

FanActivity Gazette

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News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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The Incompleat Register

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Editorial

This issue includes as an attachment The Incompleat Register 2021 with the directions and ballot for the annual FAAn awards for achievement in fanzine activity. We also include the latest CorFlu PanGloss, the progress report on the 2022 Corflu fanzine convention.

News submissions should be sent to George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net, who will forward them to the appropriate N3F fanzine.

Fanfaronade: Celebrating Current Fanzines #18

The Incomplete Register 2021 A FAAn awards listzine (Published by Nic Farey: 2657 Rungsted Street, Las Vegas NV 89142; fareynic@gmail.com; available from efanzines.com).

This first item is not a publication which requires reviewing *per se*. What matters most about *The Incomplete Register* is what it presages: the annual FAAn Awards. These are, to the best of my knowledge, the only awards devoted entirely to fanzine activity, as well as the only awards for which literally anyone at all can vote. One need not be a member of any club, have paid any fees, or attend any conventions; to vote is to demonstrate one's interest, and to demonstrate one's interest is to demonstrate one's eligibility to vote. "Voting is open to anyone with an interest in fanzines." I strongly recommend so voting.

There are no professional categories; each and every one is intended solely to recognize the activities of fans and their work. This year there are seven categories: Best Genzine, Best Perzine, and Best Special Publication/One-shot; Best Fanwriter; Best Fanartist; Best Letterhack; and Best Fanzine Cover (this latter is in some ways the most interesting, as it allows someone who has produced a single high quality piece to be recognized despite the absence of a larger body of work, an opportunity not provided by any of the other widely known awards, a possibility not found in any other award known to me). "The sole criterion for a FAAn award vote," editor Nic Farey points out, "is that work should have been published for the first time in the calendar year 2021. This includes collections of older material in a new format."

The nominating/voting processes operate simultaneously: in each category you can list up to five titles or individuals; if there is one you think especially deserving, you can mark it as your 'top choice.' After the deadline, the votes are counted, with an extra bump for the top choice options, and the results are announced. It's quick, clean, and straightforward.

Even if your awareness of fanzines is limited (and whose isn't in these days of unannounced on-line issues?), assistance is at hand: the last three pages of *The Incomplete Register* contain categorized lists of many of the fanzines currently being published (but don't think your vote is restricted thereby; "all votes re-

ceived will be counted in good faith,” even if no one on the committee has ever seen, or even heard of, a fanzine for which you have cast a vote). Look up some fanzines, and start thinking about which you like best. Many of the zines listed are available on Bill Burns’s efanzines.com, so you can check them out at your leisure. Another place to look, of course, is back issues of this very fanzine review column; while I don’t make specific recommendations regarding awards, it won’t be difficult to guess which zines I find most impressive, assessments with which you may or may not agree, and which may thus stimulate critical thoughts of your own (keeping in mind that, while I review every fanzine an editor sends me, by no means do all editors send me their fanzines). A copious supply of additional reviews can be found in Guy Lillian’s *Zine Dump*, the only full scale reviewzine still being published, available, like so much else, at efanzines.com. There’s much good fannish work being published, and it and its creators deserve to be acknowledged by those who know best: the fanzine fans.

You’ve got some, if not a lot of, time; as the *Register* notes, “Votes must be **received** before midnight PDT, Friday February 25, 2022.” This is your opportunity to be heard regarding the best of fanzine creation and publication. Don’t miss it.

Askance 52; *Askew* 35: (Edited by John Purcell; available from efanzines.com). The former is a genzine, the latter a perzine, but both offer plenty of fannish material. *Askance* is longer by far (30 pages as opposed to 8, although nine of those pages are devoted to a convention listing); the range of topics is wide and engaging in both.

Askew includes brief reviews of Purcell’s recent sfnal reading; he covers eleven books, with publishing dates ranging from 1901 (George Chetwynd Griffith’s *Honeymoon in Space*, on which Purcell’s summation is that, although “the unique propulsion system and description of the spaceship is worth it,” “the vast majority of this overly religious polemic is overwhelming, especially in the last three chapters.”) to 2017 (*The Rise and Fall of D.O.D.O.*, by Neil Stephenson & Nicole Galland, “a grand bit of adventure spread out across a millennium as characters plunge back and forth through historical eras in an effort to save magic.” Purcell recommends it enthusiastically, despite its 742 pages.). Purcell’s comments are pithy and sometimes brusque, but always fair; the two pages are the highlight of the zine.

Askance, being larger, has space for a cover (by Sarah Felix, taking a break from creating tiaras). It also has room for a reprint of “the Time-Binder’s Wife,” a faan fiction story by Purcell from 2010 featuring unexpected encounters, via the refrigerator, with Sherman and Mr. Peabody and Dr. McCoy. It’s amusing, and does not outstay its welcome.

Sam Long contributes “Parodies Lost and Parodies Regained,” a collection of filk songs from years ago (the oldest is from 1970, with revisions from 1993); Bill Fischer presents another in his “Figby” series of comics; Purcell reviews two fanzines at some length (Kurt Erichsen’s *Endeavor*, reappearing after a 44-year hiatus) and Claire Brialey & Mark Plummer’s *Banana Wings*), then segues into a book review, something he appears to think uncommon in a fanzine. Perhaps it is these days, but plenty of the best fanzines of yore published many such reviews. Oddly enough, the lettercol has only one letter, as opposed to two in the shorter *Askew*.

Purcell and his colleagues have light touches, and the material is generally breezy and pleasant to read. This gives all the more reason to hope that Purcell’s expression of doubt about continuing publishing (“it could easily be that I am getting a bit tired of pubbing zines”) is a passing malaise, not a precognition of the future.

Pablo Lennis 410 (January, 2022: “a bi-monthly journal of science fiction and fantasy fiction in the form of a fan magazine with a distribution accomplished by sending it to contributors of art and writing, to writers of letters of comment, to people sending similar publications in exchange, and otherwise for the price of 2.00 an issue.” Published by John Thiel, 30 N. 19th St., Lafayette, Indiana, 47904)

I didn’t receive the past two issues of *Pablo Lennis*, and this one arrived just in time to be added to this issue’s column. Some changes have occurred. The zine is now bi-monthly. Burnett Toskey, who has been active in fandom even longer than Thiel himself (he was active in *The Nameless Ones* in Seattle starting in about 1950), is running a bizarrely amusing serial, “Nursemaid to Nightmares,” which seems to be concluding in this issue, while Celine Rose Mariotti has begun a new serial, “Atomic Soldiers: Exploring Saturn,” written

very much in the manner of a 1920s or '30s pulp tale. Joanne Tolson's long-running serial, "Society of Disinformation," continues with Chapter 21, all of eleven lines long. I suspect the bi-monthly appearance of serial chapters will make following the overall tales a bit more difficult.

Otherwise the regular writers and features are present as usual, among them poems, reviews, and a longer essay by Will Mayo, a cartoon by G.F. Heyder, a poem by Dr. Mel Waldman, and, perhaps most interestingly, a variety of retrospective articles by editor Thiel. He has been contributing idiosyncratic fanzines and fannish material to the sfnal world for over sixty years; it is thus always interesting to see his comments (themselves invariably idiosyncratic as well) on other fanzines and fandom in general, along with his reviews of his own publications (here of his on-line zine *Surprising Stories*). The letters trigger extensive responses from Thiel, making this genzine even more personalized than usual.

This Here... 48: Edited by Nic Farey: 2657 Rungsted Street, Las Vegas NV 89142; far-eynic@gmail.com; available from efanazines.com.

Of particular interest here is an article, "The Week of Hell," by J.L. Farey, Nic's partner, who is more often being written about in the zine than doing the writing. Like so many such tales, it begins quietly with a minor incident; like a Laurel and Hardy film (think 1929's *Big Business*, wherein a house—the wrong house—is demolished), events spiral downward into miscommunication and chaos and (the climax, which I will not spoil) "a nice, relaxing morning" ends up being about a dog. It's worse than you expect, and funnier, in a sick sort of way (the accompanying illo is a Jackson Pollock painting, which is all too appropriate without being too graphic), before circling around to the calm after the storm.

Nic's opening essays are typically wide-ranging or perhaps even a bit more so; I can't recall Plato's Theory of Forms making an appearance before, especially in a discussion of fans and fanzines (no, I'm not describing it; you'll just have to go to efanazines and check it out for yourself). The conclusion extends the implicit conversation startlingly: having described William Breiding (*Portable Storage*) in a more or less Platonic context, Nic spins the tale back to fanzine fandom in an unexpected manner: "At risk of extreme and wide-spread chair plummeting, I'll be so bold as to suggest that each of us sees something of ourselves in the other, at least perhaps in the broad-brush ways in which we are engaging with the fanzine Faniverse."

David Hodson's Footy column is likewise wide-ranging, beginning with a blast at the most recent Spiderman movie and proceeding through sports scandals, Pheidippides (and the historians who rather expanded upon his original feat—"we're looking at you, Plutarch, and you, Lucian")—and dubious machinations in Formula 1 racing before summing up recent football news, "although only Gawd and Nic Farey know why." Amusing as always, even, or perhaps particularly, for those not interested in the sports themselves.

General fannish material is, of course, all but omnipresent: the TAFF race, the upcoming Corflu Pangloss, and Ulrika O'Brien's sardonic on Hugo Award categories, which moves from sardonic to sarcastic as it proposes a variety of new categories ("the O, Ghu! Awards"), such as "Best Random Event in an Unrelated Fandom that Some People Online Liked a Lot" (I like this one), and "Best Gigantic Aggregation of Random Contributors Who Got So Much as a Name Check in a Publication Run by 'Editors' Who Think Every Kid in the League Deserves an Orange Slice, Especially When Someone Else Pays for The Infinite Number of Oranges."

This is perhaps the most fannish of current fanzines; nominally a perzine (and certainly deeply shaped by Nic's own character, history, and interests), *This Here...* contains much more of general interest than many a genzine. And if you don't like what you read, there's always the lettercol, in which you can expatiate upon the iniquities of fandom at length.

Tommyworld 88 (Tommy Ferguson, editor: available from: 125 Haypark Ave, Belfast, BT7 3FG, Northern Ireland; tw@tommyworld.net [or] http://tommyworld.net.

The entire issue, four pages instead of the more common two, is devoted to a con report on Corflu 38 (Concorde), held in Bristol in November of last year, having been postponed from March by the then-current Covid surge. Corflu is the only convention which has managed to avoid actually cancelling any of its annual in-person meetings throughout the two years of Covid; even so, the eight month postponement still found the shadow of the pandemic looming over the proceedings: "The Friday night Opening Ceremony, 'It's a Zoom

Pandemic’ panel and Open Mike cabaret show were, I have to say, a bit muted. Not too sure if this was because we were all feeling our way - elbow bumps were the order of the day and masks were on all the times.”

Yet the camaraderie possible in a small convention quickly asserted itself, and Ferguson’s account captures more than a modicum of humor and good feelings shared by those present. The programming, although not extensive, was wide-ranging and seems to have been greeted with lively interest, especially the discussion, hosted by Rich Coad, of whether PoD is fannish, in which the discussants took unexpected sides. “It is not very often you hear the traditional small ‘c’ conservative fans passionately arguing over whether control of the means of production of our work was a central tenet of fannish fandom.” Ferguson, who revealed that he “has a tattoo of Lenin on his person” (he didn’t say where), was quite pleased at the turn of events.

Of special interest to North American fans may be the last page, comprising a photograph of most of the attendees paired with a name key in the manner of group photos from a century ago. As most members of N3F may never have met most English or Irish fans, but may well have read things by or about them, this helps put a face to the person whose words you already know.

Chatty, pleasant, and very fannish: if you’re a fan of fannishness, pluck this one from the internet and enjoy.

Editors desiring reviews: If you have a print zine, send it to me at 308 Prince St., #422, St. Paul, Minn. 55101; if you have an e-zine, send a PDF to jeab@musician.org. My deadline is the 15th of each month; it would be helpful if zines have arrived by the 10th of each month. Anything sent close to the deadline makes the review more likely to be based on a quick skim of the contents. If the zine is new to me, or seems to require more extensive consideration, I may hold it over for a month.

Advance notice: As of this writing, I expect to be in Canada teaching a course during the month of March, which means that I will not receive any print fanzines until I return at the beginning of April. So if you send one in late February and don’t see a review in March, it’s not because I’m ignoring you, but that I had not received the zine in time to add the review to the column.

Television

Rabid Ears: Ravings of a TV Fiend

By Cathode Ray

Don’t touch that dial, you wide-eyed Neffers; it’s the new year’s first edition of “Rabid Ears: Ravings of a TV Fiend.” Hello, and how do you do, 2022? This is an occasional column about the best and brightest science fiction, fantasy, horror, and other genre television programming options. Let’s see what’s what—now, and next—on the old boob tube, shall we? Don’t worry about too much screen time for Baby New Year. Ol’ Cathode Ray is available for babysitting—during prime time and late nights.

The Dec. 6-19, 2021, issue of TV Guide included some intriguing items of potential interest to fen. Correspondent “Scott”—if that even be his real name—wrote in to the “Ask Matt” lettercol to suggest that he and other fen of the show LA BREA might watch it, ahem, ironically, much like fen of Syfy’s SHARKNADO films. “LA BREA ... is so bad that it’s kind of funny, ... except I think it is supposed to be a serious drama,” he wrote. TV Guide scribe Matt Roush agreed, comparing it to older programs such as THE TIME TUNNEL and LAND OF THE GIANTS. What the hey now? “[V]iewers ... are watching agog at how inept this sci-fi adventure is while almost enjoying it for its unabashed cheesiness,” Roush wrote in response. This humble columnist—and fan—bristles at such dismissive language. Sometimes, the lapses in—or lack of—polish and quality can aid in a show’s appeal. There’s absolutely nothing wrong with watching THE TIME TUNNEL or LAND OF THE GIANTS—especially given their scarcity on DVD in our region. Now, LA BREA, on the other hand...

Also in that edition, GHOSTS maintained a position in the TV Insider “20 Top Shows” list. For the week of Nov. 8-14, 2021, GHOSTS came in at No. 19, with 5.2 million viewers watching live. A sidebar titled “Fall TV’s Top Winners and Losers” reported that the show has averaged 5.5 million viewers since its Oct. 7, 2021, premiere. Similarly, LA BREA came in as the No. 1 new series for 2021 in the 18-49 demographic. The network even ordered a second season. Other shows that earned mention in that issue included THE EXPANSE, HAWKEYE, LEGACIES (a VAMPIRE DIARIES spinoff), STATION ELEVEN (exploring the experiences of survivors of a flu epidemic), and THE WITCHER. (THE WITCHER also got a call out in the Dec. 12-18, 2021, issue of TV Weekly.)

But the Dec. 20, 2021, to Jan. 2, 2022, edition of TV Guide is of particular interest to fen. Featuring a cover image of THE BOOK OF BOBA FETT’s Temuera Morrison and Ming-Na Wen, that issue proclaims “Boba Fett: STAR WARS Takes Over TV!” with a subhead saying “Plus: Scoop on OBI-WAN KENOBI and 5 other new series.” STAR WARS fen, get thee to a newsstand! I’ll count to five and give you a head start: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1...

The feature story, “Boba Fett Rules!,” is given a full two pages, including a full-page photo. Jim Halterman’s article on THE BOOK OF BOBA FETT, which premieres Dec. 29, recounts the character’s movie appearances, as well as Boba Fett’s presence in THE MANDALORIAN. The new show sounds amazing, to be honest. Two additional pages are devoted to other forthcoming STAR WARS shows fen can anticipate, including THE ACOLYTE, ASHOKA, ANDOR, LANDO, THE MANDALORIAN, OBI-WAN KENOBI, and RANGERS OF THE NEW REPUBLIC. I think that’s more than five, per the cover, but I’m no mathematician. It’s definitely a good time to be a STAR WARS fan.

Dean Stockwell is included in the tribute “A Fond Farewell,” which focuses on actors who died in the last year. Stockwell starred opposite Scott Bakula in the 1989-1993 series QUANTUM LEAP, which earned him four Emmy nominations and a Golden Globe. More recently, he appeared on BATTLESTAR GALACTICA. (The December 2021 issue of Channel Guide also noted the deaths of Johnny Crawford, a former Mouseketeer who also appeared on THE RIFLEMAN; and Clarence Williams III, who was on THE MOD SQUAD.) And Matt Roush’s “Top 10 of 2021” included several genre options in the roundup: EVIL, GHOSTS, WANDA-VISION, and WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS.

The December 2021 issue of Channel Guide reported that Apple TV+ signed on for Season 2 of FOUNDATION and Seasons 3 and 4 of MYTHIC QUEST, and HBO Max gave the green light on a fourth season for TITANS and DOOM PATROL. At the same time, Y: THE LAST MAN has been canceled on FX on Hulu; rumor is it might be shopped elsewhere.

In recent weeks, several notable genre programs have aired. Jodie Whittaker’s time on DOCTOR WHO came to an end with the finale of the 13th season on BBC America and AMC+ on Dec. 5. (BBC America will air three DOCTOR WHO specials in 2022, including a holiday special on New Year’s Day—after five days of the DOCTOR WHO marathon leading up to it.) THE EXPANSE’s sixth and final season premiered on Amazon Prime Video on Dec. 10. The Dec. 12-18, 2021, TV Weekly highlighted the Dec. 16 streaming of FIREBITE, an original series on AMC+ in which “indigenous Australian hunters battle vampires.” (Channel Guide expands on the premise of the program: The last vampire colony, dating to the late 18th century, is located in a remote mining town.) A toothsome tale, to be true. Channel Guide noted THE WITCHER’s season premiere on Netflix on Dec. 17. FANTASY ISLAND received a TV Guide Editors’ Choice for its Dec. 21 episode on Fox—as well as a mention in the Dec. 19-25, 2021, issue of TV Weekly. As commented on in the previous installment of this column, the holiday season continued to inspire screenings of several seasonal fantasies, including the direct-to-video FROZEN sequel OLAF’S FROZEN ADVENTURE, which aired on ABC on Dec. 24; and the 1966 animated HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!, which aired on NBC on Christmas Day itself.

Meanwhile, all 100 episodes of the 2011-17 TEEN WOLF TV adaptation dropped on Paramount+. BEWITCHED's third season, its first in color, is now streaming on Amazon Prime's IMDb channel. A DISCOVERY OF WITCHES's first season, which features a witch and her vampire lover (a toothsome two-some, to be true), is now available on Prime's AMC+ channel. The South Korean sf thriller THE SILENT SEA started streaming on Netflix on Dec. 24. And the New Zealand plague-themed sf comedy CREAMERIE is newly available on Hulu. Your humble narrator predicts that the streaming services will continue to offer sf, fantasy, and horror productions from other countries in translation. If only we could expect the same in books and short stories!

Pencil these in your calendar, fen and fellow freaks: Right now, the most important television event is the five-day DOCTOR WHO marathon leading up to the new year. It started at 6 a.m. PT on Dec. 27 and will run 24 hours a day with back-to-back episodes. Kicking off with the DOCTOR WHO episode "The Girl in the Fireplace," (Season 2, Episode 4) the marathon is a bumper crop of recent doctors. Episodes to be aired include "The God Complex," "Hell Bent," "Hide," "Orphan 55," "Resolution," "Rosa," "Smile," and many others. As an example of how they're airing the episodes, between 7 p.m. and midnight Dec. 27, BBC America will screen the DOCTOR WHO episodes "Silence in the Library," "Forest of the Dead," "Midnight," "The Stolen Earth," and "Journey's End." That's Season 4, Episodes 8-10, and 12-13, so the marathon is mostly near-complete runs in sequence. A real treat.

Starting Dec. 29, HBO2 will air the first two episodes of DOOM PATROL and RAISED BY WOLVES; viewers can then continue watching on HBO Max. Not only does THE BOOK OF BOBA FETT (as mentioned above) start streaming on Disney+ on Dec. 29, the 1998 pilot of CHARMED will air on TNT and a new episode of GHOST ADVENTURES will debut on Travel on that day. Syfy's annual TWILIGHT ZONE marathon kicks off Dec. 31 with the 1963 episode "The Parallel." The marathon will run through Jan. 2.

That TWILIGHT ZONE marathon is, then, the second most important TV coming up in the near future. Since 2 a.m. PT on Dec. 31, Syfy has been airing back-to-back TWILIGHT ZONE episodes, continuing a tradition it's maintained for the last five years or so. Before that, it wasn't uncommon for regional syndicated stations to hold similar TWILIGHT ZONE marathons. Rod Serling fan site Shadow & Substance published this year's full marathon schedule, which is an extremely helpful resource. (You can access it at <https://tinyurl.com/bddsbfed>.) The first 10 episodes aired include "The Parallel," "Where is Everybody?," "One For the Angels," "Mr. Denton on Doomsday," "The Sixteen-Millimeter Shrine," "The Incredible World of Horace Ford," "Judgment Night," "The Purple Testament," "Elegy," and "Nightmare As a Child." That accounts for Season 4, Episode 11; Season 1, Episodes 1-4; Season 4, Episode 15; and Season 1, Episode 10, 19-20, and 29. Well worth tuning in to.

Meanwhile, a new PBS adaptation of AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS starring David Tennant will premiere Jan. 2—it even earned an Editors' Choice from TV Guide. Reportedly, the new series gives Phileas Fogg, the protagonist of Jules Verne's 1872 novel, more of a backstory. And TV Weekly's Dec. 26, 2021, to Jan. 1, 2022, issue promoted the return of BATTLEBOTS to the Discovery Channel on Jan. 6

At the end of its most recent issue, TV Guide gives a cheer to "the fright stuff," suggesting that MIDNIGHT MASS, CHUCKY, and CHAPELWAITE are among the best shows of the past year. (Entertainment Weekly actually named MIDNIGHT MASS one of the year's best shows. Among the worst: AMERICAN HORROR STORIES.) On the flip side, TV Guide gave a jeer to The CW's "hide-and-seek scheduling," expressing concern about the network's launching of new seasons with five-week events; THE FLASH and RIVERDALE are now off the air until March, when they will return in different time slots.

The January 2022 issue of Entertainment Weekly features a brief interview with Chiwetel Ejiofor about this spring's Showtime adaptation of THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH. Based on Walter Tevis's 1963 novel, originally adapted as a 1976 movie starring David Bowie, the show's first season stars Ejiofor as "an entirely

different character with an entirely different story.” Huh? Also expected in 2022: Paramount+ plans a new series based on the HALO video games. Steven Moffat, who adapted Audrey Niffenegger’s 2003 novel THE TIME TRAVELER’S WIFE in the above-mentioned DOCTOR WHO episode “The Girl in the Fireplace,” will adapt the novel again as a series for HBO. “This is the story of a man living his life in the wrong order,” Moffat says. Netflix will offer a series focusing on Wednesday Addams titled... WEDNESDAY. Courtney Cox will star in a Starz show debuting in March called SHINING VALE; a writer lives in what might be a haunted house. In the CW’s NAOMI, a Superman fan discovers that she, too, “has special abilities and may not be from Earth.” The issue also includes a four-page THE BOOK OF BOBA FETT feature titled “Ready, Fett, Go.”

The Dec. 20 TV Guide crossword, Puzzle #1430, offers the following brain teasers to boggle the minds of fen: 8 Across is “THE MICKEY MOUSE ____.” 27 Down is “Item used by ARROW hero.” 32 Down is “____ WOLF.” 42 Down is “____ Flynn Boyle.” And 44 Down is “Gretchen of NIGHTFLYERS.” Send in your educated guesses in care of this clubzine.

Until next time, brave pilgrims, this is “Cathode Ray,” your guide to the best of what’s hidden in the grids. Turn on, tune in, and blast off!

Motion Pictures Celluloid Sentience By Cathode Ray

This column, “Celluloid Sentience,” is a spinoff of the TV-themed column “Rabid Eyes.” It is a periodic listing focusing on upcoming movie and DVD releases of potential interest to fen of science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Release dates occasionally change, and we will do our best to update them in this listing. Please check your local listings before you go to the movie theater. And tell ’em Ray sent you! (That’s got to be good for a free Red Vines, at least!)

If you become aware of any movie or DVD release dates, send them in care of this clubzine, and we’ll do our best to verify and include your submissions. And if you see any of these fantastic flicks, consider writing a review to share with other Neffers.

Movie Release Dates

Arctic Void (Science Fiction, Jan. 14)
Belle (Animated/Science Fiction, Jan. 14)
Breeder (Horror, Jan. 11)
Ditched (Horror, Jan. 18)
The Free Fall (Horror, Jan. 14)
The Kindred (Horror, Jan. 7)
King Car (Science Fiction, Jan. 7)
The King’s Daughter (Fantasy, Jan. 21)
The Legend of La Llorona (Horror, Jan. 7)
Monsters in the Closet (Horror, Jan. 4)
Morbius (Horror, Jan. 28)
Old Strangers (Horror, Jan. 11)
The Runner (Horror, Jan. 21)
Scream (Horror, Jan. 14)
Shut In (Horror, Jan. 31)
Tales of Luminaria: The Fateful Crossroad (Animated/Fantasy, Jan. 20)

Warhunt (Horror, Jan. 21)

DVD Release Dates

The Addams Family 2 (Animated/Fantasy, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 18)

Antlers (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 4)

Artificial Immortality (Documentary, DVD, Jan. 11)

Black Friday (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 4)

Clockstoppers (Science Fiction, 2002, Blu-ray, Jan. 25)

The Djinn (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 4)

Dune (Science Fiction, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 11)

Elysium (Science Fiction, 2013, Blu-ray, Jan. 25)

Halloween Kills (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 11)

I'm Your Man (Science Fiction, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 11)

Last Night in Soho (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 18)

The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones (Fantasy, 2013, Blu-ray, Jan. 25)

The Superdeep (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 4)

Surf's Up (Animated/Fantasy, 2007, Blu-ray, Jan. 25)

Titane (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 18)

Until next time, double feature creatures, this is “Cathode Ray,” your guide to the best of what’s crawling in the aisles and on the big screen. Ticket, please!

Conventions for February

Mindy Hunt

Each month we will provide a list of conventions from around the world.

This list is constantly being updated throughout the month. You can find our full events list as well as a calendar at <http://scifi4me.com/conventions-events/>.

During the week, we provide regular updates on our TV channel <http://scifi4me.tv/> with any schedule changes or cancellations. These updates also include any COVID-19 requirements the events are requesting. These requirements are also listed on our calendar for each event.

We are always looking to keep the list and calendar as current as possible. If you know of a local event, big or little, send us and email at events@scifi4me.com so we can add it and make it the most comprehensive conventions list on the internet.

FEB 3-6

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

[Capricon](#) – Chicago, IL Feb 3-6

[Greendale](#) – London, United Kingdom Feb 4-6

[WeebCon](#) – Allen, TX Dec 4-6

[Edwardian Ball](#) – San Francisco, CA Feb 4-5

[CreepIE Con](#) – Ontario, CA Feb 5-6

[Brighton Anime & Gaming Con](#) – Brighton, United Kingdom Feb 5-6

[Little Rock Anime Festival](#) – Little Rock, AR Feb 5
[NOICE: Norfolks Original Indie Comics Expo](#) – Norfolk, VA Feb 5
[Wayne NJ Toy Show](#) – Wayne, NJ Feb 5
[Captial Trade Shows](#) – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Feb 6
[East Bay Comic Con](#) – Concord, CA Feb 6

FEB 10-14

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

[Ohayocon](#) – Columbus, OH Feb 10-13
[Anime Milwaukee](#) – Milwaukee, WI Feb 11-13
[Geekway Mini](#) – St Louis, MO Feb 11-13
[Amimazing-Con](#) – Savannah, GA Feb 12-13
[Animangapop Plymouth](#) – Plymouth, United Kingdom Feb 12-13
[ATG Expo](#) – Waco, TX Feb 12-13
[RetroMania Collectibles Show](#) – Dripping Springs, TX Feb 12-13
[Missouricon](#) – St Louis, MO Feb 12
[Statesville Comic Con](#) – Statesville, NC Feb 12
[Turklock Toy-Anime-Comic Con](#) – Turlock, CA Feb 12
[Dice Tower Cruise](#) – Fort Lauderdale, FL Feb 13-19
[Clandestine Comics](#) – Hunt Valley, MD Feb 13
[ConVoluted CON Cruise](#) – Miami, FL Feb 14-19

FEB 18-21

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

[Lux](#) – Birmingham, United Kingdom Feb 18-20
[Abunai! Convention](#) – Koningshof, Netherlands Feb 18-20
[Alaska ComiCon](#) – Fairbanks, AK Feb 19-20
[Con Nooga](#) – Chattanooga, TN Feb 18-20
[DunDraCon](#) – San Ramon, CA Feb 18-20
[Gallifrey One](#) – Los Angeles, CA Feb 18-20
[Game of Thrones Official Fan Convention](#) – Las Vegas, NV Feb 18-20
[Japan Expo Sud](#) – Marseille, France Feb 18-20
[Pensacon](#) – Pensacola, FL Feb 18-20
[Fan Expo Vancouver](#) – Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada Feb 19-21
[Oz-Comic Con Adelaide](#) – Adelaide, South Australia, Australia Feb 19-20
[Oddities & Curiosities Atlanta](#) – Atlanta, GA Feb 19

FEB 21-28

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

[PrezCon](#) – Charlottesville, VA Feb 21-27
[Coastal Magic Convention](#) – Daytona Beach, FL Feb 24-27

[ConFinement](#) – Lebanon, TN Feb 25-28
[Cult Classic Convention](#) – Bastrop, TX Feb 25-27
[LVL Up Expo](#) – Las Vegas, NV Feb 25-27
[Sworn Fest](#) – Mesa, AZ Feb 25-27
[Great Lakes Comic Convention](#) – Warren, MI Feb 25-26
[Alamo Hero Con](#) – Austin, TX Feb 26-27
[Captain's Comic Expo](#) – Charleston, SC Feb 26-27
[MAGIC](#) – Monaco, Monaco Feb 26-27
[Portsmouth Anime & Gaming Con](#) – Portsmouth, United Kingdom Feb 26-27
[Oddities & Curiosities Charlotte](#) – Charlotte, NC Feb 26

Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays

This list of fandom-related birthdays was first published by Bruce Pelz in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Andrew Porter published and updated the list for Science Fiction Chronicle. Updates are welcome!

Unless stated otherwise, all birthdays are in the 20th century.

January

Chesley Bonestell, 1/1/1888; Seabury Quinn, 1/1/1889; Ella Parker, 1/1/18; Robert Nathan, 1/2/1894; Isaac Asimov, 1/2/20; Bill Broxon, 1/2/27; Charles Beaumont, 1/2/29; Patrick Nielsen Hayden, 1/2/59; J.R.R. Tolkien, 1/3/1892; Doris Pitkin Buck, 1/3/1898; Mark Owings, 1/3/45; A.R. Morlan, 1/3/58; Arthur Hayes, 1/4/23; Ruth Kyle, 1/4/30; Ramsey Campbell, 1/4/46; Tom Digby, 1/5/40; Madeline Morrison, 1/5/55; S. Fowler Wright, 1/6/1874; Eric Frank Russell, 1/6/05; Algernon D'Amassa, 1/6/71; Barbi Johnson, 1/7/23; Christine Haycock-Moskowitz, 1/7/24; Graham Stone, 1/7/26; Gene DiModica, 1/7/48; Dennis Wheatley, 1/8/1897; Greg Ketter, 1/9; Algis Budrys, 1/9/31; Elizabeth Anne Hull, 1/10/37; George Alec Effinger, 1/10/47.

Jerome Bixby, 1/11/23; Joyce Jumper, 1/12/37; Thomas Endrey, 1/12/40; Geoffrey Hoyle, 1/12/41; Seth Breidbart, Bill Higgins, Paula Lieberman, 1/12/54; Clark Ashton Smith, 1/13/1893; Ron Goulart, 1/13/33; Ken Bulmer, 1/14/21; Joseph L. Green, 1/14/31; Arthur Byron Cover, 1/14/50; Robert Silverberg, 1/15/35; Ron Bounds, 1/15/45; Nat Schachner, 1/16/1895; Festus Pragnell, 1/16/05; Neville Shute, 1/17/1899; Dean Dickensheet, 1/17; Anna Sinclair, 1/17; Alva Rogers, 1/17/23; Nomi S. Burstein, 1/17/71; Peter Edick, 1/17/49; A.A. Milne, 1/18/1882; Robert Anton Wilson, 1/18/32; Eddie Jones, 1/18/35; Edgar Allen Poe, 1/19/1809; Adrienne Martine Barnes, 1/19/42; Abraham Merritt, 1/20/1884; Louis Charbonneau, 1/20/24; George Jumper, 1/20/40.

Charles Eric Maine, 1/21/21; Judith Merril, 1/21/23; Arthur Jean Cox, 1/21/29; Robert E. Howard, 1/22/06; Katherine MacLean, 1/22/25; Walter M. Miller, Jr., 1/23/23; Craig Miller, 1/23/54; C.L. Moore, 1/24/11; David Gerrold, 1/24/44; Mike Ward, 1/24/45; Joel D. Zakem, 1/24/53; Russ Hodgkins, 1/26/10; Philip José Farmer, 1/26/18; Judy-Lynn Benjamin del Rey, 1/26/43; Dwight Decker, 1/26/52; Parke Godwin, 1/28/29; Lloyd Alexander, 1/30/24; Edith Ogutsch, 1/30/29; George Barr, 1/30/37; Gregory & Jim Benford, 1/30/41; George Morgan, 1/30/43; Art Lortie, 1/30/50; Heidi Saha, 1/30/59; Gloria Albasi, 1/30/61; Gene DeWeese, 1/31/34.

To update this list, contact Heath Row at kalel@well.com via email with the subject “Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays” or something similar.

THE INCOMPLEAT REGISTER 2021



A FAAn awards listzine published
by Nic Farey
2657 Rungsted Street
Las Vegas NV 89142
fareynic@gmail.com

The man who admitted he preferred the Fan Hugos

Shock the Monkey...

By Nic Farey, current FAAn Awards Administrator

“The Incompleat Register” is published as a FAAn Award voters’ guide and should not be considered to be a definitive list of what you can and cannot vote for. My sources are primarily Bill Burns’ efanzines.com, Guy Lillian’s listzine ‘The Zine Dump’ and also paper zines and pdfs (or links) personally received. As I can’t possibly be aware of everything, all votes received will be counted in good faith.

A “fanzine”, for our purposes, is defined as an immutable artifact, once published not subject to revision or modification. The fanzine might not exist in a physical form. A pdf, for example, is an artifact.

The immediate difference you will note from last year’s ballot is that the ‘Website’ category has been dropped, to better concentrate on core fanzine interests.

Thanks also for valuable input from Justin E.A. Busch, Ulrika O’Brien and Mark Plummer.

2022 FAAn Awards: Procedure

The sole criterion for a FAAn award vote is that work should have been published for the first time in the calendar year 2021. This includes collections of older material in a new format.

Each category invites you to vote up to five of your favorites of the year. If you wish to do so, you may check one selection as your “top choice”, which will then receive a bonus point toward their tally.

You do NOT have to fully complete the ballot. Fill in as many (or as few) categories and slots as you are comfortable with. You do NOT have to be a member of Corflu or anything else for that matter. Voting is open to anyone with an interest in fanzines.

You do NOT have to have read or received any minimum number of fanzines to vote, although of course we encourage you to check out the contenders.

Use of the form on the following page is NOT required. Voters may alternatively send a simple list of their preferences to the award administrator by the deadline.

VOTING DEADLINE:

Ballots should be received by midnight (PDT) **Friday, February 25, 2022**

2022 FAAn Awards: Categories

FANZINE CATEGORIES

GENZINE:

A fanzine which typically has multiple contributors in addition to its editor(s).

PERZINE:

A fanzine which typically has few, if any, contributors other than its editor(s).

SPECIAL PUBLICATION:

A “one-shot” fanzine or collection.

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

FANWRITER:

A writer who has work first appearing in a 2021 fanzine.

FANARTIST:

An artist who has work first appearing in a 2021 fanzine.

LETTERHACK (HARRY WARNER, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD):

Loccer whose responses have appeared in a 2021 fanzine.

COVER:

Best fanzine cover of 2021. A gallery will be available at efanzines.com

2022 FAAn Awards: Ballot Pro Forma

See previous page for instructions. Votes must be **received** before midnight PDT, Friday February 25, 2022. Use of this specific form is not required.

Send to fareynic@gmail.com , or snail mail 2657 Rungsted Street, Las Vegas NV 89142, USA

GENZINE

FANARTIST

PERZINE

LETTERHACK

SPECIAL PUBLICATION/ONE-SHOT

FANZINE COVER

FANWRITER

Tinker (An Editorial)

It does seem the case, doesn't it, that the FAAn awards process will be subject to tinkering if not outright reinvention, and this year is no exception.

Let's first address the dropping of the 'Website' category, which might seem to many to be a rather churlish move. Regular participants in FAAn award voting will know that I've consistently advocated for its removal, nominally to concentrate on what I consider to be the core focus of the awards, which is fanzines. The category itself hasn't typically attracted a large proportion of voters, perhaps in part because there was only one winner for the first eleven years of its existence (efanzines) which has been replaced by fanac.org for the last three after voters finally began to listen to Bill Burns' entreaties to consider other websites, a message that a significant number still ignored in last year's voting, however. Corflu Concorde chair Rob Jackson requested that the category remain included for the 2021 awards, and I included it with a plea for consideration of specifically "fanzine-related" websites which was also significantly ignored. None of this is any kind of judgement on the worthiness of either of the winners, a worthiness which is clear. In discussion with current Corflu chair Ulrika O'Brien, I made pains to point out that there is absolutely nothing stopping any given Corflu team from giving a "special award" (as was originally done for efanazines, and should have been left at that) for a website or anything else. The FAAn awards process does not (and I believe should not) have a method for recusal.

The other change relates to this listing, and that's the absence of the long lists of fanwriters, fanartists and loccers. Debate among interested parties (and yes, you can probably call it "Sekrit Smoffing" if you like) reached a general consensus that these whopping lists aren't especially useful - arguably voters will recall who wrote (or drew) what for whom, and the fanzine titles themselves should provide the necessary reminder. Another fine reason for doing this is to make a potential handover of this listzine (a handover which has been declined twice) a less daunting prospect for whoever takes on the admin gig at some future point, a gig which I believe should include the commitment to publish this title. I will confirm, though, that I'll be continuing in this role for the Belfast in 2023 bid, and it's a safe assumption that I'll also do so for the Las Vegas proposal for 2024, unless of course those plans are rejected by the Corflu business meetings which will determine those future Corflu venues.

What's most important to me is that the categorization of fanzines should be adhered to so that titles don't get voted upon in more than one of them. Thus, while continuing the caveat that the listings are "incompleat" and always will be, not being intended as limiting any voter choices, that categorization should be regarded as definitive, and votes miscategorized will be queried and may end up being rejected if the voter doesn't respond or change them. As I've done in the past for transparency, any such instances will be detailed in the results issue which will be available after the award announcements at Corflu Pangloss.

The incompleat listings follow...

Nic Farey

GENZINES

TITLE

Editor(s)

ALEXIAD	Joseph & Lisa Major
ASKANCE	John Purcell
BANANA WINGS	Claire Brialey, Mark Plummer
BCSFAZINE	R Graeme Cameron
BEAM	Nic Farey, Ulrika O'Brien
CLAIMS DEPARTMENT	Chris Garcia, Alissa McKersie
COUNTERCLOCK	Wolf Von Witting
CYBERCOZEN	Leybl Botwinik
ENDEAVOR	Kurt Erichsen
ETHEL THE AARDVARK	LynC
EVENT HORIZON	John Thiel
FADEAWAY	Bob Jennings
FANACTIVITY GAZETTE	George Phillies
FAR JOURNEYS	Justin E.A. Busch
FILMS FANTASTIC	Justin E.A. Busch
INCA	Rob Jackson
IONISPHERE	John Thiel
iOTA	Leigh Edmonds
JOURNEY PLANET	Applegate, Bacon, Garcia, Martin, Reeves, Serface, Silver
KNOT A FANZINE	Marc Ortlieb
LITTLEBROOK	Jerry Kaufman, Suzle Tompkins
LULZINE	John Coxon, España Sheriff
PABLO LENNIS	John Thiel
PORTABLE STORAGE	William Breiding
PROCRASTINATIONS	John Coxon
SARCASTROPHICATION	España Sheriff
SCAVENGER'S DAUGHTER	Marcin 'Alqua' Kłak
SCIENCE FICTION COMMENTARY	Bruce Gillespie
THE ALIEN REVIEW	Perry Middlemiss
THE DRINK TANK	Chris Garcia, Alissa McKersie, Chuck Serface
THE N3F REVIEW OF BOOKS	George Phillies
THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN	George Phillies
TIGHTBEAM	George Phillies, Jon Swartz
WARP	Cathy Palmer-Lister

PERZINES

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>Editor(s)</u>
ALL NEW OR REPRINT	Paul Skelton
ANSIBLE	David Langford
ASKEW	John Purcell
CAPTAIN FLASHBACK	Andy Hooper
CLOUD CHAMBER	David Langford
DANTE'S CARDIGAN	Alison Scott
DREAMS RENEWED	Justin E.A. Busch
FANZINE	Kim Huett
FAUX PAUSE	Taral Wayne
FROM SCRATCH	Nigel Rowe
INTERMISSION	Ahrvid Engholm
LOFGEORNOST	Fred Lerner
OPUNTIA	Dale Speirs
ORIGIN	John Thiel
MEANWHILE IN SIN CITY...	Alan White
MT VOID	Evelyn Leeper
MY BACK PAGES	Rich Lynch
PERRYSOPE	Perry Middlemiss
PURRSONAL MEWSINGS	R Lorraine Tutihasi
SPARTACUS	Guy Lillian III
THE BALOOBIUS	Taral Wayne
THE INCOMPLEAT REGISTER	Nic Farey
THE OBDURATE EYE	Garth Spencer
THE RAY X X-RAYER	Ray Palm
THE STEGOPHOROUS METEOR	John Thiel
THE TYPO KING	Bob Jennings
THE ZINE DUMP	Guy Lillian III
THIS HERE...	Nic Farey
TOMMYWORLD	Tommy Ferguson
VANAMONDE	John Hertz
VITA TRANSPLANTARE	John Nielsen Hall
VOLCANIC CATS	David Russell
WAVE WITHOUT A SHORE	Tom Becker
WILD IDEAS	Henry Grynsten

ONE-SHOT/SPECIAL

TITLE

Editor(s)/Compiler(s)

AMERICAN TRIPS	Rob Hansen
ATOM ABROAD (ARTHUR THOMSON)	Dave Langford
BIXELSTRASSE: THE 1940s FAN COMMUNITY OF LOS ANGELES	Rob Hansen
COMICS I LOVE	Guy Lillian III
CORFLU CONCORDE PROGRAMME BOOK	Rob Jackson
CREATIVE RANDOM HARRIS (CHUCK HARRIS)	Rob Hansen, Dave Langford
CUTTLEFISH AND CAKE	Anna Raftery
DAANGEROUS VISIONS	Sandra Bond
DEBARKLE (Vols 1-3)	Camestros Felapton
DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME	Dave Langford
FAAN FICTION 1930-2020	Rob Hansen
FIRST FANDOM ANNUAL 2021 : REMEMBERING ERLE M. KORSHAK	John L. Coker III, Jon D. Swartz
I REMEMBER ME AND OTHER NARRATIVES (WALT WILLIS)	Rich Lynch
SOME TIME BEFORE THE BEGINNING	Kim Huett
THE FANARTISTS 2021	Alan White
THE ROAD TO FAME (D.R. SMITH)	Rob Hansen, Dave Lanfgord
THE ROAD TO F.E. HARDART	Charles M Levi
THROUGH TIME AND SPACE (FORRY ACKERMAN IN MIMOSA)	Rich Lynch
WILLIS DISCOVERS AMERICA (WALT WILLIS)	Dave Langford



Progress Report #2

Corflu Pangloss

The best of all possible Corflus, under the circumstances

March 18-20, 2022

Best Western+ Sands Hotel

1755 Davie Street Vancouver, British Columbia V6G 1W5 Canada

2022 FAAN AWARDS

By Nic Farey

The FAAn (Fanzine Activity Achievement) awards for excellence in the hobby will be announced in a ceremony at Corflu Pangloss. Awards will be given in seven categories:

FANZINE CATEGORIES:

Genzine (A publication with multiple contributors)

Perzine (A publication primarily by a single individual)

Special Publication (A "one-off" issue not part of a numbered title)

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES

Best Fanwriter

Best Fanartist

Best Letterhack (Harry Warner, Jr. Memorial Award)

Best Fanzine Cover

The fanzine categories are for issues published in the calendar year 2021, and the individual categories are thus for those whose work has appeared in any such fanzine.

The awards are determined through voting by any interested persons. Voters do not have to be a member of Corflu or anything else. The ballot pro forma will be printed in *The Incomplete Register*, a FAAn awards listzine which will be issued in early January. This will also include more detailed voting instructions and a listing of known fanzines by category. Voters are not limited to the contents of the lists - all votes are taken in good faith.

The closing date for receiving votes will be midnight Pacific time on Friday, February 25, 2022.



Fanzine Auction and Sales

By Andy Hooper

Most of the 38 versions of Corflu seen so far have devoted some part of the weekend to an auction of vintage fanzines, art, books and other prized pieces of fannish memorabilia. Proceeds benefit the convention's budget, as well as fannish endeavors like the Transatlantic and Down-Under Fan Funds and the Corflu 50. Our auctions have sometimes been quite entertaining and competitive, but there have also been years where relatively little money was raised and donors saw their heirlooms sell for the minimum bid, or worse still, not at all.

And as inflation has increased the cost of everything we do at SF conventions, auction income has remained static or decreased, to the point where it contributes relatively little to the event's overall budget. We now have auctions more in the interest of fun and finding new homes for old fanzines, than because we hope to offset the expense of the convention. The income made from the auction can usually be replaced by just 3 or 4 more attending memberships.

A lot of time and effort goes into the auction as well. We have published a catalog of auction items in advance of the convention, but people also like to bring donations to the con and see them auctioned; so, there are always things left out of the listings. Even though the auction is usually allotted 90 minutes to two hours of the program, we're seldom "done" by that time, and things usually just fizzle out as most of the audience leaves for dinner expeditions.

We have also conducted experiments with allowing fans watching the con remotely to bid in the auction, but bids are often delayed and arrive after the auction has been gavelled. We could certainly do a much better job of allowing distant members to participate, which might increase the amount of money raised.

All of this is leading me up to the conclusion that maybe we could find better things to do with that prime late afternoon Saturday time slot, where the auction usually occurs. The traditional format also puts a great deal of pressure on the volunteer accountants, who are expected to create invoices and cash people out as soon as the auction ends.

We propose to address many of these issues by changing the Corflu Auction to a Sealed-Bid or Blind format. In this type of auction, bidders submit their bids without any knowledge of other offers and all bids are opened and compared at a designated time. TAFF and DUFF mail auctions have sometimes been conducted this way. For Pangloss, the highest bid submitted wins the item; but the winning bidder actually pays \$1.00 more than the closest competing bid, or \$5.00 if the bid is above \$50.00.

Therefore, I might bid \$500.00 for an item, but if no one else offered more than \$15.00, my actual price would be just \$16.00. (That would be a risky strategy, however, as it would be very possible for someone else to do the same thing, leaving one of us holding a \$500 bag.) Ties will be broken by a coin toss, with the winner paying the full amount of their bid. Winning bidders not at the convention will be expected to arrange to have their winnings delivered and provide additional money to cover any postage costs

Auction items will be on display from Friday afternoon through Saturday evening, after which the bids will be opened. The winners will be revealed on Sunday morning. To prepare for the event, I am gathering a collection of fanzines and other treasures and planning to photograph and describe each item, organizing them into auction lots. The catalog of these items will be published on the Web about two weeks before the convention. Bids may be made at any time after the catalog is posted, up to midnight Saturday, March 19th, 2022. We will also publish a bidding form, with a line for each lot; there will be a drop box for bids made at the con and those in other places can submit their bids by email. If a bidder wishes to change or cancel their bids, they may do so, but their new or altered bids must still be received by midnight Saturday. It is obviously not in your interest to share the amount or object of your bids prior to the end of bidding.

It is also traditional for Corflu to have a sales table, where trip reports, fanthologies and other rarities are offered, with the money collected going to a Fan Fund or potentially passed on to the next year's committee. We'll set up a space for sale items at Pangloss and collect money for the designated recipients.

By changing the auction format, we will lose a little of the fun of watching Corflu members agonize over outbidding one another. But the auction items will still be on display for the first two days of the convention, giving ample time for study. And we would suddenly have two

hours – plus accounting time – where we could do something less likely to descend into tedium. (I also envision going through the bids late Saturday evening to come up with the winners, much as we once tabulated FAAn Award ballots at the con.)

If you have something you'd like to donate to the Sealed Bid auction, feel free to contact me at fanmailaph@aol.com and we'll arrange a way to get it to Seattle by the 1st of March.



Woo, Canada! A Memoir and Site Visit Report

By Ulrika O'Brian

I first fell in love with Vancouver by accident. I was flying to Germany for a visit with my boyfriend's family while still a poor college student. But I had one very clever travel agent. (No, sad to say, she was not our dear Lucy Huntzinger. This was a different clever travel agent, long before I met Lucy, and I think even long before Lucy ever dreamt of becoming a travel agent.) My wizard travel agent found a magic bargain airfare from Los Angeles to Frankfurt for less than half the high season price, available as long as travel started in May. Unfortunately, all the seats for the transatlantic leg were sold out for May. On the other hand, the route involved changing planes in Vancouver. My genius travel agent figured out that if I flew into Vancouver on May 31st, spent the night in a hotel, and then caught my connecting flight to Frankfurt the next day then there would be plenty of seats on the flight, and I could still get the magic fare, because travel had started in May. Bonus: the flight to Germany was nearly empty with the price jump. I got a whole row to myself. Those were the days, eh?

I had another, fannish, travel agent who was possibly more helpy than clever. (No names, but folks familiar with Los Angeles fandom may readily guess who.) He was the one I used to book a hotel for the overnight in Vancouver. I asked him to find me something inexpensive near the airport. My best guess is that he only paid attention to the first half of the request. Or didn't consult a map at all. The hotel was certainly inexpensive. It was also in North Vancouver. That's roughly twenty-five miles from the airport by the most direct route, which snakes right through the congested center of town and across the Lion's Gate bridge. The direct taxi route wasn't the fastest way to go, but boy did it give a person the chance to admire the city, threading as it did past the leafy, stately homes on Granville, the Persian rug district and similarly exotic-seeming

ethnic neighborhoods, the quirky, gleaming skyscrapers of downtown, the sudden vast forest wilderness of Stanley Park, the breathtaking views and heart-stopping terror of Lion's Gate bridge, all with the wide blue Pacific and snowy mountains as backdrop and all at the stately sight-seer's pace necessitated by Vancouver afternoon traffic. It wasn't what I originally planned for my layover, but the all-Vancouver taxi tour did not suck. Vancouver ravished me. But then, Vancouver was determined to seduce me at first sight.

My flight came in on a gray and gloomy day, but just as we dropped below the lid, the westering sun broke free under the clouds, lighting the city and everything around it in glittering halos of gold and white. The towers of downtown shone like polished chrome, and on the sparkling waves way, way down below, a toy-tiny hovercraft was doing donuts and cutting figure eights for sheer joy. (Or maybe it was full of eels...) The whole scene was ineffably charming. It felt like a special welcome laid out just for me. The icing on the cake came the next morning with a light, sugar-dusting of utterly unseasonable snow to greet the day. Magic! (Living in California meant snow was little more than a twinkling childhood memory for me.) And then, even on top of that, I was able to get a genuinely decent cup of tea with my breakfast at the frigging Denny's, of all places! Apparently the BCers took the "British" in "British Columbia" quite seriously. At least seriously enough to know how to brew a proper pot of tea, even at a middle-brow chain coffeeshop.

Because I loved Vancouver, I've been back to visit her many times, each visit offering new charm and discovery. There were local artists I had not previously met, current and historic – Bill Reid, Emily Carr, Susan Point, Andy Everson, and more than I can now remember – encountered in the Vancouver Art Gallery and the many, many private galleries around town. (Vancouver is an excellent city for art, especially for cultivating an interest in First Nations artists.) For lower brow pursuits, there were the always-engaging otters and tiny, thumb-size marmosets at the Vancouver aquarium, and that one time when Hal got to play tag and hide-and-seek with their remaining orca – Byossa – through the glass of the massive tank viewing window. There were always bookstores (Vancouver is a very reading town), and bakery cafes, and new cuisines to explore, plus pubs offering the fruits of the local take on the Northwest microbrew boom, all surrounded by the usual, over-the-top natural beauty that Northwesterners come to take for granted after a while.

So, it was with no small degree of anticipation that I looked forward to our Pangloss hotel site visit over Thanksgiving weekend. Like all things Pangloss, the trip was troubled by uncertainty before it finally came together. Hal had literally just started a new job, Suzle was in suspense about some medical tests, and all of us had to negotiate the right balance between how long the results from a molecular Covid test might take to come back, and how recent the test needed to be to pass the standards of the Canadian border authorities. (The labs all tell you that a PCR test can take up to 72 hours to come back, and the Canadians want a test that is not more than 72 hours old when you enter the country– it seems like a knife-edge proposition.) In the end, though, lab results all showed up in 36 hours or less, and everything came together despite torrential rains on the drive up. We made it across the border and off to V-town. WOOT!

And, on balance, we had a very successful visit. The hotel is as good as we'd hoped based on what we could ascertain remotely: more than sufficient for a Corflu-sized event, with good function space and pleasantly updated sleeping rooms. The kitchen that serves both the hotel's restaurant/bars – and not coincidentally will provide our buffet banquet – offers a very tasty, if limited, menu. The suite we'll use for hospitality is well-appointed, and even has a small view balcony where smokers might retreat if they are circumspect. The West End is still a hopping part of town, with busy sidewalks and late offerings particularly on the weekend. The selection of cuisines within an easy stroll of the hotel is both broad and deep, and the local buses appear to run quite frequently for those who wish to venture farther afield. There's a Safeway supermarket just up the block, and for those whose tastes run that way, several marijuana vendors have storefronts as well (yes, recreational use is legal).

There were some disappointments, of course. Getting to both the function space where our program will be and to the Sands' Bayside Lounge requires guests to step briefly outdoors into the weather. The former, at least, is accessed by a covered breezeway. Meanwhile the indoor-accessible restaurant bar is now also the West End's premiere destination sports bar, boasting many large screens and a boisterous crowd for (American-style) football games. Good if you're into whatever sport is being broadcast. If not, then not. But the restaurant isn't terribly busy mornings through afternoons, and even I didn't at all mind eating breakfast with curling playing in the background. Curling: the innocuous sport. Perhaps Nic Farey can con them into showing UK football matches in the early hours, for that matter.

Perhaps the biggest let down came because I had built up quite a lot of hopes based solely on the name of one of the drinking establishments nearest the hotel: The Three Brits. I pictured the kind of cleaned-up and idealized Ye Olde Countrye Pubbe that you often find in North America, featuring dark wood settles and oak paneling, cozy snugs with chintz-covered seat pads and perhaps a fireplace, plus a few horse brasses, royal wedding tea towels, and similar gimcracks splattered around for effect. I certainly pictured a reasonable array of actual British beers on tap, with perhaps a selection of local microbrews to supplement. I didn't think it crazy to anticipate the chance of bangers-and-mash or shepherd's pie on the menu. In short, I imagined the sort of place where you could plausibly gather over a pint and have a quiet chinwag and maybe a meal of an afternoon. This was not that.

I don't know what three Brits they were thinking of, but I imagine ones most likely found stumbling their way through A Bad Night Out in Leeds. The Three Brits proved to be loud, crowded, boisterous, and loud, with tiny cocktail table- or bar stool-seating only, superciliously oblivious wait staff, a blaring thumpa-thumpa soundtrack, over-priced, watered cocktails, clouds of cigarette smoke wafting in off the porch where the addicts huddled, and walls lined in bad 1970s pseudo-Venetian gold-shot mirror tile clearly salvaged from the retro-nightmare cottage of someone's twee maiden auntie. There were literally no British beers on tap, and there might have been a disco ball in the ceiling. It wouldn't surprise me to find that The Three Brits exactly replicates some very authentic British pub experience, but it wasn't the authentic pub experience I was looking for. Not recommended.

But it's not a fanzine article if you don't have some calamity to report, right? The Three Brits was our calamity. It could have been so much worse. Nobody caught Covid (indeed every indoor venue was punctilious about checking ID and vaccination cards), nobody had to quarantine, or got turned back at the border, and everything went pretty much as planned. We slept well, ate and drank very well, enjoyed a bit of exploratory strolling around the neighborhood, admired a dizzying array of public art and architecture around town, had an excellent outing for dim sum (at Western Lake – recommended if you have a car and a navigator) and a stop at White Dwarf books for Science Fiction (also recommended, particularly if you're taking a bus to the Museum of Anthropology anyway). So overall, a good time had by all. Recommended.

I hope you all can join us in March, so you, too, can fall in love with Vancouver.



Three Fun Things to Do in Vancouver

By Fran Skene

As a local, I have a lot of touristy faves in Greater Vancouver. I chose the following three because they are among the sights that are easy to get to on city buses, plus a small ferry in the case of Granville Market. You can get additional info by googling each place. For bus info, including how to pay on buses plus the train from the airport, go to www.translink.ca. Look especially for the Trip Planner link.

COVID guidelines: likely, even in March, you'll still need face masks for indoor areas, and also proof of full vaccination plus picture ID in restaurants and such like.

Chinatown

Vancouver's Chinatown is one of the largest in North America, due in part to Canada and Hong Kong's mutual connection to the British Commonwealth. In my (long ago) youth, we finished many a night out with a trip to a restaurant in Chinatown. And the bakeries, oh my, and the stores with spices, tea, seafood, clothing, pottery, and on and on.

From the hotel, take the bus to the Dr. Sun-Yat Sen Garden, which is worth a visit in itself, and start walking from there.

Granville Island

This was an industrial site, now transformed into an artsy neighborhood with a public market, docks, quaint shops, cafés, theaters, bookstores, and art galleries, including indigenous art. There's also a marina and a houseboat area. A story by William Gibson, "The Winter Market," is set there. It's in his short story collection, *Burning Chrome*.

You can get to Granville Island all the way by bus, but you can also take a cute little commuter ferry part of the way. As well, you can tour the whole False Creek area on one of those ferries, hopping on and off as it suits you. For ferry info, Google False Creek Ferry.

Capilano Suspension Bridge Park

If you have a bit more time, consider taking a city bus to this very scenic North Shore park. The bridge hangs 450 feet across and 230 feet above the Capilano River. The bus takes you through Stanley Park and over the Lions Gate Bridge to get there. Other attractions in the park are a Cliffwalk and a Treetops Adventure, the latter having a series of suspension bridges through the canopy.

Have fun!

Another Fun Thing to Do in Vancouver

By Jerry Kaufman

The University of British Columbia's Museum of Anthropology

Far to the west of downtown Vancouver, the University of British Columbia sits in a pleasantly wooded preserve. Continue west through the campus, and you arrive at the Museum of Anthropology. I've visited it at least twice, finding it fascinating each time. It's inarguably one of my five favorite museums in the world, and I look forward to encountering it again.

The largest portion of its collection is a vast array of objects from Pacific Northwest First Peoples, with large representations of other North American cultures. The totem poles, displayed in a high hall with glass walls, letting in plentiful light, are in themselves worth the trip. The museum hosts other collections from around the planet. Their current temporary exhibition, *Sankora: African Routes, Canadian Roots* will on display until March 27, 2022.

For me, the most impressive parts of the collection are the bits stored in drawers under the main exhibition cases. Visitors can pull out these drawers and inspect their contents. At the times I visited, years ago, their promotions said that this storage option allowed everyone to

see their entire collection. I suspect that the curators have now collected many additional objects that have to be stored elsewhere.

If you'd like to get a sense of the range and depth of the museum's holdings, go online to Museum of Anthropology at UBC to explore for yourselves. (Note: If you travel by public transportation, you'll have to take a long bus ride to get there. But the #99 goes right by White Dwarf Books, a purveyor of fantasy, science fiction, mystery, and crime fiction.) While you're online, look at the site for another UBC museum: Welcome to the Beaty Biodiversity Museum (ubc.ca). I haven't been there myself, but it seems to be worth my time, and yours. Blue whale!



Hotel Information for the planned Vancouver location and Pre- or Post-con Seattle options By Suzle and Ulrika O'Brien

The Location

The Best Western+ Sands is situated in Vancouver's West End, one of the liveliest, most appealing quarters of the city. The hotel lies just steps away from the beach at English Bay, and the neighborhood offers a variety of taverns, shops, promenades, general amenities, and restaurants fancy, plain, or ethnic.

The hotel is within a 30 minute bus or Aquabus radius of many of the city's attractions, including the Vancouver Art Gallery, Stanley Park, the Vancouver Aquarium, Gastown with its steam clock, Science World situated in a giant Bucky Fuller golf ball dome, Lonsdale Quay shopping, the Waterfront station of the Skytrain's Expo Line, built to show off views of the city to visitors to Expo '86, and more shopping at the Granville Island public market. The hotel is also about a 15-minute bus from the Yaletown-Roundhouse station of Skytrain's Canada Line, which will connect you to the Vancouver airport (YVR).

Rates

The convention rate is available March 12-23, 2022 (though we only have guaranteed rooms March 16-23, so if you can, book early). Please remember we are offering programming on Sunday afternoon, so plan accordingly! For maximum fun, stay until Monday.

Room Rates:

Double Queen room (single/double occupancy): \$105 CAD per room, per night

Double Queen room (triple occupancy): \$120 CAD per room, per night

Double Queen room (quadruple occupancy): \$135 CAD per room, per night

King room with balcony (single/double occupancy): \$120 CAD per room, per night

(Quoted room rates do not include standard taxes and fees which total 15% + a \$3 Environmental Fee; nonetheless, these rates are fantastically reasonable for a West End hotel).

The room block confirmation number is 4087. Guests may reserve on the convention's secured web link or call 1-604-682-1831 or email sands@bwsands.com.

Corflu Hotel secured booking link:

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.62025.html?groupId=N45ZU1Y9

NOTE: When you click on that link, the Best Western page you land on will show an image of the hotel with the current rack rate listed next to it. Don't panic. Just scroll down a bit and you will see the room types and rates that are included in our block. Also, when you enter your arrival and departure dates, you must click the "update" button afterwards or the site will pre-select the full range of our room block for you.

If you're able, we encourage you to book your rooms immediately so that we can secure as many rooms on the con suite wing as possible, well ahead of the convention. Ideally, we would fill that corridor with fans so that we don't disturb the sensibilities of non-Corflu guests. Hotel policy allows cancellation without charge up to 48 hours before arrival date, in case plans change or the planet bursts into flames in the interim.

When reserving, please ask that your room be on the 4th Floor, where the con suite will be located, or the 5th Floor above the Rosen Suite (which is our Con Suite, with a large balcony.) Please also note that hotel parking is not included in the room rate, so if you drive to the convention expect to pay an additional \$20 CDN/day for parking.

Want to Stay in Seattle, Pre- or Post-Con?

The pandemic eventually closed or dramatically changed much of the Seattle hotel landscape, so unfortunately many old favorites are no longer available for travelers. However, we have found the Nexus, a small Northgate hotel offering us a Preferred Partnership plan which gives Pangloss members reduced rates and several amenities. While we have no contractual obligation to use them, the discount will be available to you if you wish to book with them.

Location: The Northgate area of Seattle (8 miles north of downtown Seattle); situated near I-5. There is some public transit nearby, but the area is primarily car-oriented, unfortunately. The new Northgate Light Rail station, which connects directly to Sea-Tac Airport, is about a half-mile away. However, due to the spaghetti bowl street design the pedestrian route is a little over a

mile. The hotel hopes to reinstate their full-service shuttle by March, if possible. The Nexus is built motel-style with only exterior balcony walkways to access sleeping rooms.

Best Western Signature Hotel Nexus

For hotel info and amenities: <https://www.hotelnexusseattle.com/>

Room Rates:

Standard Single King or Queen: \$100 per room, per night

Standard Double Queen: \$110 per room, per night

King Studio w/Japanese Hydrotherapy Tub: \$140 per room, per night

Two room Queen / Queen Suite w/ Full Kitchen: \$200 per room, per night

Plus Hotel/Sales Tax – 15.6%

For reservations you must contact the Hotel Nexus *directly*. Do not use the Best Western Registration System; they do not have our Partnership Plan information. Phone 1-800-435-0754 and ask for the Sales Department -or- email directly to alexis.burley@hotelnexusseattle.com and copy nikki.brame@360hotelgroup.com. Mention Corflu 2022 to receive our Corporate Rate. For a quieter location, ask for a room at the back of the hotel as the front faces a major arterial.

Another hotel in the area, the Hampton Inn is only a block from the Northgate Light Rail Station (<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/seanghx-hampton-suites-seattle-northgate/>).

Hotels in the University District located near the U-District Light Rail Station include The Graduate (formerly the Deca, alas) just across the street; the University Inn and the Watertown, just a few blocks away. Or, for the frugal and able-bodied, a few blocks farther there is the College Inn, which boasts no elevator, offers only shared bathroom facilities down the hall (with a sink in the room), and sleeping rooms so spartan and old-fashioned (think iron bedsteads and threadbare, hand-sewn quilts) that you might think you've wandered into a John Steinbeck novel or possibly a monastery.



Membership Rates:

Attending rates: **US \$90, CAN \$110, EUR €75, UK £65**

Supporting rates continue the same: **US \$25, CAN \$32, EUR €21, UK £18**

We expect to offer an increased rate at the door. We are considering offering one-day memberships and may set different rates for different days.

Payment:

North America

Mail to: Corflu 39 c/o Suzanne Tompkins
PO Box 25075
Seattle, WA 98165 USA
US dollar denominated checks should be made payable to **Hal O'Brien**.
Note: We do not at present have a Canadian Agent, so cashing Canadian checks costs us extra.

PayPal to: hal.obrien@gmail.com (Please use the Friends & Family payment option)
Europe

Mail to: Corflu 39 c/o Claire Brialey
59 Shirley Road
Croydon, CR0 7ES, UK
Sterling denominated cheques should be made payable to **Claire Brialey**

PayPal to: claire.fishlifter@gmail.com (Please use the Friends & Family payment option)

Memberships:

As of this moment, we have 51 members, 44 attending and 7 supporting. Please see <https://corflu.org/Corflu39/members.htm> for an always current list of members.

Our COVID Policy:

All attendees must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before the convention. This means you must have received all required vaccination doses no later than 14 days prior to the day you arrive at the con. You will need to present proof of vaccination. Properly worn masks covering nose and mouth are required for all convention members and guests in all convention spaces, except when actively eating or drinking.

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