

BUBONICON 48

AUGUST VERSION E.2 "FINAL"

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2016

Time	Main Room – Salon E	Salon A-D	Cimarron/Las Cruces	Carlsbad	Santa Fe (has screen)
3:00 pm	Registration & Flea Market open		SCREEN up All Weekend		
4:00 pm	Panel # 1 – SOYLENT GREEN: IT'S A COOKBOOK J. Lindskold, L.J. Mixon, Sage Walker, C. Weaver MOD: David Lee Summers				<i>ART SHOW OPEN</i>
5:00 pm	Panel # 2 – THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME: ROBOTS IN DISGUISE David Gerrold, M.T. Reiten, Jim Sorenson, Courtney Willis. MOD: Steven Gould	55 MINUTES WITH Jeffe Kennedy	55 MINUTES WITH Robert Vardeman		<i>CON SUITE AND GAMING OPEN</i>
6:00 pm	OPENING CEREMONIES Your Co-Chairs & Toastmaster				
6:30 pm	SCIENCE TALK: "ESCAPE TO SPACE" SID M. GUTIERREZ NASA Shuttle Astronaut	55 MINUTES WITH S.M. Stirling	Panel # 3 – THE STARS LOOK VERY DIFFERENT TODAY: DAVID BOWIE & SCI-FI M. Acevedo, E. Leggett, Jane Lindskold. Moderator: Jason Heller	55 MINUTES WITH John Maddox Roberts	Fan Panel "THE HONORVERSE: WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU" HMS Anasazi (MOD: John Roberts)
7:00 pm					
7:30 pm	Panel # 4 – MAGIC IN NON-MEDIEVAL TIMES: A RARITY OR NOT Stephen R. Donaldson, Sally Gwyllan, Betsy James, Jeffe Kennedy. Moderator: Rachel Caine	Panel # 5 – BORE OF THE WORLDS: WHY WOULD ALIENS FIGHT US David Gerrold, Emily Mah, C.S. Plesko, J. Saberhagen. MOD: Sarena Ulibarri	55 MINUTES WITH Ben Bova	55 MINUTES WITH M.T. Reiten	Solo Presentation "CONTACTING THE DEAD: SEANCES FROM THE VICTORIAN ERA TO MODERN TIMES" Benjamin Radford
8:00 pm					
8:30 pm	Panel # 6 – SPACESHIPS WE HAVE LOVED: SAILING CELESTIAL SEAS Mario Acevedo, Craig Butler, John Maddox Roberts, Melinda Snodgrass. MOD: Connie Willis	Panel # 7 – VILLAINS YOU LOVE TO HATE: DASTARDLY AND DESPICABLE Andy Kuhn, C. Spector, Gabi Stevens, S.M. Stirling. MOD: Joe R. Lansdale	55 MINUTES WITH Walter Jon Williams	Fan Program "PARTNERS IN SPACE & TIME" (Doctor Who)	<i>ENDS BY 8:45 PM</i>
8:45 pm					15-Minute Break
9:00 pm				Hosts: Eric Klammer, Mark Gillespie	9:00 PM Fan Program <i>FILKING SESSION</i> Host: Harriet Engle
9:30 pm	Panel # 8 – LOVECRAFT AS FUNNY & CUDDLY: WHAT HAPPENED Jeff Benham, A. Campbell, S. Ulibarri, C. Weaver. MOD: Lee Moyer	55 MINUTES WITH Mario Acevedo	Panel # 9 – FOR THE LOVE OF CHEESE: ATTACK OF THE CHEESE MAGNET'S REVENGE Ben Bova, Adam J. Brown, Craig Butler, Vic Milan, Scott Phillips, Robert Vardeman. Moderator: John Jos. Miller		
10:30 pm	LATE NIGHT CHARITY AUCTION Benefiting ENMU Williamson Library & Roadrunner Food Bank Auctioneers: Craig Chrissinger, Patricia Rogers, Geneva Schult. Plus Jessica C, Mandy S., Caitlin O. & More				<i>ENDS BY 11:00 PM</i>
11:00 pm			<i>ENDS BY 11:30 PM</i>		

FRIDAY: Registration Hours 3:00-8:30 pm

Art Show Hours 4:00-9:00

Flea Market Hours 3:00-8:30

Time	Main Room – Salon E	Salon A-D	Cimarron/Las Cruces	Carlsbad	Santa Fe (has screen)		
9:00 am	KAFFEEKLATSCH IN CON SUITE Various Tidy Breakfast Items, Fruit & Hot Coffee						
10:00 am	Panel # 10 – SPACE OPERA: MORE THAN MIND CANDY? John Maddox Roberts, Sage Walker, Walter Jon Williams, Connie Willis. Moderator: Melinda Snodgrass	Panel # 11 – WHERE HAVE ALL THE PUBLISHERS GONE? ANYBODY THERE? Rachel Caine, Emily Mah, Pari L. Noskin, Gabi Stevens, David L. Summers. MOD: Robert Vardeman	55 MINUTES WITH David Gerrold [10:30 AM OUTSIDE] -- Meet in Con Area Foyer! -- 60-MIN SOLO PRESENTATION "MAGICAL SPACE CAR! TESLA!" Pati Nagle & Chris Krohn	Fan Panel <i>SO, YOU WANNA ENTER THE COSTUME CONTEST</i> Moderator: Randi Hewett	SOLO ART PRESENTATION <i>THE ART OF LEGGETT</i> Elizabeth Leggett (Hugo Award: Fan Artist 2015)		
10:30 am						10:30 AM Fan Presentation <i>"HALL COSTUME VS PRESENTATION COSTUME, PLUS 3-D PRINTING DEMO"</i>	
11:00 am	Panel # 12 – TELLING LIES FOR FUN & PROFIT: WRITING FICTION Darynda Jones, Susan Krinard, Joe R. Lansdale, Victor Milan. MOD: Caroline Spector	70 MINUTES WITH Stephen R. Donaldson <i>ENDS BY 12:15 PM</i> 11:00 AM IN ART SHOW ROOM Art Show Docent Tour with Lee Moyer	SOLO PRESENTATION <i>"THE SHOW MUST GO ON: TURNING A PROFIT AT CONVENTION ART SHOWS"</i> Peri Charlifu	Charles & Tauni Orndorff with Randi Hewett	25 MINUTES WITH Betsy James		
11:30 am					25 MINUTES WITH Jason Heller		
12 Noon	Panel # 13 – MIRRORS & WINDOWS: IMPORTANCE OF REPRESENTATION & DIVERSITY IN SF/F Betsy James, Elizabeth Leggett, Laura J. Mixon, Dianna Sanchez, S.M. Stirling. MOD: Corie Weaver	12:30 PM 75 MINUTES WITH George RR Martin	12 NOON 60 MINUTES WITH Rachel Caine <i>ENDS BY 1:05 PM</i>	12 NOON Fan Program <i>"SMELLS LIKE NIRVANA: SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY TV OF THE '90S"</i> Host: Lori Jansen	12 NOON Fan Game Show <i>SF NAME THAT TUNE</i> Host: Tim Simpson		
12:30 pm							1 pm Kids Program Set-Up
12:45 pm							1:15 PM <i>FUN FOR KIDS – CHILDREN'S SCIENCE & CRAFTS</i> Jessica Coyle with help from Mandy Self, Caitlin O'Sullivan & Hilary Estell. - Accompanying parent required -
1:00 pm	Panel # 14 – ROCKETS, ROBOTS & RAYGUNS: THE THREE R'S OF SF Mario Acevedo, S.M. Stirling, Walter Jon Williams, Courtney Willis. MOD: Steven Gould	<i>ENDS BY 1:45 PM</i>	1:15 PM Writing Workshop <i>"HOW TO ADD RAZZLE-DAZZLE TO YOUR WRITING"</i> Connie Willis and Melinda Snodgrass <i>ENDS BY 2:22 PM</i>	1:30 PM 55 MINUTES WITH Jane Lindsfold			
1:15 pm							2:45 PM Kids Program Clean Up
1:30 pm							3:00 PM Solo Presentation <i>"WHY THE GOLDEN AGE IS GOLDEN"</i> R. Cat Conrad
2:00 pm	Panel # 15 – HOW TO RECOGNIZE GOOD WRITING: I KNOW WHAT I LIKE Stephen R. Donaldson, Pari L. Noskin, John Maddox Roberts, Gabi Stevens. Moderator: Ben Bova	Panel # 16 – DEUS EX GRAPHICA: ROLE OF MYTHOLOGY IN COMICS Aaron Campbell, Andy Kuhn, John Jos. Miller, Lee Moyer, Steve Stiles. MOD: Craig A. Butler	2:30 PM Solo Talk <i>"THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING SF HISTORY IN LIBRARIES/ARCHIVES"</i> Jeremy W. Brett	2:30 PM Fan Program <i>DROID HUNT FOR KIDS</i> 501st Dewback Ridge Garrison <i>ROOM EMPTIED BY 4:10 PM</i>			
2:30 pm							
2:45 pm							
3:00 pm	Panel # 17 – "IS THIS A KISSING BOOK?": INEVITABLE ROMANTIC SUB-PLOT Sally Gwylan, Jane Lindsfold, Emily Mah, Sage Walker. MOD: Jeffe Kennedy	Panel # 18 – THE MARTIAN: FACT AND FICTION Jayne C. Aubele, Zach Gallegos, Loretta Hall, C.S. Plesko. MOD: Larry Crumpler	3:30 PM Game Show Set-Up				
3:30 pm							

BUBONICON 48

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2016 CONT

Time	Main Room – Salon E	Salon A-D	Cimarron/Las Cruces	Carlsbad	Santa Fe (has screen)
4:00 pm	Panel # 19 – WHEN HOLLYWOOD COMES KNOCKING: SEEING YOUR BABY ADAPTED Rachel Caine, David Gerrold, Scott Phillips, M. Snodgrass, Warren Spector MOD: Steven Gould	55 MINUTES WITH Joe R. Lansdale <i>ENDS 4:55 PM</i>	Fan Game Show <i>CHAPA'AI OF FORTUNE</i> Charles & Tauni Orndorff MC: Gordon Garb	<i>DROID HUNT ENDS 4:10 PM</i>	ARTIST GUEST SLIDE SHOW Lee Moyer <i>ENDS 5:15 PM AT LATEST</i>
4:15 pm				4:15-5:15 PM Fan Panel <i>WORLDCON/HUGO AFTERMATH</i> V. Docherty, K.Hewett, E. Leggett, Laura J. Mixon. MOD: Janice Gelb	
4:30 pm					
5:00 pm	5:00-5:25 PM OPEN AIRWALL (Room Closed)		5:05 PM Game Show Teardown	5:15 PM Room Clear	
5:25 pm	5:25-6:40 PM MASS AUTOGRAPHING SESSION – 75 MINUTES Bubonicon Guests Sign Their Wares <i>GENERAL POLICY: 3 signatures from an author at a time, please. And then you can get back in their line for up to 3 more, etc...</i> <i>GRR MARTIN POLICY: 1 signature per person, no inscriptions...</i>				
5:30 pm					
6:00 pm					
6:40 pm	6:40-7:35 PM COSTUME PREP TIME (Room Emptied & Closed – Reset Stage)				6:40-7:35 PM WORKSHOP <i>"THE SEX TALK FOR WRITERS"</i> Darynda Jones <i>[Adult Subject Matter: No Children Under 16, Please]</i>
7:00 pm				7:00 PM COSTUME GREEN ROOM AND STAGING Costumers Only! Randi Hewett, Kevin Hewett, Julian Wolf, Jessica Coyle, Mandy P. Self and Michelle Foley	7:00 PM REGISTRATION, ART SHOW AND FLEA MARKET CLOSE
7:35 pm	Approximately 7:35 PM DOORS OPENED FOR AUDIENCE SEATING				
8:00 pm	COSTUME CONTEST Master of Ceremonies: Victor Milan Organizers: Randi & Kevin Hewett, and Julian Wolf Judges: Adam J. Brown, Karen Lansdale & Elizabeth Leggett				8:00 PM
8:30 pm					
9:05 pm?			Half-Time Entertainment 2016 GREEN SLIME AWARDS Hosted by Jessica L. Coyle with the Slime Time Puppet Players		
10:00 pm?	COSTUME CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED				
10:15 pm	Master of Ceremonies: Victor Milan Judges: Adam J. Brown, Karen Lansdale & Elizabeth Leggett			10:15 PM Or So... COSTUME PHOTOGRAPHY Costumers pose for photos against backdrop Ends by 11:15 PM	10:00 PM
10:30 pm	10:45 PM Room Closed For Day		Adam J. Brown presents SATURDAY-NITE CINEMA "TO DIE IS HARD" directed by Glenn Berggoetz (2010, 87m), Plus Attack of the Internet Videos (short bits) <i>[For Mature Audiences Only!</i> <i>Not-Rated...]</i>		
11:00 pm					11:15 PM Room Closed For Day
Midnight					

SATURDAY: Registration Hours 9:30-7:00

Art Show Hours 9:30-7:00

Flea Market Hours 9:30-7:00

Time	Main Room – Salon E	Salons A-D	Cimarron/Las Cruces	Carlsbad	Santa Fe (has screen)	
9:00 am	<i>GRANOLA BARS IN CON SUITE</i>					
10:00 am	Panel # 20 – ARE ROBOTS STILL SCARY: DANGER, WILL ROBINSON! Mario Acevedo, Steven Gould, Jane Lindsfold, L. J. Mixon, M.T. Reiten MOD: David Lee Summers	55 MINUTES WITH Connie Willis		10:00 AM Science Workshop "ASK A SCIENTIST!" Zach Gallegos and Moderator C.S. Plesko	10:00 AM Solo Presentation "MAKING OF DEUS EX" Warren Spector	
10:30 am		10:30 AM CON SUITE CLOSES!	10:30 AM Fan Presentation "HOBBY GAMING 101" Moderator: Craig Fox	-- 20 Minute Break --	Solo Presentation "TEN BY FIVE: 50 SAMPLES OF ARTWORK" Steve Stiles ENDS BY 12:05...	
11:00 am	CO-GUESTS OF HONOR PRESENTATION Rachel Caine & David Gerrold Hosted & Interviewed by Joe R. Lansdale, Toastmaster <i>ENDS BY 12:15...</i>		11:30 AM Room Closed	11:15 AM – 12:25 PM Fan Workshop "STORYTELLING AND YOUR BRAIN: CREATING COMICS"		
11:15 am						
11:30 am			12:00 NOON ART SHOW CLOSES!			
12:15 pm				12:15-12:40 PM AUCTION PREPARATIONS (Room Closed, Please – No Entry Before 12:40)	7000 BC (MOD: Jeff Benham)	1:00 PM SUNDAY TEA UPSTAIRS: TWO 60-MIN GROUPINGS (Sign-Up Required) Afternoon Tea Society
12:30 pm	Panel # 21 – WONDER WOMEN OF THE 20 TH & 21 ST CENTURIES Jeffe Kennedy, Susan Krinard, Caroline Spector, S.M. Stirling. Moderator: Cathy S. Plesko	55 MINUTES WITH Victor Milan		12:30 PM Fan Panel "THE ROAD TO FANDOM: FANS ASSEMBLE!" MODs: C.J. Jury-Kiser & Phil Dillard	Solo Presentation "ANNIVERSARIES & ACTIVITIES IN SPACE EXPLORATION" Loretta Hall	
12:40 pm			12:40 PM AUCTION ITEMS ACCEPTED			
1:00 pm			1:00-3:40 PM FUN AND CON AUCTION Auctioneers: Robert Vardeman, Patricia Rogers, Gordon Garb & R. Cat Conrad. Money Takers: Craig C, Mandy P, Caitlin O, Geneva S, Jessica C. Want to use a credit card? \$10.00 minimum +3% fee (Items benefit Bubonicon and Individuals)	55 MINUTES WITH Melinda Snodgrass	40 MINUTES WITH John Jos. Miller <i>ENDS BY 2:15 PM</i>	
1:30 pm	Panel # 22 – ROBO-RALLY: WHAT HAPPENS TO TRUCK & TAXI DRIVERS 5 YEARS FROM NOW Mario Acevedo, Ben Bova, Craig Butler, Jim Sorenson. Moderator: S.M. Stirling	Panel # 23 – THE THREE R's IN VISUAL ART: HOW DO ROCKETS... LOOK J. Benham, Peri Charlifu, Jon Sanchez, Steve Stiles. MOD: Lee Moyer				
2:00 pm					2:15 PM PROGRAM BREAK	
2:30 pm	Panel # 24 – THE SUB-GENRES THAT WON'T DIE: WHY NOT Rachel Caine, Jason Heller, John Jos. Miller, Walter Jon Williams. Moderator: Darynda Jones	55 MINUTES WITH Caroline Spector		Fan Panel "HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN WEB-COMIC" Typo'd Mary (MOD: John Myers)	2:30 PM Fan Presentation "ROBOTS, CYBORGS AND DROIDS: OH MY!" Tara Oakes	
3:00 pm						
3:30 pm	Panel # 25 – CON CONNECTIONS: COLLEAGUES AS FAMILY David Gerrold, Joe Lansdale, George RR Martin, Melinda Snodgrass. MOD: Connie Willis	(Room Closed)		(Room Closed)	(Room Closed)	
3:40 pm			3:40 PM CLEAN UP FROM AUCTION DONE, DONE, DONE!			
4:00 pm						
4:35 pm	CLOSING CEREMONIES Co-Chairs + the 2016 Con-Com					
5:10 pm?	B48 IS OVER! Clean up hotel, pack up cars...					

BUBONICON 48 PANEL DESCRIPTIONS

1. SOYLENT GREEN: IT'S A COOKBOOK

What are your favorite recipes and/or food from SF & Fantasy? Has a SF/Fantasy story or book inspired you to culinary creativity? Characters need to eat, right? So, what do they eat? What about drinks? How do food choices affect the story's plot and "flavor"? Can a meal reveal factoids about the culture & society of the characters? Does it really all have to taste like chicken?

2. THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME: ROBOTS IN DISGUISE

As humans get more technologically advanced, what shapes will robots be taking? Will we see more robots in the shape of a toaster like the one in *Red Dwarf*? Can we anticipate riding robotic horses like Fess in Christopher Stasheff's *Warlock* series? Will all our cars be like KITT in *Knight Rider*? Or how 'bout the Cylons of *Battlestar Galactica*? Speaking of human-looking androids, could robots of the future be "trafficked" as sex slaves, especially if they are assigned genders? Data was "fully functional," as some remember. What about a really smart phone?

3. THE STARS LOOK VERY DIFFERENT TODAY: DAVID BOWIE, SF & FANTASY

The music of the late David Bowie will be discussed by Jason Heller and others. Particularly, how was Bowie's music influenced by science fiction (and to a lesser extent, fantasy)? Did Bowie become our musical spokesperson? Which SF/F tales seem to be the basis for some of Bowie's songs & lyrics?

4. MAGIC IN NON-MEDIEVAL TIMES: A RARITY OR NOT

Traditionally, most fantasy stories seem to take place in a medieval-esque society – excluding urban fantasy, of course. Why is that? However, there is nothing to limit us to that particular time period. What are the challenges of writing magic stories in non-traditional settings? Who has succeeded well with magic in Victorian and Regency times, and even the First World War? Can magic mix well with early technology?

5. BORE OF THE WORLDS: WHY WOULD ALIENS FIGHT US?

Is Stephen Hawking smart to be terrified of alien invasions, "Berserker" robots, and overachieving computers? The vast majority of planets won't have sentient life (if any); galactic resources are common enough to be free for the taking; territory is meaningless in a huge galaxy; and the likelihood is good that any space-faring planet would have "replicators" and "holodecks." Does that take care of all reasons for warfare? If so, what could cause interstellar war? Will the aliens just ignore us as "mostly harmless"?

6. SPACESHIPS WE HAVE LOVED: SAILING THE CELESTIAL SEAS

A discussion of panelists' favorite spaceships in SF from books, TV, film, comics, anime and more. What makes them so special? Why do we love them? Which spaceships have been so unique that they are characters in their own right? Which ships are aesthetically pleasing and why? Which ships just look cool?

7. VILLAINS YOU LOVE TO HATE: DASTARDLY AND DESPICABLE

Why is it we want to see the demise of some villains sooner than later, and yet we hope that other villains will come back to confront our heroes again and again? (Like Professor Moriarty and Sherlock Holmes for example.) What special qualities does a villain need to stand the test of time? And why do we like some villains more than others? Just what is it that makes us care about certain scoundrels and not other villains?

8. LOVECRAFT AS FUNNY & CUDDLY: WHAT HAPPENED

H.P. Lovecraft created a mysterious world of nameless dread. Then some of his contemporaries re-imagined a world where we might actually fight back. How would either group or authors view today's world in which Cthulhu is made into a fuzzy stuffed doll? What other strange ways have we incorporated the unspeakable? Why has it happened?

9. FOR THE LOVE OF CHEESE: ATTACK OF THE CHEESE MAGNET'S REVENGE

What is the appeal of cheesy or schlocky movies? What are some of the panelists' favorites and guilty pleasures? Any from the past year or since last Bubonicon? What worked in them? What didn't? What is the fine line between entertaining cheese and just plain horrible?

10. SPACE OPERA: MORE THAN MIND CANDY?

After our panelists finish defining Space Opera, and naming their favorites, we ask them to get down to the brass tacks: Is it just entertainment? Can it have predictive value? Discuss socially relevant issues? What gems are often overlooked? What about this subgenre is so inspiring, or even aspirational? What does the success of *The Expanse* mean for more Space Opera?

11. WHERE HAVE ALL THE PUBLISHERS GONE? IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?

More and more people are self-publishing today. Will all writers eventually go to this format? Will we miss publishers when we don't have them (if that happens)? What are the advantages and perils of dealing with a publisher or magazine editor?

12. TELLING LIES FOR FUN AND PROFIT: WRITING FICTION

How True does your story need to be? Just true to itself? What does "based on" mean to you? Is truth really stranger than fiction? When does the suspension of disbelief mean going off the rails? You get paid for this?

13. MIRRORS & WINDOWS: IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY & REPRESENTATION IN SF/F

Sally Ride, first American woman in space, famously said: “Young girls need to see role models in whatever careers they may choose, just so they can picture themselves doing those jobs someday.” In the last year the conversation about diversity & representation in SF/F has become too loud to ignore. Controversies have spread through fandom – from #wheresRey to the missing Gamora & Black Widow merchandise. Women are erased from roles, and the thought of a black Stormtrooper is enough to make parts of the internet explode. A genre that’s supposed to inspire us towards a bright future isn’t making space for half the population. Boys go and have adventures, girls are to be defended, or prizes to be won, and the landscape is very, very white.

14. ROCKETS, ROBOTS AND RAYGUNS: THE THREE “R”s OF SCIENCE FICTION

Since the early days of SF, these three elements have been cornerstones of the genre. How did they help shape what we have come to know as SF? How did early portrayals of these elements evolve from the technology of the day? How do writers’ visions of these things stack up today? What did they get right and what did they miss? Have these cornerstones been replaced or just updated and altered with developing technology and taste?

15. HOW TO RECOGNIZE GOOD WRITING: I KNOW WHAT I LIKE

Is a popular author a good writer by definition? If an author comes up with a great or new idea, does that make him or her really innovative or just a really excellent author? What are the highlights of good writing and what should fans look for? Who are some of the great writers that everybody should read? What makes a classic? And if you won a flight on a rocket ship, what books would you take with you into outer space? Why would those specific books be good to take along?

16. DEUS EX GRAPHICA: THE ROLE OF MYTHOLOGY IN COMICS

Is Superman a Christ figure? Is Batman an urban myth? Just how Greco-Roman is Wonder Woman, anyway? And why is Marvel’s Thor blonde? How much do comics borrow from mythology? Are these stories and themes timeless? Get the answers in a fun and creative panel discussion.

17. “IS THIS A KISSING BOOK?”: THE INEVITABLE ROMANTIC SUB-PLOT

Is romance of some sort necessary for a good novel? Can a novel be successful without a romantic sub-plot? When, how and why did the romantic sub-plot gain traction? Was it a ploy to try and attract female readers/viewers? Did it come about as female writers entered the field? Has it always been there? What’s the tipping point between the SF/Fantasy novel with romance, and a romance novel with SF/Fantasy? What do the panelists love and/or hate about romantic sub-plots?

18. THE MARTIAN: FACT AND FICTION

So, just how realistic is *The Martian*, novel and movie? What about them is fact? And what is total fiction? How plausible is *The Martian*? What are the challenges of getting to the Red Planet? And what happens once we’re there?

19. WHEN HOLLYWOOD COMES KNOCKING: SEEING YOUR BABY ADAPTED...

Panelists share their tales of woe (or triumph). How did Hollywood get it wrong? What did they do right? Did they actually make any improvement? Will this panel confirm folks’ worst fears of LaLa Land? Or are things not that bad? The check cleared, right? And what about dream casting? Who would you like to see as your hero, love interest, best friend and/or villain?

20. ARE ROBOTS STILL SCARY? DANGER, WILL ROBINSON!

Robots once ran rampant on the pages of pulp magazines and across movie screens. Has familiarity with computers and perhaps Wall-E softened the image of the robot? Do we still fear the day the robots take over? Should we? Can we invent even scarier scenarios now that we’re more familiar with robots?

21. WONDER WOMEN OF THE 20TH & 21ST CENTURIES

Most of us can’t imagine our favorite comic book, TV show or film without our beloved superheroines. However, the journey has not been easy. What cultural barriers and societal sexism have existed to make super women fight not just crime but for survival? What are the challenges and obstacles to creating relevant female protagonists in today’s male-dominated industries? And in Wonder Woman’s case, she has a history of more than 75 years from the original comics to the Lynda Carter TV series to this year’s *Batman vs Superman*, with Gal Gadot in the role. How has the Amazonian Princess influenced media, fiction and our culture? And what of Supergirl?

22. ROBO-RALLY: WHAT HAPPENS TO TRUCK & TAXI DRIVERS 5 YEARS FROM NOW

Automated driving is coming soon – possibly within the next five years. Commercial fleets will go first and virtually all those jobs will be eliminated. The total number of necessary trucks will go down as they won’t be idled while drivers sleep. And the central, automated repair and fueling functions will take fewer people. Driving trucks and cars is the largest single occupational category in the US with millions more doing ancillary stuff. What kind of social & economic changes can we expect? What do workers do instead? And what of *Maximum Overdrive*?

23. THE THREE Rs IN VISUAL ART: HOW DO ROCKETS, ROBOTS & RAYGUNS LOOK

How are Rockets, Robots and Rayguns represented in SF and comic book art? Have they changed much since the glory days of pulp magazine covers? Why or why not? What is so appealing about those pulp-era robots and rockets? Why don't rockets have fins and look like cigars anymore? Were robots in art more menacing way back when? What about the design of a good raygun? What makes a gun look science fictional in artwork? Have certain styles & appearances become shorthand for artists now?

24. THE SUB-GENRES THAT WON'T DIE: WHY NOT

We've all heard it before: Vampires are yesterday's news, steampunk is dead, zombies have no life, then something happens and those genres are bigger than ever. Are there any sub-genres that have ever truly died? What allows for a sub-genre to return from the brink of extinction? Which sub-genres really deserve to die and why?

25. CON CONNECTIONS: COLLEAGUES AS FAMILY

When people run across each other at conventions over the years, what kind of relationships are formed? What kind of atmosphere exists at SF cons among participants, especially Guests of Honor? What stories can be shared of con experiences? What is the common denominator in these friendly relationships forming? Are conventions special and magical?