

\*\*\*eCube WisCon 27  
Volume 3, Issue no. 1

WisCon 27 May 23–26, 2003 Box 1624 Madison, WI 53701-1624 info@sf3.org  
www.sf3.org/wiscon/

## ABOUT WISCON 27 GUESTS OF HONOR, CAROL EMSHWILLER AND CHINA MIÉVILLE

### CAROL EMSHWILLER

Carol Emswiller's writing is brilliant. Rich, funny. Incredibly funny. Wry. Sad. Angry but in a controlled beautiful way (and not always of course).

She began writing in the 1950s, under difficult circumstances: she was married, with small children, and it was the 1950s. Sometimes she would pick up her typewriter and sit with it inside the children's playpen while her children played and raged around her. She sat and wrote, ignoring them as best she could.

In the short story 'Autobiography,' from the collection *Joy in Our Cause*, she writes, 'Most of my life is spent not writing.' She was in her forties then and her husband Ed was still alive. Most of her life now is spent writing. She has a set of writing rules that she likes to break. The rules are the sorts of thing writing teachers routinely tell their students: begin with a bang, show don't tell, work out your plot ahead of time. Carol prefers to sneak up on you, to figure out the plot as she goes along, and she'll tell and show and tell whenever and however she wants to.

Carol has written stories ranging from straight-up science fiction to experimental pieces. Her novels are just as varied. *Carmen Dog* in which women turn into dogs and dogs turn into women, is the funniest battle-of-the-sexes novel ever written. *Ledoyt and Leaping Man Hill* completely transform the western genre. Her most recent novel, *The Mount*, is another role reversal set in a future in which humans are bred for speed and beauty and ridden by their alien masters. It's a beautiful book, at once a cracking good adventure and a meditation on slavery and power.

Carol lives in New York City in the winters and spends her summers in the California mountains. Her most recent writing is filled with mountains and rattlesnakes. [bio by Justine Larbalestier]

Recent books: *REPORT TO THE MEN'S CLUB AND OTHER STORIES*, Small Beer Press, 2002

*THE MOUNT, A NOVEL*, Small Beer Press, 2002

Carol Emswiller's official website: <http://www.sfwaweb.org/members/emswiller/>

A recent interview: <http://www.sfsite.com/fm/show.html?iw,emshwiller,1>

Her latest books: <http://www.lcrw.net/>

Breaking the rules of writing: <http://www.sfsite.com/fm/show.html?ey,breakingrules,1>

## CHINA MIÉVILLE

China Miéville (pronounced mee-AY-vill) grew up in London, went to boarding school, worked in Egypt and Zimbabwe for a year, and then earned degrees from Cambridge and the London School of Economics. His first novel, KING RAT (1998), was a dark urban gothic take on "The Pied Piper of Hamelin". It was followed to much acclaim by PERDIDO STREET STATION (2000), set in the imaginary, grotesque world of New Crobuzon; the book won the Arthur C. Clarke Award and the British Fantasy Award. His latest book, The SCAR, set in the same world, will be published in 2002. He currently lives in London. -Locus Magazine

His unofficial home page: <http://runagate-rampant.netfirms.com/>

## SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

Instead of the usual cross-programmed schedule of panels on Friday afternoon, newly arrived conventioners will find a lively FAIR occupying the three large ballrooms on the second floor of the Concourse Hotel. You will be able to hang out with your friends in the large central area in the middle of the fair. There will be cocktail tables and plenty of chairs for schmoozing. Authors who arrive on Friday afternoon will be available to sign their books. (We'll make sure they're easy to identify!) You will also check out the many arts-and-crafts, game, and informational booths that will be set up against the walls of the ballrooms. Inexpensive tickets will be available -- for which you can trade a tarot reading by Suzy Charnas, writerly advice and a balloon animal from Pat Murphy, or a chance at a fabulous raffle item. You'll be able to decorate your name badge and make a lovely beaded necklace to hang your name badge around your neck. You might be able to learn some tips about book-binding. Perhaps you'll be able to play Barbie and Ken Ring-Toss. We've heard dozens of suggestions of what we might do at the Fair and we'd be glad to hear from you too. Feel free to send us your ideas, especially if you'd like to run one of the booths!

The fair will run from 2 pm Friday afternoon until 5:30 p.m. in order to give the hotel enough time to re-set the room for Opening Ceremonies.

The NAME of the fair will be announced in the next eCube. Money raised through the sale of tickets will be Broad Universe and other participating non-profit groups.

## NEW SPIFFY WEB REDESIGN

We've spiffed up our look, organized our stuff, thrown out out-of-date material, and added current information to our site. We hope you find it useful. Comments welcome. Check it out! <http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/>

## POSTCARD REMINDER

Did you receive a WisCon reminder postcard recently? We hope so. If you did not and if you want your postal address to be added to WisCon's database, please contact us. (Send email to: [maillist@sf3.org](mailto:maillist@sf3.org) or fill out the update form on our [News page](#)).

The code on your mailing label reveals your registration status.

A = Attending membership S = Supporting membership Y = Youth membership K = Kid-in-tow membership C = Childcare G = Current Guest of Honor P = Previous Guest of Honor

## DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM

The membership registration form (as a pdf file) is available on-line at [www.sf3.org/wiscon/](http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/)

ADULT (age 13 & up): \$40 through 4/30/03; \$50 at-the-door

YOUTH (age 7-12): \$20 through 4/30/03; \$25 at-the-door

CHILDCARE (age 0-6): Free if signed up through 4/30/03; not available at-the-door

SUPPORTING (non-attending, receive publications only) \$15, available anytime

DESSERT TICKETS: (Sunday night) \$9 each

## UNFILLED COMMITTEE POSITIONS

There are still a few unfilled positions on the WisCon concom committee. Are you interested in working on the convention? Contact WisCon today! [concom@sf3.org](mailto:concom@sf3.org)

## PROGRAMMING

We're collecting ideas for panels and other programming events at WisCon 27 and we need your help. Programming events and especially panels are central to WisCon. We typically have five tracks running throughout the convention and around 150 panels total. That's a lot of panels for a convention with about 600 members. Help us with your ideas. Go to:

<http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/WisCon27ProgrammingIdeas.htm>

We will contact you later and ask you if you want to participate on any panels.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

We invite papers and presentations on science fiction and fantasy, with an emphasis on issues of feminism, gender, race, and class. We especially welcome papers on the work of this year's guests of honor, Carol Emshwiller and China Miéville.

Send proposals via e-mail to: Justine Larbalestier, <jazza@english.usyd.edu.au>  
Deadline: March 15, 2003.

## RESPITE

This year's Respite will feature the Friday writing workshop for novel chapters, short stories and poetry. Pros include GoH Carol Emshwiller and Louise Marley with more to be announced later. The poetry pro is Terry Garey. Details on submissions for the Respite's Workshop can be found at the WisCon website or by e-mailing inquiries to Melodie Bolt at [Wolfsighs@aol.com](mailto:Wolfsighs@aol.com). The postmark deadline for chapter and short story submissions is April 1, 2003. For poetry, the deadline is May 1, 2003

## ART SHOW

Artists, you may request art show information now. We will be sending out the reservation information in early February, and you will need to reserve space as soon as possible in order to guarantee a place to hang your work. Email Jim Hudson at <[jhudson@alum.mit.edu](mailto:jhudson@alum.mit.edu)> and we'll send you the rules in PDF format as soon as they are available. We also encourage you to suggest ideas for art-related program items, as described above.

## WILL WISCON 27 HOST THE TIPTREE CEREMONY?

The James Tiptree, Jr. Award ceremony will NOT take place at WisCon this year. Seacon will host the 12th annual awards ceremony in Hinkley, England, April 18-21, 2003. For more information about Seacon, go to: <http://www.seacon03.org.uk/>. More news on these Tiptree-related events and the winner of the Tiptree Award will be published on the Tiptree web page: <http://www.tiptree.org/> and in eCube. Watch this space for an announcement of the 2002 Tiptree winner.

## TIPTREE AUCTION

The Tiptree Award will receive all proceeds from donated items. Donations to the Tiptree auction can be mailed to Scott Custis, 2825 Union Street, Madison, WI 53704, to arrive at least one week before the convention. If you prefer to bring an auction item to the convention with you, then please let Scott know as soon as possible what you are bringing.

## CAN I MAKE MY HOTEL RESERVATION YET?

Yes. It's early, but the hotel is ready to take your reservation. Here's the information you need:

Room rates are a flat \$89 per night for up to four persons. Governor's Club rates are \$114. Remember to mention "WisCon 2003" when you call. The Concourse is a handicapped accessible hotel; call for specific information about accessibility. Smoke-free rooms are available upon request.

Concourse Hotel, 1 West Dayton Street, Madison, WI 53703, 1-800-356-8293. Or go to—<http://www.concoursehotel.com/>

Please note: The hotel's Internet system is unfortunately not set up to take group reservations on line. If you check for vacancies on line, the system may tell you that the hotel is "full" on WisCon weekend. In order to find out if there is space in the WisCon room block or make a reservation at WisCon rates, you must telephone the hotel.

## WISCON IS MORE THAN JUST ONE WEEKEND -- SPREAD OUT THE FUN!

You are cordially invited to join us at WisCon planning meetings. Concom (convention committee) planning meetings are listed below; and they are all scheduled at noon Sundays. If you would like to attend, please send an email to us and we'll let give you more information: [concom@sf3.org](mailto:concom@sf3.org)

November 24, (contact WisCon for directions to meeting) January 12, (contact WisCon for directions to meeting) February 9 (contact WisCon for directions to meeting) March 9, (contact WisCon for directions to meeting) April 6, Concourse Hotel May 4, Concourse Hotel May 11, Concourse Hotel May 18, Concourse Hotel

## WISCON BULLETIN BOARD

Join to receive messages by sending an email to [wiscon\\_open-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:wiscon_open-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Post your message to [wiscon\\_open@yahoogroups.com](mailto:wiscon_open@yahoogroups.com). This would be a good place to look for a roommate, share travel information, or start your convention early.

**LUMINARIES** We have just begun to hear from people confirming their attendance at WisCon 27. This list is a work-in-progress and names will be added as we hear from others. We'll keep you up to date with future issues of eCube.

If you'd like information about any of the attending luminaries, click on:

<http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/info.html>

Brian Atteberry Elizabeth Barrett Suzanne Blom Richard J. Chwedyk Bill Clemente Leah Cutter Beverly DeWeese Suzette Haden Elgin Karen Fowler Jim Frenkel Gregory Frost Sally Gearhart Molly Gloss Jorjet Harper Pam Keeseey Sylvia Kelso Ellen Klages Naomi Kritzer Ellen Kushner Justine Larbalestier Laurie Marks Louise Marley Elizabeth Matson Farah Mendlesohn Syne Mitchell Mary Anne Mohanraj Nancy Jane Moore Debbie Notkin Kate Schaefer Laurie Selke Delia Sherman Diane Silver Terri Windling Joan Vinge Laurel Winter

## OTHER MADISON SF CONVENTIONS

WisCon isn't the only Madison convention, you know....

FILMCON 3 will take place on the weekend of November 15-17, 2002, at Madison's Raddisson Inn West. FilmCon is primarily about making films -- from conception and design to writing and storyboarding, blue screen to composite effects. Filmcon's programs will help any film-maker, from first-time novice to the more experienced fan film-maker to students who wish to learn the trade. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the STAR WARS saga, FilmCon 3 will devote one third of its panels and discussions to this historic film giant. For more information about this convention check out the web site at: <http://www.filmcon.com/>

ODYSSEY CON will be held in Madison the weekend of April 4-6, 2003 at the Radisson Hotel. Odyssey Con is a general interest convention offering several tracks of programming, gaming, videos, a masquerade, and evening parties. Guests of Honor at Odyssey Con 2003 will be Harry Turtledove, Catherine Asaro, and John Kovalic. Other guests include Joan D. Vinge and Jim Frenkel. For more information, check out the Odyssey Con web site at: <http://www.venture-1.com/~oddcon/>

CORFLU, the annual fanzine fans convention will hold its 20th reincarnation in Madison on the weekend of April 11-13, 2003 at the Best Western Intowner. The name Corflu is derived from CORrection FLUid -- a substance in much demand during the low-tech, pre-computer days of fanzines. Corflu's Guest of Honor is chosen by the time-honored method of pulling an attending fan's name out of the hat. You'll find a single track of programming, good parties, delicious food, and lots of fascinating fannish conversation. For more information, check out the Corflu 20 website at: <http://www.mailbag.com/users/billzilla/corflu.html>

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