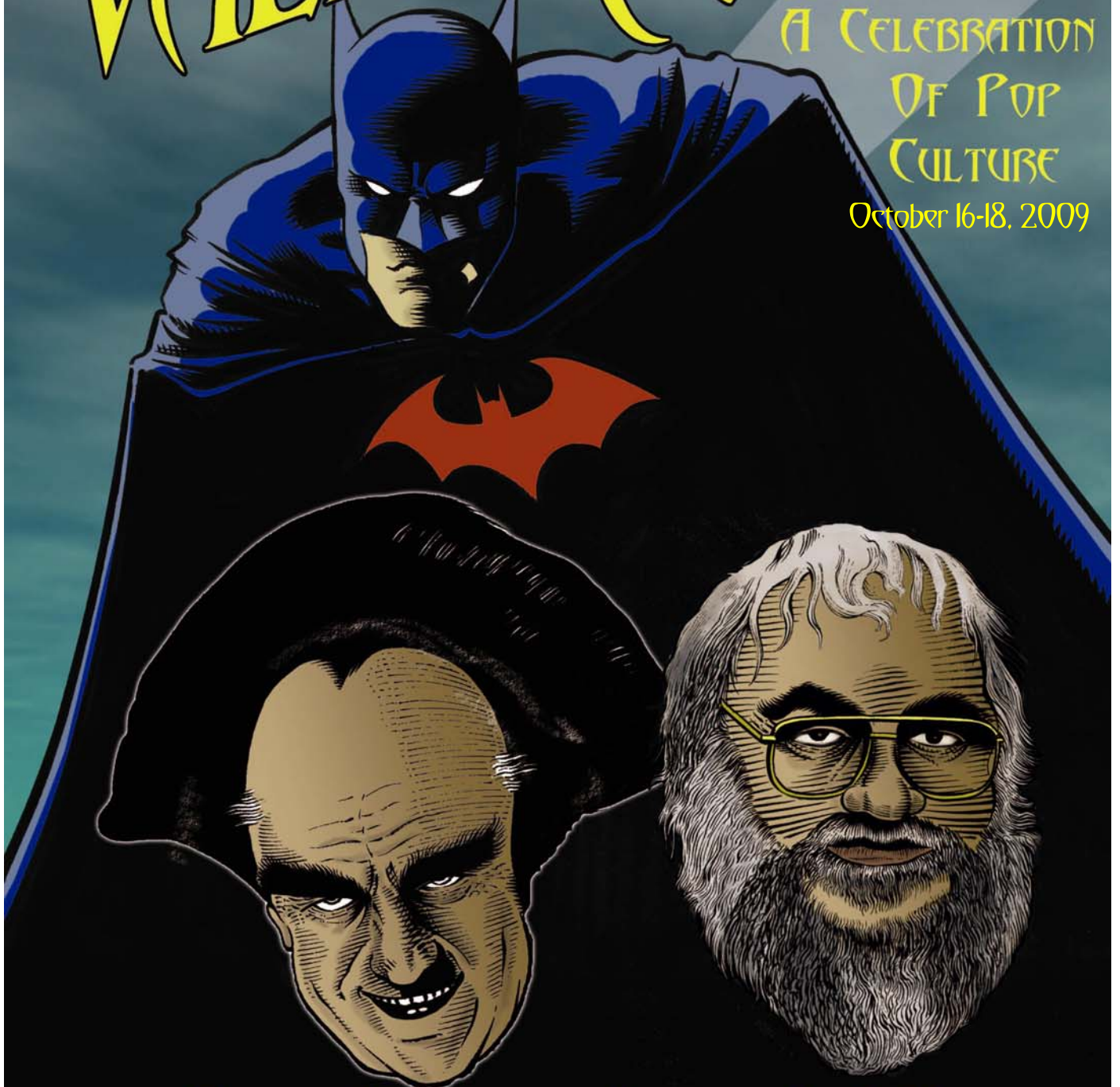


VALLEYCON

35

A CELEBRATION
OF POP
CULTURE

October 16-18, 2009



PETER JURASIK

GEORGE R R MARTIN

JOEL "MOJO" MOEN

PROGRAM EDITION

Keep Watch Over Your Soul.

SEASON TWO PART ONE
AVAILABLE ON DVD

10.9.09



YOU SHOULD BE WATCHING AT FUNIMATION.COM/DGRAYMAN

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Welcome!

ValleyCon 35: The Fargo Entertainment Expo is designed to be an event for all ranges of interest in popular culture, highlighting the sci-fi, fantasy, horror and related genres. We just want everyone to have a great weekend and celebrate the fun in entertainment! There are events for all levels, from film and video presentations, panels and workshops or just browsing and meeting our fantastic guests: **GEORGE R.R. MARTIN, PETER JURASIK and JOEL "MOJO" MOEN!**

This year we are celebrating many landmark events including the 70th anniversary of **BATMAN**, the upcoming release of a new iteration of **SHERLOCK HOLMES** with a look at the 50th anniversary of the Hammer Studios classic version of **HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES**, We also have our biggest year of programming for the **FARGO FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL VII** with over 50 films entered! There are some of the filmmakers here so please, check out the film schedule! We also have a **HUGE** Gaming and tournament schedule so partake thru the weekend!

I just want to thank everyone who helped this year, especially Chuck Lang, Leah McGregor, Dagan McGregor, Alissa Franck, Krista Arendes, Stacy Atkinson, Dan Hillstrom, Lew Dailey, Roz Corwin, Sam Swalley, Steve Eldred and especially Rich Early of Paradox Comics! We have many others to thank from our organization to many outside of it so please forgive me if I leave anyone out.

We especially want to mention our generous sponsors and supporters: **Spirit Halloween Superstore, FUNIMATION, Games By James, The Asylum (film), KVRN-TV, Go Radio, NDSU, MSUM Comics Club, SITE ON SOUND, Dave Jacobs, SHOWBIZ SOFTWARE**, and many, many more! Last but not least is the guy who started it all well over 30 years ago, Rudy Sigmund.

Have a great weekend and look forward to next fall when we bring best-selling author **TIMOTHY ZAHN** to Fargo! The dates are set in stone, the guest is completely confirmed and we are finalizing our media guest and others (which will be announced very soon). *Please help us bring this event to you by pre-registering at the hugely discounted rate!* It saves you money and helps us, as it is virtually impossible to present this annual fall blast without some much-needed operating capital.

Tony Tilton

Chairman-ValleyCon 35: the Fargo Entertainment Expo and Fargo Fantastic Film Festival 7!



It was about the time that **Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope** first came to the Fargo Theater that I became involved with the Red River Science Fiction and Fantasy club/organization and Valleycon. Of course back then it was just Star Wars. And back then they let you stay for as many showings of the film as you wanted to during the day/night. So, all told, I saw Star Wars 34 times in the theater during it's first and subsequent runs. I often brought peanut butter and jelly sandwiches securely protected by tin foil in my coat pockets and bought a lot of Coca Cola at the concession stand. You could also buy really good popcorn at a stand just next to the Fargo Theater and bring it into the theater with you.

Forgive the trip down memory lane. I just wanted to give you an idea how long Valleycon and R2SF2 (my term) has been a part of my life. For its founder, Rudy Sigmund, and a few others, the memories go back even farther.

And, amazingly so, we are still going strong. We still are doing our best to promote and celebrate all kinds of speculative fiction in every possible format in an ever expanding community of fans. R2SF2 and Valleycon always have and always will welcome every kind of fan imaginable.

Whether you love comics, online and in-person role-play gaming, books, TV, movies, theater, art, anime or chat groups...we're glad you are here. Like the restaurant claims: when you are here, you are family.

Valleycon 35 has a lot to offer each of you. Tony and the planning committee have worked unbelievably hard for many months to bring you this amazing collection of eclectic entertainment experiences. We have uniquely talented and internationally respected guests of honor. Welcome them warmly to Fargo and let them know in polite and honest ways how much you enjoy their work. We have dealers from at least five states here, so visit them often and support them generously. Enjoy the gaming, panels, art, banquet, costume show, charity auction, and whatever other activities interest you. This year the Fantastic Film Festival has an unprecedented quantity and quality of films for you to enjoy, so sit down and appreciate these amateur films whenever you can. And finally, we have an amazing group of con suites for you to socialize with new and old friends in a wide variety of ways.

So, be kind to each other, peace bond your weapons, try and eat from at least 2 food groups, and most importantly: have fun.

Steve Eldred

President: R2SF2



I'M BATMAN. Here are the rules. Everybody follows them, we get along. If not... ask Clayface how he got his... clayface. When you accepted your badge, you agreed to these rules so let's keep it fun and civil. Any Boy-Wonder hi-jinks will result in some Frank Miller-esque pounding... do I look like I'm kidding?!

Badges are your ticket. It also tells us you belong here. Badges **MUST** be worn at all times, especially in the consuite areas. We will eject anyone who cannot show they belong here.

21 is the legal drinking age. I'm Batman-I enforce the laws.

Anyone acting like the Joker will have their... will not be tolerated. Let's have fun, shall we?

Get some rest, eat something, shower, use deodorant, be polite... you'd be amazed how many times I have to tell my ward that. Teenagers and hormones... don't make me tell you that.

No smoking ANYWHERE unless expressly approved (which basically means nowhere).

No photography in the Art Show and ask permission for video/audio, etc. with any guest. If they did not give you consent, you **DO NOT HAVE IT!**

Special rules apply to weapons for costumes, etc.. look 'em up and follow them.

Decisions of those running the event are final and carry the weight of the hotel and law enforcement behind it. Yes, for all purposes, they "own" the place while they are here.

Enjoy the events and if you have any questions, ask the Chairman!

The Standard Announcements of issues, rules, etc. we are legally obligated to make-and you to accept or leave the premises (as we won't allow you to stay and yes, we have every legal right to do so!). Cheers!

DRINKING

21 is the legal drinking age. Hospitality Suites ARE NOT RUN BY VALLEYCON and some do serve alcohol, so it is up to them to card. They will do so VIGOROUSLY. Even if you look like you're 95, a **PHOTO I.D. IS REQUIRED**. Party Suites have the ABSOLUTE RIGHT to refuse service or entrance to anyone. ValleyCon will not tolerate underage drinking and anyone caught doing so will have his or her memberships revoked and criminal prosecution may occur.

SMOKING

According to State Law, virtually ALL areas of the Doublewood are NON-SMOKING and are marked as such. There is ABSOLUTELY NO SMOKING IN ANY FESTIVAL PANELS, ART SHOW, MERCHANTS ROOM, GAMING, OR OTHER DESIGNATED AREA. Smoking is allowed ONLY in designated private rooms or at least 20 feet away from the outside entrance.

LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS

ValleyCon is NOT responsible for stolen, lost or misplaced items. Please take care of your belongings. In the event of something going missing, check with the hotel front desk or at the ValleyCon registration table. *Note-we do cooperate fully with the Fargo Police Dept.

WEAPONS POLICY

Antique Firearms (guns) - Are not allowed

Firearm replicas (toy guns) - Are not allowed (except completely peace-bonded and approved per person)

Pikes and Halberds- Are not allowed

Swords, Knives, Dirks & Daggers - Must be completely sheathed and *peace-tied*.

Axes, Claymores & Maces - Are strongly discouraged but if you insist Axes must be sheathed and *peace-tied*. Claymores and Maces must be *peace-tied* to your person (strapped to your back, tied to your belt, etc.)

Bow & Arrows - Arrows are not to be drawn at any time. Bows must be un-strung and arrows tied in to the quiver.

Walking sticks/Quarterstaves - Are allowed

Any other variation of weapons with distinction to be made by ValleyCon ONLY!

Definitions:

Sheath: a protective covering, usually of thick leather that protects the edge of the blade, the wearer and anyone near them from damage. The sheath must cover the entire blade, not just the tip.

Peace-tied: the method of securing a weapon to the sheath, belt or body of the wearer. If the weapon is not peace-tied upon arrival at the festival front gate a worker must peace tie it for you.

No drawing of any weapon at any time.

If a weapon is drawn, the patron is subject to loss of weapon, removal from ValleyCon and/or prosecution by authorities.

All patrons must be at least 18 years old to carry a weapon on site.

This policy applies to anyone carrying a weapon in with him or her or purchasing a weapon while at ValleyCon.

March 5-7, 2010
 Holiday Inn Select
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www.marscon.org/2010
 info10@marscon.org

MarsCon 2010

Dark Lords & Femme Fatales



John Garner, Fantasy Artist
 John has won numerous awards, and his artwork has been published in books and magazines including TSR's *Dungeon Adventures* magazine, Starslayer gaming module, Cloud Kingdom Games and *Fantasy Art Now*.



Gwynyth Walsh, Star Trek's B'Etor
 Gwynyth is possibly best known for her portrayal of B'Etor, the younger of the politically influential Klingon Duras Sisters on *Star Trek*. She has also appeared in *Taken*, *Smallville*, *Forever Knight*, and *Alien Nation*.

The Nick Atoms, Rock Legends

Dr. Ted Nelson, Coburn, and Wyngarde perform rock versions of your favorite television and movie theme songs. The Nick Atoms disappeared under mysterious circumstances some 5 years ago. Witness their triumphant return to MarsCon for their grand reunion/farewell performance.



Loretta McKibben, JPL Ambassador
 Loretta has worked on two NASA Mars mission instrument teams at the University of Arizona: the Mars 2001 Odyssey Gamma-Ray Spectrometer, which discovered water on Mars, and the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter's (HiRISE) camera.



Room Reservations:

Call 952.854.9000 or 1.800.HOLIDAY
 Be sure to mention MarsCon to get the reduced rate

Rates for MarsCon 2010

Cut off dates	10/31/09	01/31/10	At the door
Adult/Teen	\$35.00	\$45.00	\$60.00
Child (age 6-12)	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$25.00
Supporting	\$20.00	\$25.00	+\$25.00
Sponsor	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00

Please mail the form below with your payment (no cash) to the following address:
 MarsCon
 P.O. Box 21213
 Eagan, MN 55121

MarsCon 2010 Pre-Registration

Name: _____
 Badge Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Phone: _____ Alt Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Badge type:

- Adult/Teen
- Child (6-12)
- Supporting
- Sponsor

Amount Enclosed: _____

Badges do not designate adults over 21. Expect to be asked for a valid ID at all parties serving alcohol.

I need information about:

- Dealers' Room
- Art Show
- Gaming
- Masquerade
- Party Room

Please email me:

- Mars Today updates
- Progress reports as PDFs

I want to volunteer! Please circle the area(s) where you would like to help:

Art Show — Badgers/Gophers — Charity Auction — Con Suite — Gaming — Masquerade — Operations
 Programming — Registration — Science — Setup/Tear down — Stage Crew — Wherever I'm needed most!

George R.R. Martin



George R.R. Martin began writing very young, selling monster stories to other neighborhood children for pennies, dramatic readings included. Later he became a comic book fan and collector in high school, and began to write fiction for comic fanzines (amateur fan magazines). Martin's first professional sale was made in 1970 at age 21: "The Hero," sold to *Galaxy*, published in February 1971 issue. Other sales followed.

In 1970 Martin received a B.S. in Journalism from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, graduating summa cum laude. He went on to complete a M.S. in Journalism in 1971, also from Northwestern.

As a conscientious objector, Martin did alternative service 1972-1974 with VISTA, attached to Cook County Legal Assistance Foundation. He also directed chess tournaments for the Continental Chess Association from 1973-1976, and was a Journalism instructor at Clarke College, Dubuque, Iowa, from 1976-1978. He wrote part-time throughout the 1970s while working as a VISTA Volunteer, chess director, and teacher. He was writer-in-residence at Clarke College from 1978-79.

Moving on to Hollywood, Martin signed on as a story editor for *Twilight Zone* at CBS Television in 1986. In 1987 Martin became an Executive Story Consultant for *Beauty and the Beast* at CBS. In 1988 he became a Producer for *Beauty and the Beast*, then in 1989 moved up to Co-Supervising Producer. He was Executive Producer for *Doorways*, a pilot that he wrote for Columbia Pictures Television, which was filmed during 1992-93. Martin's short story, *Nightflyers*, was adapted into a 1987 feature film.

In 1991 Martin briefly returned to writing novel-length stories, and began what would eventually turn into his epic fantasy series, *A Song of Ice and Fire*, which is projected to run to seven volumes. The first volume *A Game of Thrones* was published in 1996. In November 2005, *A Feast for Crows*, the fourth book in this series, became *The New York Times* #1 Bestseller and also achieved #1 ranking on *The Wall Street Journal* bestseller list. In addition, in September 2006 *A Feast for Crows* was nominated for both a Quill award, and the British Fantasy Award. The series has received praise from authors, readers and critics alike. Martin is currently engaged in writing *A Dance With Dragons*, the fifth book in the series.

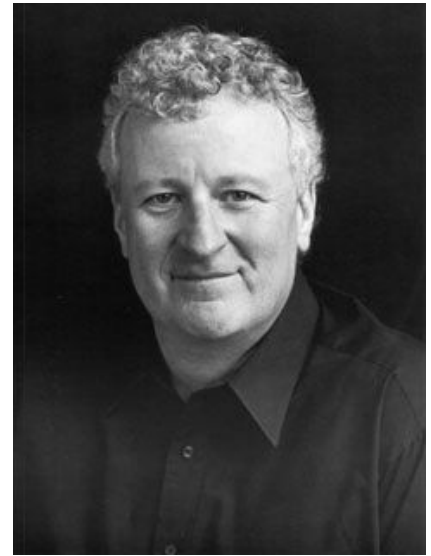
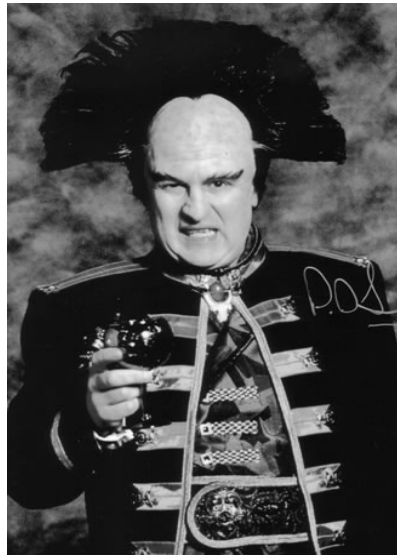
It was announced January, 2007 that HBO Productions has purchased the broadcast rights for the entire *A Song of Ice and Fire* series, with George also serving as co-executive producer on the project. The plan calls for each book from the series to be filmed over an entire season's worth of episodes. Production will take place in the UK and Martin is reported to have agreed to script one episode per season. The first film based on "Game of Thrones" is in production with an excellent cast including Sean Bean, Lena Headey and Peter Dinklage. It is said to do for epic fantasy what HBO's "True Blood" has done for vampires!

ValleyCon is THRILLED to host George this weekend! George will be at ValleyCon 35 Friday, Saturday and Sunday with programming running the entire weekend. He will be conducting a reading of material from his soon-to-be-released new novel in the *A Song of Ice and Fire* series as well as conducting panels on writing, comics and much more. George will be around ValleyCon all weekend so stop by and chat with this world-famous New York Times #1 bestselling author and show him what Minnesota and North Dakota nice are all about!

NDSU IMPACT

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PETER JURASIK



Peter Jurasik began his professional career as a stage actor working in off Broadway productions in New York and later in tours and regional theaters up and down the east coast. In 1975, he moved to Los Angeles beginning a twenty-five year run as a character actor continuing to act on stage, but additionally working in feature films, in nightclubs doing comedy and especially on television with hundreds of TV appearances in both comedies and dramas.

Peter 's first work in LA was writing and performing nightclub comedy, but in time, the opportunities expanded to include television, films, more stage, and eventually even a published novel and a music CD. A few years back, he finished a five-year run portraying the outrageous Londo Mollari on the award-winning sci-fi show, *Babylon 5*; however, audiences also seem to remember his work on *Hill Street Blues* as Sid the Snitch and for a collection of various fruits and nuts throughout the eighties and nineties on a wide variety of television movies, series, and films. For a complete list of his work, check out www.peterjurasik.com.

After twenty-five years in LA, he recently migrated back to the east coast with his wife and son, where he is currently living in a small town near the Atlantic Ocean and happily teaching at a local university.

His recent work includes roles on: *One Tree Hill*, *Drop Dead Diva*, *Runaway Jury* - feature film released October 2003, *Stateside* - feature Film release date Spring 2004, *Dawson's Creek* - WB series recurring role, April 2001/02. For a much more complete list, see Peter's imdb page! Peter has been one of the most in demand character actors since the 1970's with roles on shows like: *Family*, *Barney Miller*, *The White Shadow*, *M*A*S*H*, *Taxi*, *Family Ties*, *Fame*, *Bay City Blues*, *Night Court*, *MacGyver*, *Remington Steele*, *Scarecrow and Mrs. King*, *Columbo*, *Dear John*, *Father Dowling Mysteries*, *Growing Pains* and many, many more! Peter was also in a featured role in the cult classic film *TRON* and later worked on *L.A. Law* and *3rd Rock From the Sun*.

Peter will be at ValleyCon 35 on Saturday, with his panel presentation scheduled for the afternoon. He will be around the festival all day Saturday but will be leaving Sunday so come by to see this talented and versatile actor before he's gone!

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Joel "MOjo" Moen started out his career as an inking assistant to Tom Nguyen on such books as: Major Bummer, Superman- Man of Steel, JLA, Batman, and X-men Unlimited. Soon after he was contracted to ink the book "Hellion" from upstart company Dead Dog Comics. MOjo stayed on at Dead Dog Comics for 8 years as Editor-in-Chief while also inking, writing, or scripting the books: Bad Company Incorporated, Mydevil, >From Heaven to Hell, Night of the Living Dead: Barbara's Zombie Chronicles, Curse of the Blood Clan,, and Cryptic Magazine. MOjo's latest project is a 35W bridge crash story for Negative Burn with Pete Krause and Jeff Limke called: 13 seconds and Mojo is collaborating with ValleyCon chairman Tony Tilton on a graphic novel adaptation of Tony's upcoming feature film!

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Tina Holland was born in Frankfurt, Germany to military parents and is a self-proclaimed military brat. She has been writing since childhood and continues to be prolific at least in starting manuscripts.

Tina began her career by attending a Romantic Times Convention in 2003, and writing a short story for Kathryn Falk's Bordella series. After additional encouragement Tina decided writing was a dream worth pursuing. Her debut e-book, *The Pilot and the Pinup* was

released by Liquid Silver Books in 2005.

Tina began writing Erotic Horror her first Anthology *Of Flesh and Blood*. Her story deals with post apocalyptic earth and all matter of creatures that go bump in the night. *Of Flesh and Blood* was chosen as a finalist in 2007 for Anthology of the Year by E-Cata Romance. Tina is currently working on another story in the Sin Vegas Saga where the hero is a zombie - now that should be interesting.

Tina continues to write as her schedule allows. She is active in Romance Writers of America, is a founding member of Women Artists in North Dakota and belongs to the Fargo Writers group. When Tina is not writing she can be found enjoying her hobby farm. It may seem like a desolate place but with her husband, horses, dogs and cats, it's rarely lonely. It's the perfect fit for a wonderful imagination and an opportunity to be a little naughty.

Tina's books can be found at: www.liquidsilverbooks.com and Tina herself can be found at: www.tinaholland.com



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FARGO FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL VII

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

HUMOROUS SHORT FILMS

DEATH IN CHARGE *WINNER-BEST HUMOROUS SHORT FILM

Writer/Director: Devi Snively; Producers: Greg Reeves, Heather Smith.

Don't tell Mom the babysitter's Death...When violent media, handguns and nihilism are ubiquitous, who fears the Reaper? In the tradition of E.C. Horror Comics, this cautionary tale examines life through the eyes of Death who gets derailed when an impatient single Mom carelessly mistakes the scythe-carrying cloaked one for her tardy babysitter and leaves Death to care for her precocious 9-year-old daughter for the evening. Whitney teaches Death about life's many marvels through violent video games, macaroni & cheese, and the magic of Sea Monkeys.

THE AUBURN HILLS BREAKDOWN

The Auburn Hills Breakdown is a horror comedy about a Texas Chainsaw style family. It's the story of Junior, the chainsaw wielding, but fiercely loyal son, who struggles to hold his family together, when they are forced to hide out in the terrifying country home of a deeply superficial, but very lonely yuppie couple. Now, all they have to do is endure one night of horrifying hospitality.

INSOMNIA All the vamprie wanted was a good day's sleep. He just wasn't cut out for apartment living.

GARAGED Bloodied, sweating and anxious, a malfunctioning garage-door and unfortunate twists of fate entomb a young man desperate to escape an unimaginable horror only moments away.

LIQUID COURAGE is what some need to do what must be done.

ANIMATION SHORT FILMS

BOTNIK! *WINNER-BEST ANIMATED SHORT FILM

A lonely beatnik yearns to find acceptance and love in the local art scene. When his artistic talents fail him, he seeks a robotic alternative. Cool man! Retro-style, animated short tells the story of a lonely beatnik who longs to make the hipster art scene and win the love of a cool beat-chick. When artistic block and deadline pressure threaten thwart his aspirations, he creates a robotic doppelganger to solve his problems. Unfortunately a half ton robot programmed with an artistic temperament is rarely the solution to ones problems.

MAX THE HERO

Produced and directed by Mike Salva, the short tells the story of an unlikable superhero. If you want to separate *Max the Hero* from Will Smith's disappointing *Hancock* and its similar theme, remember *Max* is animated, shorter and actually has laughs in it. Written/performed by Bill Corbett, Kevin Murphy & Michael J. Nelson (of TV's "Mystery Science Theater 3000"). Music is by John Mark Painter (score composer of "Hoodwinked") & singer/musician Corn Mo.

MYTHIC JOURNEYS: THE BONE ORCHARD

Writer/Director/Producer: Steven & Whitney Boe.

In this stop-motion adaptation of an ancient myth, a noble king accepts the invitation of a sorcerer, finds himself in a spectral burial ground full of macabre magic, and learns the secret of the universe through a series of riddles.

Beautifully shot in true HD with puppets designed and created by internationally acclaimed artists Brian and Wendy Froud (*The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*) and voiced by iconic actors Tim Curry (*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Legend*), Mark Hamill (*Star Wars: Episodes IV, V, VI*), and Lance Henriksen (*Alien*, *Millennium*), *The Bone Orchard* is a feast for the eyes.

THROUGH THE VIRTUAL CELL

A fantastic voyage through the inner space of cellular biology.

HORROR SHORT FILMS

DEAD CREEK *WINNER-BEST HORROR SHORT FILM

Two sisters, lost in the Vermont woods, must attempt to cross a vast marsh before sundown and come to grips with the terrible tragedy that took place there when they were children.

WILTED

A young man introduces his homecoming date to his mother, a gravely ill woman with sinister intentions.

TINTED WINDOWS

Charlie Driscoll's night takes an unexpected turn when a mysterious stranger urgently insists on getting inside Charlie's car.

A LIFE LESS LIVED

A man's journey through life trying to find himself.

LUX

A brilliant chemical engineer has devised a drug so powerful she believes it can enlighten human consciousness.

MA.ROON

A young man has to face the consequences of his actions. After committing an unthinkable act, he decides to run, trying desperately to escape what he has done. With every turn, he falls deeper and deeper into a world of fear and isolation. Tortured by his conscience, he soon discovers what it feels like to be truly lost... in more ways than one.

ETERNUS

On a desperate spiritual journey, one man hits a dead end.

BLACKOUT

A cautionary tale about the dangers of alcohol... and mass murder. Featuring Maria Skorobogatov (Silence of the Lambs-young Clarice), Raphael Barner (Shortbus), Christopher Sugarman (Milk).

DEADLY EVIL

The stop-motion chop-a-thon begins! A family finds their inherited cabin is cursed by an evil book, possessing the living and bringing the dead back to life.

HELLRAISER-DEADER: WINTER'S LAMENT

In 2005, a mysterious cult leader known only as Winter died in an attempt to summon and control the Cenobites with the assistance of his resurrected followers, the Deaders. Now, his identity and his history will be revealed in the upcoming HELLRAISER: DEADER fan film THE DEAD OF WINTER.

ABRAHAM'S BOYS

After the turn of the century, legendary and revered vampire hunter, Abraham Van Helsing, settles into his new American home with sons Maximilian and Rudolph. However, everything changes when Max and Rudy uncover the shocking truth about their father's favorite past time.

FEATURE FILMS

TARGET PRACTICE *WINNER-BEST ACTION/ADVENTURE FEATURE

Five friends on a fishing trip. A hidden training camp for homegrown terrorists. They weren't ready for this.

MUTANT SWINGER FROM MARS *WINNER-BEST SCI-FI/COMEDY FEATURE

MUTANT SWINGER FROM MARS is writer-director Mike Kallio's love letter to Ed Wood, swing music and cinema cheese. A "long lost sci-fi film" from the 50's, finally, has been recovered! Martians form Mars come to Earth for it's most valuable resource... women! It's up to Rusty Rave to stop them. |Based on its ridiculous trailer (below), *Mutant Swinger From Mars* looks like it accomplished what Tim Burton's infamous 1996 spoof *Mars Attacks!* Tried to pull off, at a fraction of the cost. And, instead of nutbar cameos courtesy of everyone from Jack Nicholson to Jim Brown, it features a brief appearance from a young Jack White (highlighted above), who plays the wisecracking Mikey.

SHELLTER *WINNER-BEST HORROR FEATURE

Zoey awakens in the medical facility of an underground fallout shelter. The Doctor explains that an infection has killed most of the population. The only people left are either a few lone survivors like her and the infected: The living dead. Zoey has to decide what she is willing to do to survive, and the viewer has to make that same decision: How far would you go to survive?

THE BONEYARD COLLECTION

A twisted comedy in horror/noir trappings, **The Boneyard Collection** is a quirky anthology comprised of four short films hosted by Dr. Acula (Forrest J. Ackerman). Things get off to a gruesome start with "Boogie with the Undead," a sinister yarn about an all-girl rock band that's been booked to play in a town overrun by gut-munching zombies. A coven of irresistible witches summon the Devil (Brad Dourif) in order to fend off a particularly inept witch slayer (Ken Foree) in the second segment, and the third segment, entitled "Her Morbid Desires" follows the plight of an actress who lands a role in a vampire movie, only to realize that her co-stars are being slain on set. Things draw to a close when the last Pharaoh of the 4th Dynasty is awakened in mummified form, and becomes incensed to realize that he can't even get a job in horror movies. When his new lawyer offers to take on the role of agent as well, the mummy reveals that what he really wants is to direct. ~ *Jason Buchanan, All Movie Guide*
***Featuring an incredible cast including TIPPI HENDREN (The Birds), FORREST J. ACKERMAN (Famous Monsters), RONN MOSS (Bold and the Beautiful), Scream Queen legend BARBARA STEELE (Black Sunday), CANDY CLARK (American Graffiti), BRAD DOURIF (Lord of the Rings-the Two Towers, Dune, Alien Resurrection, Chucky!!), GEORGE KENNEDY (every disaster flick of the 70's, Naked Gun series, Dirty Dozen, lots more!), ROBERT LOGGIA (Big, Independence Day, Sopranos), KEVIN McCARTHY (Invasion of the Body Snatchers), WILLIAM SMITH (Conan, Red Dawn), SUSAN TYRELL (Cry Baby), Scream Queen legend BRINKE STEVENS, KEN FOREE (Dawn of the Dead), RACHEL MELVIN (Days of our Lives), BOBBY "BORIS" PICKETT, ELVIRA, WAYNE KRAMER, RAY HARRYHAUSEN, ROD MCKUEN, HANNAH HARPER and many more!

EVIL THINGS

It's Miriam's 21st Birthday. As a birthday gift, Miriam's aunt Gail has decided to lend Miriam her beautiful country house for an entire weekend. Miriam invites her young college friends Cassy, Mark, Tanya and Leo to join her. Leo, the aspiring filmmaker, hopes to produce a short movie by documenting every amazing moment of this weekend getaway. Unfortunately, what Leo ends up capturing on camera is not a weekend of peace and tranquility, but a nightmarish descent into pure terror.

SANS DESSEIN (LOST CAUSE)

A young man is visited by the ghost of his older self in order to change his destiny.

DARKNESS WITHIN

Chad and Ashley have just gotten engaged and moved into their new apartment. Everything seems perfect except for one thing-their next-door neighbor, Mr. Reed.

CIRCUIT

A conceptual feature film exploring the human senses, *CIRCUIT* threads through love, desire, paranoia, memory, time and space.

12/24

It's Christmas Eve but when the dead arise and seek human flesh, who will survive the zombie onslaught? Featuring Scream Queen Tiffany Shepis and Scot Davis (*Unrest*) with appearances by Sam Nicotero (*My Bloody Valentine*), Devanny Pinn (*The Lonely Ones*), Rob "The Stro" Kellum (*WCW star*) and Jim Krut (*Dawn of the Dead's Helicopter Zombie*).

BIKINI GIRLS ON ICE

When a bus-load of women's college soccer players get stranded on their way to a bikini car-wash fundraiser, they decide to set-up shop in front of an abandoned gas station on the edge of town. Little do they know the place is the stalking-grounds for a homicidal maniac mechanic named Moe. *These girls are so hot; they need to be put on ice!* Featuring veteran scream queen Suzi Lorraine.

THE ID PROXY

A group of people go camping in the woods for the weekend only to be terrorized and hunted by a man who has snapped into a psychotic rage.

THE PATH OF TORMENT

Ken and Ellen have just moved into a new home in the suburbs. On the day of their housewarming party, they invite two men dressed as Mormon Missionaries into their home. Unfortunately for them, the men are not who they appear to be. Part torture horror and part dark comedy, the Path of Torment is something no one will forget.

THE INHERITED

The Inherited is the story of an orphaned college student who witnessed the brutal death of his parents as a young child. He overcomes his lonely upbringing by making endearing friendships that are the closest thing to a family that he knows. He discovers that he is the heir to a large fortune and everything he thought to be true is only a web of lies and omissions. To try and make sense of the situation, he and his four friends decide to visit the estate for themselves. The four day getaway quickly becomes a nightmare from which they may never escape.

THE LANDLORD

Tyler is the unfortunate young owner of a demon-haunted apartment building. While finding tenants has never been a problem for Tyler, keeping them alive long enough to pay rent is. No matter how nicely Tyler asks, he cannot keep the demons from eating the renters (nor even persuade them to wait a month or two). The demons never listen. And why should they? They have an all-you-can-eat buffet of delicious human flesh and Tyler as their pet monkey. But all that might change when Tyler takes a liking to the newest tenant, a desperate young woman running from demons of her own.

THE CARPENTER-PART 1: AND THEN THEY DIE

The Carpenter tells the tale of a writer, a group of high school kids and a killer. The Kids party, the writer writes and the killer becomes legend. 70's slasher style!

TRIPLE HIT (previously Schrödinger's Girl) *Invited Film

Rebecca Hunter, a renegade scientist, discovers a way to travel into parallel universes. Unfortunately, her parallel selves have their own agendas. Rebecca must stop them from causing the entire universe to collapse. 90 min.

AS WE WENT TO PRESS SOME ADDITIONAL FILMS ARRIVED! CHECK THE SCHEDULE ON THE DOORS TO CHESTNUT AND SUITE 174 FOR NEW ADDITIONS AND INFORMATION!

SPECIAL EVENT FILMS

DRACULA (1979)

This stylish production of the classic gothic horror tale has Frank Langella repeating his electrifying, award-winning stage performance as the blood-thirsty count, and Laurence Olivier as his arch-nemesis, the devout vampire hunter, Van Helsing. Truly a classic with more and more critical praise emerging for one of the unsung great vampire films and frankly, one of the best (some say THE best) versions of the Dracula tale ever put on screen. The sumptuous cinematography, set design, impeccable actors and masterful score by John Williams combine to create one of the most elegant yet striking horror films ever made. Langella is simply magnetic, oozing charm and just-beneath-the-surface fury. This Dracula is not pining for a lost love-he is conquering all around him, using charm with his female prey and menace against Van Helsing and his cohorts. This film, like the original Lugosi film, is made by Universal based on the stage play and is one of the most effective adaptations of Dracula ever made.



THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES (Hammer Studios 1959)

England's celebrated Hammer Films Studios successfully reinvented the Frankenstein and Dracula legends in 1957 and 1958 respectively. Looking for more gothic horror and mystery stories it was a natural to adapt Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's most famous Sherlock Holmes story. Released in 1959, *The Hound of the Baskervilles* ranks high amongst the early Hammer productions for many things, not the least of which is Peter Cushing as Holmes, the direction of Terence Fisher, and the familiar attributes that make Hammer films so special and unique. This is a slightly different adaptation and Hammer has played with some of the characterizations to take a fresh approach to one of the most adapted stories in history. Christopher Lee plays one of his few leading men roles and Hammer's take on *HOUD OF THE BASKERVILLES* certainly has more grounding in the supernatural than most other versions.



In the first-ever color Holmes movie, Peter Cushing is marvelous, fully immersed in the role through use of self-furnished props and enthusiastic mannerisms. Andre Morell provides an intelligent and refined Watson, and the cast is rounded out with a number of Hammer character vets, including Francis De Wolff as the burly Dr. Mortimer and Miles Malleon doing his "comic relief" shtick as Bishop Frankland. Fisher's direction is tight and the cinematography is rich, complimented by beautiful shots of the foggy moors and detailed interiors. Gear up for the new Robert Downey take on Holmes with a look at one of the best, celebrating its' 50th anniversary!



MURDER BY DECREE (1979)

In the dark and fog of London, 1888, a brutal killer the papers call Jack the Ripper is slaughtering the "wretched women" of the Whitechapel slums. Although the grisly murders have created a public stir, Sherlock Holmes (Christopher Plummer) observes that the official investigators are actively hostile when he offers to take up the case. 1979's *Murder by Decree* wasn't the first Holmes-Ripper movie. *A Study in Terror* did it in 1965. But it is the one distinguished by lavish "A" production values and by placing Holmes within the most sensational of the "Who was the Ripper?" theories — a conspiracy involving Freemasons and the Royal family that also inspired 2001's *From Hell*. The film won six "Genie" awards-the Canadian equivalent of the Academy Award. Director Bob Clark and writer John Hopkins fashioned an intelligent, moody, low-key drama that's a more steadfastly grounded Holmes story. As Holmes, Plummer cuts a striking figure. His controlled, subdued performance makes the deerstalker cap and Meerschaum pipe appear natural and unaffected. As we watch Holmes "grappling with the dark intention" behind the murders, we also witness the brittle, aesthete Great Detective overwhelmed and transformed by the sheer humanity of what he uncovers.

Murder by Decree takes what could have been just a routine suspense thriller and elevates it into something else. Many fans rank *Murder by Decree* among the finest Holmes movie pastiches, embracing its play-it-straight, non-ostentatious approach to the Master. Plummer and Mason together make one of cinema's great — perhaps the most touching — Holmes-Watson teams. Ripperologists will be pleased by how faithful the script is to historical incidents and persons involved. (Marc Bourne)

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE GREAT DETECTIVE before the new film adaptation this Christmas!

BATMAN RETROSPECTIVE (Saturday & Sunday mornings)

Stop by to see the first and last episodes of the two 1940's serials, the first appearance of BATGIRL, the team-up with the GREEN HORNET and KATO and other versions of the Caped Crusader with Scooby-Doo and his 1970's Filmation incarnation!

FUNIMATION FILMS!



ValleyCon thanks all our sponsors and features several FUNIMATION anime films as part of the film festival! Even more anime will be showing in the ANIME consuite, poolside, sponsored by Kip Marvig of COMIC JUNCTION! Here are just some of the films being shown:

Fullmetal Alchemist: Brotherhood
Beck
D-Grey Man
Fruits Basket
Fullmetal Panic
Hellsing
Kodocha
One Piece
Ouran High School Host Club
The Wallflower
Tsubasa
XXXHolic
Trinity Blood
Spiral
School Rumble
Samurai 7
Rumbling Hearts
Paradise Kiss
Mushi-shi
Le Chevalier D'Eon
Ergo Proxy
BBB
Sgt. Frog
Burst Angel
Nabari

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Fargo Fantastic Film Festival Schedule

FRIDAY

TIME	FILM	LOCATION
6:00 pm	EVIL THINGS	Chestnut
	FUNIMATION:	Suite 174
8:00 pm	HUMOROUS SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
	DRACULA-1979	Suite 174
9:00 pm	TARGET PRACTICE	Chestnut
10:00 pm	MURDER BY DECREE	Suite 174
10:30 pm	THE LANDLORD	Chestnut
11:45 pm	THE INHERITED	Suite 174
12:00 MID.	ETERNUS	Chestnut
12:15 am	THE CARPENTER: PART 1-AND THEN THEY DIE	Chestnut

SATURDAY

9:30 am	BATMAN FEST DAY 1	Suite 174
10:00 am	CIRCUIT	Chestnut
11:15 am	ANIMATION SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
12:00 Noon	BABYLON 5 (2 EPISODES)	Suite 174
12:15 pm	MUTANT SWINGER FROM MARS	Chestnut
2:00 pm	THE BONEYARD COLLECTION	Chestnut
	BABYLON 5 (2 episodes)	Suite 174
4:00 pm	SANS DESSEIN (LOST CAUSE)	Chestnut
4:15 pm	HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES (1959 Hammer Studios)	Suite 174
6:00 pm	HORROR SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
6:00 pm	FUNIMATION:	Suite 174
7:30 pm	ANIMATION SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
8:00 pm	FUNIMATION:	Suite 174
8:30 pm	HUMOROUS SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
9:30 pm	BIKINI GIRLS ON ICE	Chestnut
9:30 pm	THE ID PROXY	Suite 174
11:00 pm	THE DEADLY EVIL	Chestnut
11:00 pm	HELLRAISER-DEADER: WINTER'S LAMENT	Suite 174
11:20 pm	BLACKOUT	Chestnut
11:30 pm	SHELLTER	Chestnut
11:30 pm	PATH OF TORMENT	Suite 174

SUNDAY

9:30 am	BATMAN FEST DAY 2	Suite 174
10:00 am	THE DARKNESS WITHIN	Chestnut
11:30 am	ANIMATION SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
12:00 Noon	TRAILERS OF UPCOMING FILMS	Suite 174
12:30 pm	HUMOROUS SHORT FILMS	Chestnut
1:30 pm	MUTANT SWINGER FROM MARS	Chestnut
	FUNIMATION:	Suite 174
3:00 pm	CLOSED!	

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PROGRAMMING



FRIDAY

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6:30 pm	OPENING CEREMONY Join us in the official opening of ValleyCon 35!	Woodlawn South
7:00 pm	WRITING PROFESSIONALLY George R.R. Martin illustrates the fun, jet-setting life of professional writers, be it novels or Hollywood screenwriters.	Woodlawn South
8:00 pm	BATMAN AT 70 The Caped Crusader could collect social security but he's still a major force to be reckoned with. A look back at one of the most influential characters in all of media!	Woodlawn South
	PARTIES BEGIN!!!	Poolside
9:00 pm	DARK FANTASY Author Tina Holland and a few others look at the wave of vampires and other dark fantasy influences in books, comics, film & television. The dead really do travel fast...	Woodlawn South



PROGRAMMING



SATURDAY

10:00 am	REGION 6 STARFLEET SUMMIT MEETING If you are already in Starfleet or are interested in joining the area's largest Star Trek fan organization, this event is for you! This is a (somewhat) formal meeting to discuss issues from the five states Starfleet region, but all interested attendees of Valleycon 35 are invited to attend to find out what Starfleet is all about. The meeting is hosted by Admiral Michael Urvand and members of his regional command staff, including Commodore Steve Eldred, the CO of the Region Six Flagship: the USS Imperium.	Cedar
11:00 am	SCA FIGHTING DEMO Looking for some excitement? Come and check out the medieval fighting skills of the Society for Creative Anachronism! There will be both armored and unarmored combat on display, and a variety of techniques will be exhibited. Please be aware that small children may be frightened by the loud commotion and wanton violence!	Woodlawn South
12:00 Noon	MAKE YOUR OWN COMIC! Meet our Artist Guest of Honor Joel "Mojo" Moen and members of the MSUM Comics Club to learn about getting into the comics industry and making your own.	Woodlawn South
	HARRY POTTER: BEYOND THE VEIL Now that the two HP and the Deathly Hallows movies are being filmed and most fans have had a chance to read the 7 books, it's time to revisit the Wizarding World for a lively chat on the Harry Potter Universe. If you are concerned about spoilers, this isn't the panel for you, as everything JKR has written in her novels and commented on in interviews will be fair game for discussion. Join Steve Eldred for another walk down the Hallowed Halls of Hogwarts.	Cedar
	COSTUMING Our costuming guru Rae Lundquist-the Dreamstitcher-will illustrate the ins and out of good costuming and Prep those getting ready for the Masquerade tonight!	Woodlawn South
1:00 pm	GEORGE R.R. MARTIN George will conduct a reading from his upcoming novel "Dragons..." and answer questions. Join us in welcoming him to Fargo!	Woodlawn South

**WE HAVE PURPOSEFULLY LEFT OPEN TIME BETWEEN OUR LARGE EVENTS IN ORDER TO GIVE EVERYONE AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT OUR GUESTS FOR AUTOGRAPHS, SIGNINGS AND TO ALLOW TIME TO VISIT OUR DEALERS ROOM, ART SHOW AND FILM FESTIVAL!
ENJOY!!**

- 2:30 pm **PETER JURASIK** Woodlawn South
Join us in welcoming this incredibly talented actor to Fargo! We all know him for his fan-favorite role as Ambassador Londo Mollari on Babylon 5 but Peter has done much more! Check out his bio, come see him in person and later get an autograph to proclaim to the world that you met and partied with LONDO! Peter will be at his table outside the Dealers room throughout the day so don't delay-he leaves Sunday early!
- 4:00 pm **SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY LITERATURE** Woodlawn South
George R.R. Martin will be joined by NDSU English professors Eunice Johnston and Dr. Robert O'Connor in a look at genre literature. The genres of science fiction, fantasy and horror have always been popular but not always given critical acceptance. Is this changing? Come and see!
- ROLLER DERBY: BE YOUR OWN COMIC BOOK HERO!** Cedar
Tough chicks, short skirts . . . but so much more! "Roller Derby: Be Your Own [Comic Book hero!](#)" is a [panel discussion](#) focusing on the roots of roller derby imagery and its growing prominence in popular culture coinciding with the re-emergence of the sport. Come meet the skaters in North Dakota's first roller derby league: the Fargo-Moorhead Derby Girls!
- 5:00 pm **SCA: ARTS & GARB** Cedar
This panel will provide an overview of various arts and sciences commonly enjoyed during medieval European and Eastern cultures. Come and learn a bit about the fantastic clothing worn throughout history!
- 6:15 pm Seating for Banquet **Approximately!* Woodlawn South
- 6:30 pm **BANQUET** Woodlawn South
**With special video entertainment during dinner. Get the few last tickets before they're gone!*
- 7:15 pm* Seating opened for non-banquet attendees **Approximately!* Woodlawn South
- 7:30 pm* **THE SPANISH INQUISITION** ** Approximately!* Woodlawn South
You must sign up for a chance to be a contestant BEFORE 5 pm Saturday at Registration! Prizes!!!! Fame!!! Know some trivia!!!
- 9:00 pm* **MASQUERADE** Woodlawn South
Get your kit on and win prizes!! There will be a half-time skit show for your entertainment while judges ponder the contestants!

*** * PARTIES!! * ***

- 12:00 Mid. **WONDER TWINS: ACTIVATE!** Woodlawn South
***NEW THIS YEAR! A \$2 "DONATION" WILL BE COLLECTED (with ALL proceeds going to the Breast Cancer awareness fund). Yes, this classic event has a new name and official programming sanction! You must be 18 or over, doors will be closed during the duration and judging is done by a panel of three, with points for presentation and that elusive "x" factor! Sign up at registration or show up a little before midnight!

Remember to sample all the party suites and VOTE!
Winning suite returns next year - paid for by ValleyCon!



PROGRAMMING



SUNDAY

- 10:00 am **LIFE ENERGY REIKI** Woodlawn South
Intro to energy work and Reiki. Learn the basics of how to do energy work and what it is to have something like Reiki for protection.
- 12:00 pm **ART AUCTION followed by CHARITY AUCTION** Cedar
Bid! Bid! Bid! It's all great art and the Charity Auction benefits local and regional charities such as the Children's Library, Humane Society, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic and many more!
- 12:15 pm **TALES FROM THE TRENCHES*** Woodlawn South
This is NOT set in stone but (and may happen Saturday night so watch for announcements!) but the plan is for GEORGE R.R. MARTIN and PETER JURASIK to swap Hollywood stories with a captive audience! Maybe this would work better Saturday night with some Scotch...
- 1:00 pm **STAR TREK NEWS & VIEWS** Woodlawn South
R2SF2 President Steve Eldred and All-around great guy Mike Urvand look at Trek and the newest incarnation taking the world by storm! *Following TALES FROM THE TRENCHES (if it runs at 12:15!).*
- TINA HOLLAND** Cedar
Join author Tina Holland with a look at her novels and more!
- 2:00 pm **COMICS!** Woodlawn South
George R.R. Martin knows a little about comics. So does Joel "Mojo" Moen and Noel Anderson. Join them and some of the members of the MSUM Comics Club for all things COMICS!
- MUSIC OF FILM/TV** Cedar
Music is an important part of movies and television. What would a person feel if instead of the theme from Jaws when the shark is about to attack, someone heard Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy? It doesn't have the same intense feeling. Come and discuss your thoughts on music, composers or even television/movie themes.
- 3:00 pm **TV OR NOT TV AND FUTURE FILMS** Woodlawn South
What scifi, fantasy and horror television shows are you watching, and why? What books would you like to see made into TV shows or films? What books should never have gone to TV? Join R2SF2 president Steve Eldred for a discussion on currently running shows like Fringe, Legend of the Seeker, Smallville, Flash Forward, Sanctuary, Warehouse 13, Eureka and Vampire Diaries. What will upcoming shows like SG Universe and George R. R. Martin's Song of Ice and Fire be like? And chat about upcoming films in the next year or two, with a new Sherlock Holmes, Iron Man 2, Thor and much more!
- 4:00 pm **TALKBACK** Woodlawn South
Bring your pithy comments, concerns and yes, even praise, to the talkback and find out the Facts of what is planned for next fall (hint-the date and guest are carved in stone!).
- 5:00 pm **CLOSED! SEE YOU OCT. 15-17, 2010 for**

**TIMOTHY
ZAHN!**



Party Suites!

The Party rooms are all located in the poolside area, which we have exclusive use of after regular hours! Other hotel guests may wander in during the day but after the regular hours are up, only ValleyCon attendees can be here! Party rooms are in many flavors and we did not get descriptions of all of them so you'll have to just make the rounds and check them all out!

- | ROOM | NAME/THEME |
|-------------|---|
| 226 | Hathor's Pleasure Palace
Welcome to P4X-347 a renovated Goa'uld pleasure palace. After the fall of several system lords, various entrepreneurs have decided to take advantage of this location to set up a watering hole for travelers using the Ancient's galactic gate network. While you can find any sort of unsavory individuals in this bar, it is not unheard of for the occasional visit from an SG Team. |
| 230 | ANIME
Kip Marvig of Comic Junction presents some of the best and hard-to-find anime.
<i>SPONSORED BY FUNIMATION and COMIC JUNCTION!</i> |
| 126 | Games By James
Stop by and check out the plethora of offerings from the Twin Cities based games gurus! |
| 130 | WESTEROS
An official "Brotherhood without Banners" room! Join fans of George R. R. Martin in celebrating "A Song of Ice and Fire." Here you'll find discussion of the books, rpgs, miniatures, weaponry, and the upcoming HBO pilot. All inhabitants of the Seven Kingdoms and beyond are welcome! |
| 134 | Zocalo Snack Bar
Sponsored by the Dreamstitcher, this Babylon 5 inspired room is in honor of PETER JURASIK and LONDO MOLLARI! |
| 158 | GothiCoffee
A laid-back place for the living dead to relax and rejuvenate. |
| 162 | Karaoke Joe's Café
We're back, and ready to rock your world! Join DJ Dov (made it through Afghanistan), Ben and Gene for 2 nights of the longest-running party at the Con! And don't miss the biggest, bestest karaoke contest Saturday night! Come join us and ROCK THE MIC! |
| 164 | Zombie Invasion in 2010
Get ready for the Invasion of the Zombies that will happen April 2010. |
| 166 | MARSCON
Join us for a preview of MARSON 2010: Dark Lords and Femme Fatales! Go to www.marscon.org/2010 . |

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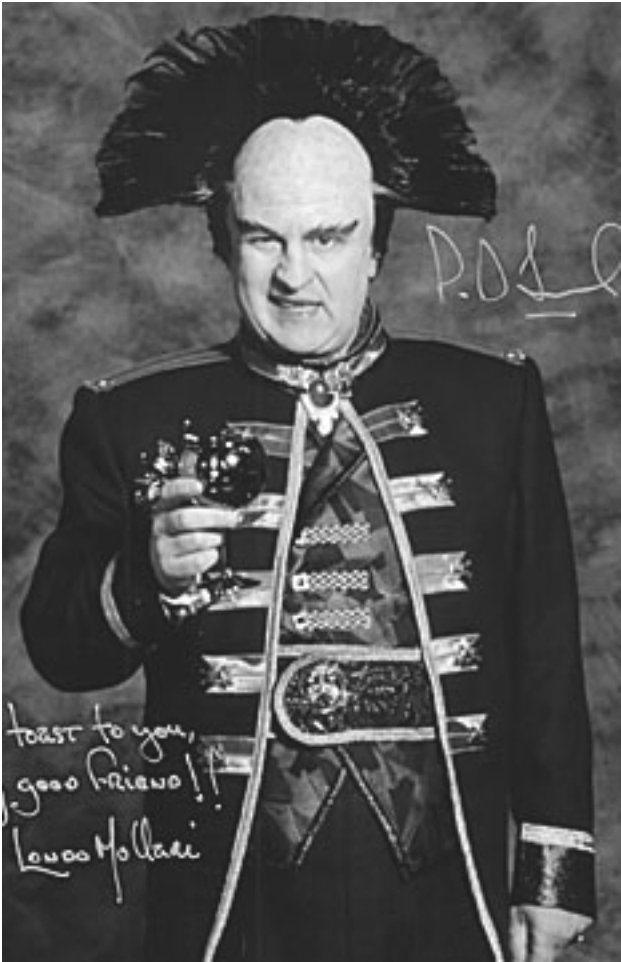
"Have Fun Storming the Castle..."



Indeed! Have a LOT of fun storming the castle. Or shooting aliens. Or doing all sorts of nasty things! How?

GAMING!

Check out our HUGE array of game events and tournaments! Sign up at the REGISTRATION TABLE or at the Gaming Rooms! TOO MANY TO LIST!



MEMORABLE QUOTES OF LONDO MOLLARI:

"Only an idiot would fight a war on two fronts. Only the heir to the throne of the Kingdom of Idiots would fight a war on twelve fronts."

"Fools to the left of me, feeders to the right... I need to find a real job."

Delenn: We may be able to get the Pak'ma'ra on board to help, but they're going to need something in exchange.

Ambassador Londo Mollari: Oh, offer them my body. Another 10 minutes of this, I'll be dead anyway!

Citizen G'Kar: [*Without looking up*] I second the motion!

Ambassador Londo Mollari: But this - this, this, this is like being nibbled to death by... what are those Earth creatures called? Feathers, long bill, webbed feet... go 'quack'...

Ambassador Vir Cotto: Cats.

Ambassador Londo Mollari: Cats. Being nibbled to death by cats.

"Great Maker!"

"Vir, stay. If you go, as a matter of honor, I will have to go with you, and if I am forced to leave this place, with all its marvelous opportunities, I will have to kill you... What are friends for?"

Lord Refa: Why should I do as you say?

Ambassador Londo Mollari: Because I have asked you; because your sense of duty to our people should override any personal ambition; and because I have poisoned your drink.

"Everyone around me dies, Mr. Morden, except those who most deserve it."

"Ah, arrogance and stupidity all in the same package. How efficient of you!"

CHECK OUT SOME MORE BABYLON 5 IN THE FILM FESTIVAL!

ZAP COLLECTIBLES!

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COMICS-VINYL RECORDS - COLLECTIBLES - ACTION FIGURES

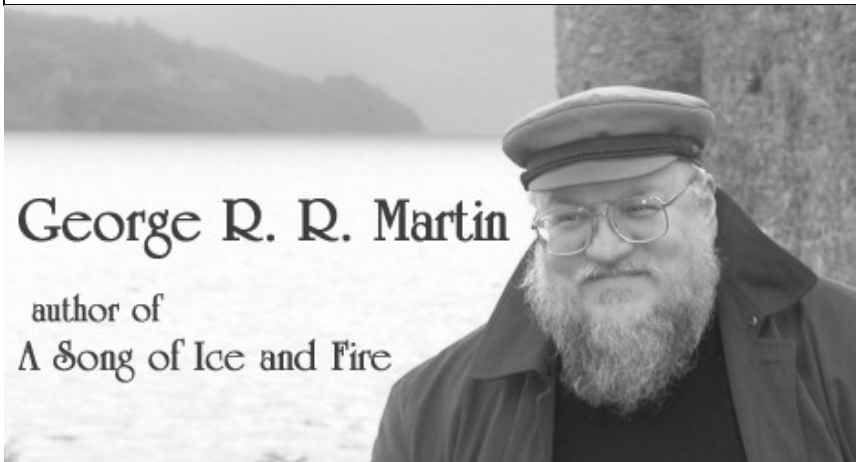
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George R. R. Martin

author of
A Song of Ice and Fire

BY GEORGE! QUOTES FROM THE MASTER:

"In real life, the hardest aspect of the battle between good and evil is determining which is which."

"Tolkien made the wrong choice when he brought Gandalf back. Screw Gandalf. He had a great death and the characters should have had to go on without him."

"Ten years from now, no one is going to care how quickly the books came out. The only thing that will matter, the only thing anyone will remember, is how good they were. That's my main concern, and always will be."

"Art is not a democracy. People don't get to vote on how it ends."

"I've been killing characters my entire career, maybe I'm just a bloody minded bastard, I don't know, (but) when my characters are in danger, I want you to be afraid to turn the page (and to do that) you need to show right from the beginning that you're playing for keeps."

"As a writer, my goal, (which I'm never going to achieve, and I know that, and no writer can achieve that,) but my goal is to make you almost live the books... I want you to fall through that page and feel as if these things are happening to you."

"There are many different kinds of writers; I like to use the analogy of architects and gardeners. There are some writers who are architects, and they plan everything, they blueprint everything, and they know before the drive the first nail into the first board what the house is going to look like and where all the closets are going to be, where the plumbing is going to run, and everything is figured out on the blueprints before they actually begin any work whatsoever. And then there are gardeners who dig a little hole and drop a seed in and water it with their blood and see what comes up, and sort of shape it. They sort of know what seed they've planted - whether it's an oak or an elm, or a horror story or a science fiction story, but they don't how big it's going to be, or what shape it's going to take. I am much more a gardener than an architect."

ORSON WELLES AND THE BAT-MAN

The superhero is seventy years old this year, but it's only now (and maybe not even now) that he's attaining some kind of mainstream respectability. Crime, horror, romance and even science fiction have touched The Academy's hearts over the years and been lauded as adult or sophisticated in a way that we'll probably *never* achieve and the reasons for this are twofold. The first is that superheroes look silly in a way that even cowboys don't. I love them and always will, but Joe Public can't suppress a smirk when he sees Ben Affleck dressed as the banned fifth member of the Village People. We might as well face it. The other reason is that the type of writers and directors generally attached to superhero material over the years hasn't exactly been of the "Apocalypse Now" variety. Of course, that's changed recently with the likes of Bryan Singer, Ang Lee, David Goyer and Christopher Nolan slipping into their comfortable men's tights, but for the first fifty years or so we really just had journeymen at best at the helm of these projects with nothing better than the occasional blip in an otherwise stagnant line-up.



Orson Welles



Production design of Batman done for Orson Welles' never realized Batman feature.

However, things could have been very different if circumstances had been a little more in our favor shortly after the war. The embryonic superhero concept wasn't even ten years old when perhaps the most illustrious director of his day, Orson Welles, seriously considered doing a Batman picture and even got as far as production designs, an early draft of a script and some casting photographs featuring various friends and colleagues in prototypes of what would eventually become the finished costumes. A pal of mine called Lionel Hutton, both a movie critic and respected film historian, was given unprecedented access to the Welles estate as research for his upcoming biography (out next Easter) and came across these startling facts in a huge pile of clippings and notes other people hadn't even bothered to report. This all stems back to the complete irrelevance of comics in even the popular arts and the complete disdain for the subject matter mentioned earlier. The fact that Orson Welles was contemplating a *Batman* picture in 1946 is both glorious and fascinating to people like me, but embarrassing and crass to the Welles aficionados.

It's no secret that Orson Welles had a love of the pulps, having voiced "The Shadow" on radio and conceiving the illustrious "War Of The Worlds" scam, but what's lesser known is his love of comic-books right up to his death in 1985. What's especially startling is that his appreciation for the medium was no real secret and he even wrote an article for The Village Voice in 1973 raving about the Denny O'Neil/ Neal Adams "Green Lantern/Green Arrow" book (The Real Counter-Culture Lives Here) and even attending, with no real fanfare, one of the earliest New York comic conventions organized by Phil Seuling.

It's perhaps no accident that his snobbish acolytes have overlooked these facts, but Hutton's vast tome explores this aspect of his character in great detail and I was lucky enough to have been given a draft to preview for this column he happens to enjoy. Welles' diaries are dotted with occasional references to books he was reading at the time and his particular excitement at the late sixties and early seventies work of the new wave of comic-book writers and artists who brought a certain amount



Basil Rathbone



James Cagney

of respectability to this medium he had so much affection for. However, the red meat of the book is the details of his proposed Batman picture and the eight months of his life he wasted in pre-production after the success of "Jane Eyre" and "The Stranger."

He began meetings with National Comics (who would later become DC) as early as 1944 to discuss the Batman project, but his work didn't begin in earnest until completion of "The Stranger" in 1946 and Welles immediately threw himself headlong into the project. Gathering many of his old friends and colleagues together from "Citizen Kane," he proposed "a cinematic experience, a kaleidoscope of heroism and nightmares and imagery seen nowhere save the subconscious of Goya or even Hawksmoor himself." Welles planned Batman to be an adult psycho-drama, but combined with what he described as the "heart-racing excitement of the Saturday morning serials, given a respectable twist and a whole new style of kinetic direction unlike anything ever attempted in American cinema." Many of the production sketches he commissioned from Greg Tolland are in the notes and it sends a shiver down your spine when you see them.

Unfortunately, I don't have permission to use the most elaborate ones here, but they'll be available in the book with his thirty-six page treatment for a movie that opens with the deaths of Thomas and Mary Wayne (why it's Mary I've no idea) and ends with Batman unmasked and fighting for his life against The Joker, The Riddler, Two-Face and Catwoman in a prison they've assumed control of.

The real treat for me was the casting notes and confirmation letters from the actors themselves such as George Raft signing up for Two-Face (after Bogart turned it down), James Cagney as The Riddler, Basil Rathbone as The Joker and Welles' former lover Marlene Dietrich as a very exotic Catwoman with the same salubrious past Miller gave the character forty years later in "Batman: Year One." Robin was completely absent from the picture, but the casting of Batman himself was the main reason the picture stalled and was consigned to the history books. Welles wanted to cast himself in the roles of both Batman and Bruce Wayne, but the studio wanted to go with a more traditional leading man like Gregory Peck. Peck agreed and was reportedly even shot in a makeshift costume for the part during a break between filming "The Yearling" and the classic "Duel in the Sun." Welles, however, was incensed at the decision.



George Raft



Marlene Dietrich

Despite being friends with Peck, he felt that this casting would completely compromise his vision and was especially angry at the studio's suggestion that he should replace Rathbone as The Joker if he really a part in the picture. The talks ended abruptly, Welles pulled out of the whole deal and threw himself completely into "The Lady From Shanghai" and the "MacBeth" cinematic feature he had also been preparing for some time

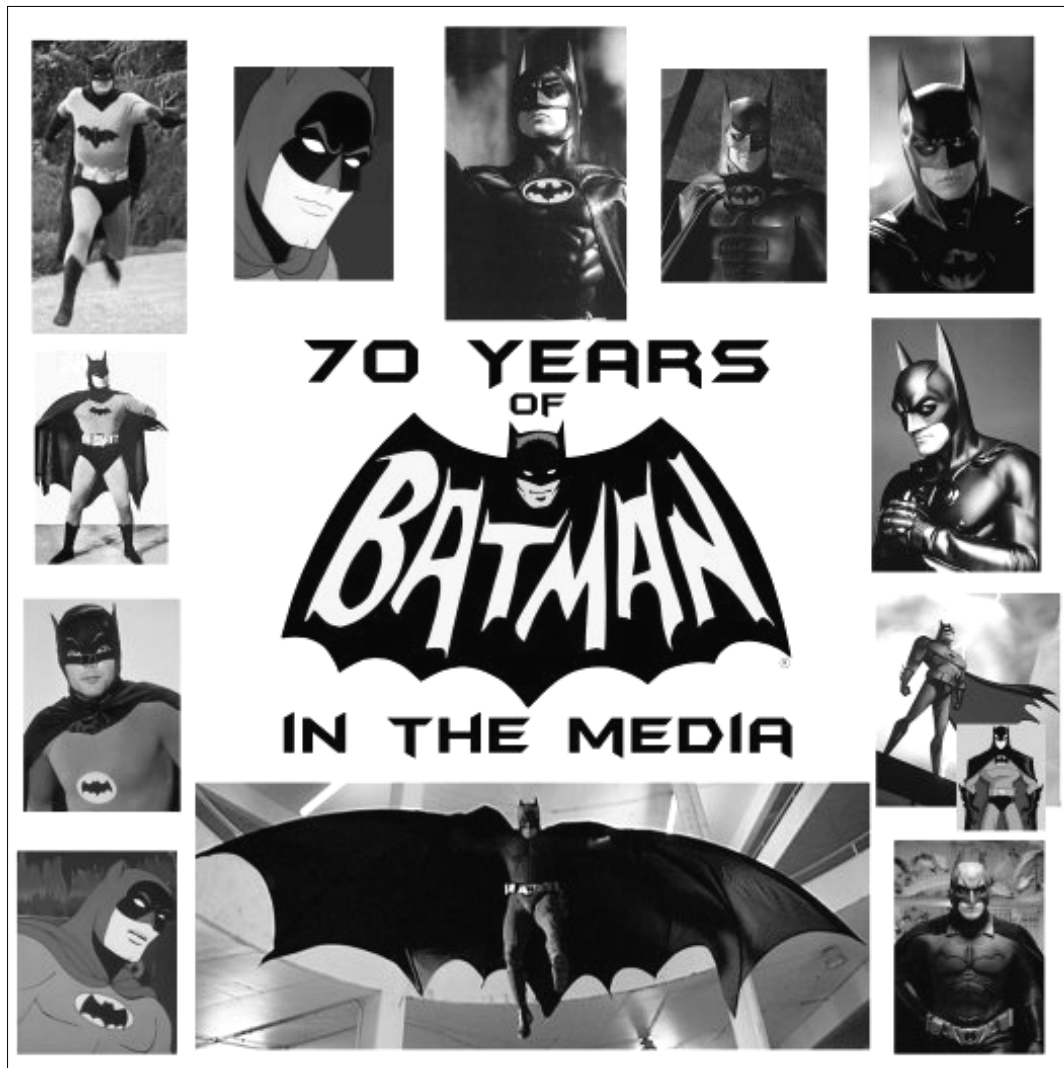
The tragedy for movie buffs is that, like Welles' proposed adaptation of Conrad's "Heart of Darkness," the world wouldn't get to see a Batman feature until the campy 1966 movie with Adam West. The tragedy for comic-book aficionados is that our big shot at respectability, when the genre was so young that people hadn't made up their minds about us yet, was blown because of an argument over something as small and petty as casting. The movie could have been a disaster, it's impossible to say, but the production notes, the treatment and the first draft I've been reading over the last couple of weeks makes me

think this could have redefined cinema. This could have been his masterpiece and, who knows, might have launched the superhero renaissance we're undergoing at the moment with quality cast and directors two or three generations earlier. John Ford following up "The Bat-Man" with a "Captain America" movie? Cary Grant and Katharine Hepburn as Clark Kent and Lois Lane? In some weird, parallel reality these things are DVDs collecting dust on our video-shelves and Clint Eastwood is wishing some studio would give his funny, old "Unforgiven" cowboy flick half a chance at the next pitch meeting.

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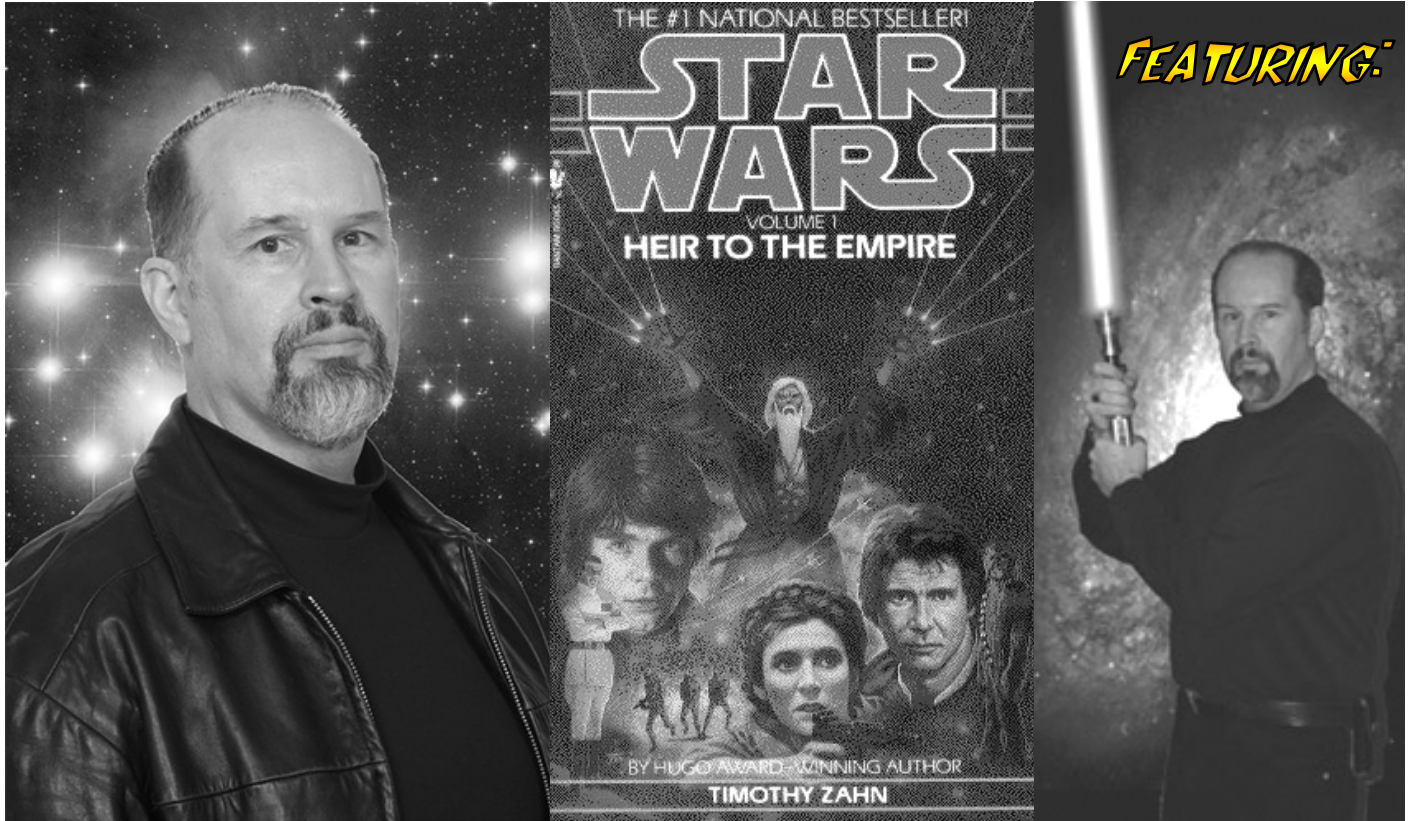

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