

CONFLUX 3

A CONVENTION OF FANTASTIC WORLDS

9 - 12 JUNE 2006
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

GUESTS

Enter the fantastic worlds of Conflux 3!

Honoured Guests
(Featuring Via Communications Link):

Sir Arthur C. Clarke

Ray Bradbury

International Editor Guest of Honour:

Ellen Datlow

Australian Guest of Honour:

Kate Forsyth

International Gaming Special Guest:

Steve Jackson

International Special Guests:

Joan D. Vinge

James Frenkel

Special Guest:

Sara Douglass

Invited Guest:

Jackie French

Invited Comic Artist:

Jason Paulos

Invited Manga Guest:

Queenie Chan

Exhibiting Guest Artists:

Nick Stathopoulos

Greg Bridges

Les Petersen

Welcome to Progress Report One, which introduces five exciting new guests and features Conflux's exhibiting guest artists. In addition to an already stellar line up, Conflux will feature Ray Bradbury, one of the greatest writers of science fiction and fantasy in the world today, via communications link, Steve Jackson, the founder and editor of Steve Jackson Games, Joan D. Vinge, author of the Hugo award winning SF classic *The Snow Queen*, James Frenkel, senior Tor editor and literary agent, and Queenie Chan, rising manga star and TokyoPop artist.

Conflux will feature over 100 sessions across four days, including panels, presentations, interviews and workshops, the largest art show to be held at an Australian science fiction convention—including comic, manga & SF digital art, the largest film festival to be held at an Australian science fiction convention—showcasing sensational celluloid from around the world, with an emphasis on new films of the fantastic very rarely seen in Australia and an exciting anime stream. The national 24 Hour Comic Challenge is going to look amazing on near cinema size screens, the gaming stream is shaping up to be a major part of the con, and tickets to the medieval banquet are selling fast (remember to book early). In addition to the costumed masquerade disco, a band night will feature Triple J Unearthed competition winner and science-fiction and fantasy addict Yunyu (check her out at www.yunyu.com.au) who will be launching her album *Spiked Soul* at the con.

All this and lots more at the National Museum of Australia, Canberra, from 9–12 June 2006.

Want to be involved as a panelist, art show or film festival exhibitor, volunteer, dealer, advertiser or sponsor? Email Trevor at chair@conflux.org.au.

Visit www.conflux.org.au for more details or register using the attached form.



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Illustration by Greg Bridges

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- 55 exhibitors...
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All information correct at time of printing. Keep checking website for updates.



ACT Government



It seems ironic that one of the world's best-known writers of science fiction, with a crater on the moon named after his work, should steer clear of technology. But Ray Bradbury has never driven a car, didn't fly in a plane until he was 63, and scorns computers.

In 1931, an eleven-year-old Bradbury began writing stories on butcher's paper. From these humble beginnings he became an author, essayist, playwright, screenwriter, lecturer, poet and visionary, with many of his works adapted into comic book and cinematic form, long after receiving his first writing pay check from George Burns for a joke used in the Burns & Allen Show.

Living in Los Angeles during his high school years, his thoughts turned to acting but two of his teachers actively encouraged his writing. Under their tutelage, Bradbury learnt about poetry and short stories, eventually deciding to become a writer.

"Hollerbochen's Dilemma" was his first published short story, printed in 1938 in amateur fan magazine *Imagination!* The following year he published four issues of his own fan magazine, *Futura Fantasia*, writing much of the content himself. In 1941 he had his first paid publication when "Pendulum" appeared in *Super Science Stories*.

"The Lake", written in 1942, is credited as being the story in which Bradbury discovered his distinctive writing style. The next year he started writing full time. In 1947 Bradbury's first collection of short stories, *Dark Carnival*, was published.

It was in the 50s that his reputation as a leading writer was established, with the release of two celebrated works of science fiction and social criticism. *The Martian Chronicles* (1950) tells the story of colonising Mars, and its effects on the planet's existing inhabitants. *Fahrenheit 451* (1953) was set in a future in which a totalitarian government has banned the written word.

Cinema and television were also fertile grounds for Bradbury's imagination. He was involved in *The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms* (based on his story, "The Fog Horn"), *Something Wicked This Way Comes* (based on his novel) and director John Huston's version of *Moby Dick*. He earned an academy award nomination for his animated film about the history of flight, *Icarus* Montgolfier Wright.

Many of his stories were adapted for television, and he notably used Cable TV to his advantage when he developed *Ray Bradbury Theatre*. The series ran for six



years and allowed Bradbury to have creative control over televised versions of his own stories.

Aside from these achievements, Bradbury has worked as an "idea consultant" for diverse projects such as the United States Pavilion at the New York World's Fair and *Spaceship Earth* at EPCOT, Disney World.

His lifetime's body of work has been recognised through the World Fantasy Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Grand Master Nebula Award, and the Horror Writers Association's Bram Stoker Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 2004 President Bush awarded him The National Medal of Arts for his contribution to American Literature.

Ray Bradbury will be joining *Conflux 3* as a virtual guest.

On Writing

"My stories run up and bite me on the leg-I respond by writing down everything that goes on during the bite. When I finish, the idea lets go and runs off."

"You must stay drunk on writing so reality cannot destroy you."

On SF & Fantasy

"Science-fiction is the law-abiding citizen of imaginative literature ... Science-fiction works hand-in-glove with the universe. Fantasy cracks it down the middle, turns it wrong-side-out, dissolves it to invisibility, walks men through its walls, and fetches incredible circuses to town with sea-serpent, medusa, and chimera displacing zebra, ape, and armadillo. Science-fiction balances you on the cliff. Fantasy shoves you off."

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Conflux 3 Guests



Steve Jackson

International Gaming Special Guest **Steve Jackson**

The namesake, founder and editor-in-chief of Steve Jackson Games has been playing games for more than 30 years, and professionally designing them since 1976. Steve's first professional design work was for Metagaming, but in 1980 he bought The Space Gamer magazine and struck out on his own. Success was immediate, with his *Raid on Iran* game. The next year, Steve Jackson Games released *Car Wars*, followed shortly by *Illuminati*, and later by *GURPS*, the "Generic Universal Roleplaying System". In the 1980s, he tried his hand at interactive books or "game novels" (his first *Fighting Fantasy*, *Scorpion Swamp*, was published by Penguin and spent six months on the British children's bestseller list), with others including *Demons of the Deep* and *Robot Commando*. In 1983 he became the youngest person to ever be elected to the Adventure Gaming Hall of Fame. He has personally won ten Origins Awards, and several more have gone to the company at large.

His current big hit is *Munchkin*, a very silly card game about killing monsters and taking their stuff. Current projects include a lot of *Munchkin* follow-ups and the online game *UltraCorps*.

International Special Guest **Joan D. Vinge**

Joan D. Vinge, a science fiction fan since high school, has been writing professionally since 1973. Her first story, "Tin Soldier", appeared in the anthology *Orbit 14* in 1974. Her story "Eyes of Amber", the cover story for *Analog* magazine's "All Women" Issue in June 1977, won the Hugo Award for Best SF Novelette. She has written several dozen stories; her short fiction has appeared in publications such as *Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine*, *Omni*, *SCI FICTION*, *Nature*, and "Best SF of the Year" anthologies.

Joan won the 1981 Hugo (Best Science Fiction Novel) and Locus (Best Novel) awards for *The Snow Queen*, which was also a finalist for the Nebula and the Ditmar awards. Her novel *The Summer Queen* (1993) was a finalist for the Hugo. Her children's book, *The Return of the Jedi Storybook*, was the #1 bestselling hardcover book of 1983 and the first such book to appear on the New York Times Book Review Bestseller List. She has written seven other original novels, including

Psion (named a Best Book for Young Adults) and *Catspaw*, and film adaptations including novelizations of *Ladyhawke*, *Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome*, and *Lost in Space*. Her most recent novel is *Tangled up in Blue*.

Joan enjoys reading manga or watching anime and writes the Manga and Anime column for *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* series edited by Ellen Datlow and Kelly Link & Gavin Grant.

International Special Guest **James Frenkel**

James Frenkel has worked for Tor Books for twenty-two years, the last four years as a Senior Editor. In his long career he has edited a variety of fiction and non-fiction.

At Dell Books he and Donald Bensen created Dell's science fiction and fantasy list. Jim also edited children's books for Delacorte Press Books for Young Readers, the "Binary Stars" series of double novels. He has edited film and TV tie-ins including books based on *Terminator Three: Rise of the Machines*, *Battle for the Planet of the Apes*, and *Battlestar Galactica* (in progress).

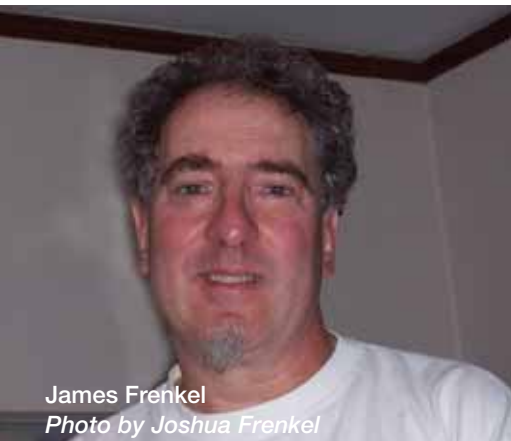
Jim founded Bluejay Books, a major trade publisher of science fiction and fantasy, including works by Greg Bear, Philip K. Dick, Harlan Ellison and many others. Since 1987 he has been the packager of *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror*, edited by Ellen Datlow. As an agent he represents the foreign and translation rights of authors such as Sara Douglass, Steven Brust, and Jo Walton. Books Jim has edited have won numerous awards, including the Hugo, Nebula, World Fantasy and Stoker.

Invited Manga Guest **Queenie Chan**

Queenie Chan was born in Hong Kong in 1980 and migrated to Australia when she was six. She trained as an information systems analyst, but started drawing when she was 18 and decided to become a cartoonist instead. Much of her work began online but her big break came in 2004 when Los Angeles-based manga publishing company, TOKYOPOP, began accepting international artists. She has just finished the first of her three book horror-drama series *The Dreaming*, due to be published in December 2005.






Joan D. Vinge
Photo by James Frenkel







James Frenkel
Photo by Joshua Frenkel



Queenie Chan

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Exhibiting Guest Artists



Nick Stathopoulos is one of Australia's most sought-after science fiction cover illustrators. His talents also include traditional and digital painting, storyboards and conceptual art, set painting, sculpting and scriptwriting.

Working on film and television he has designed productions, art directed, painted cycloramas, drawn storyboards and built props. Nick has worked on commercials and video clips from Fleetwood Mac to Crowded House, and also as a background artist for Hanna Barbera and Disney Corp.

His illustrations have graced the covers of books by Terry Dowling, Ian Irvine, Josephine Pennicott, Jack Dann, and young adult fiction writer John Marsden.

Nick's work has won a Penguin Television Award for Art Direction and eight Ditmars. In 2003 he was a finalist for the Archibald Art Prize for portraiture with his painting of Mr Squiggle and his creator, Norman Hetherington. In 1999 he was nominated for a Hugo Award for his professional SF art, and was nominated for a British SF Association Award for his cover of the anthology *Dreaming Down Under*.



Illustration by Nick Stathopoulos



Greg Bridges aims to make the impossible possible with his award winning SF and Fantasy art. In a career spanning more than 25 years, he has created more than 100 covers for celebrated authors such as Sean Williams, James Alan Gardner, Kris Rusch, Karen Travis, Glenda Larke, Russell Kirkpatrick, Maxine McArthur, Simon Brown and Sara Douglass.

Greg has had works published in six countries and one of his illustrations is on permanent exhibition in Bon Contemporary Museum of German History. He has won Australian and international awards including the Best Professional Colour Art at the Worldcon.

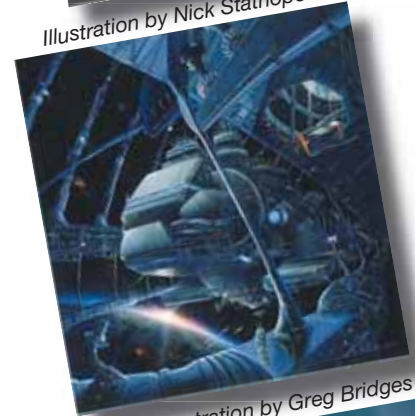


Illustration by Greg Bridges



Les Petersen has worked as a freelance illustrator since 2001, creating about 50 covers for clients including HarperCollins Publishers, Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine and CSFG Publishing.

Winner of the 2003 Ditmar Award for Best Fan Artist, Les has also been nominated numerous times for the Ditmar for Professional Artist. Among other prizes and awards, he was shortlisted for the 1998 George Turner Prize for his novel *Supplejack*.

Les continues to write, and has worked in other creative roles such as cartoonist for *The Canberra Times* and a Design Consultant for New Parliament House in Canberra.



Illustration by Les Petersen

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Chris BARNES	NSW	Anneke COX	ACT
Stuart BARROW	ACT	Philip COX	ACT
Jules BARTLETT	ACT	Robert COX	ACT
Alison BARTON	VIC	Cassian COX	NSW
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Thomas BULL	VIC	Barbara EDGAR	ACT
Julia BURNS	ACT	Kate ELTHAM	QLD
Nicole CALABRIA	TAS	Paul EWINS	VIC
Trudi CANAVAN	VIC	Peter FAGAN	VIC
Matthew CARTER	NSW	Matthew FARRER	NSW
Michele CASHMORE	QLD	Kate FORSYTH	NSW

This list does not show members who have requested their names to be withheld

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Malcolm GORDON	VIC	Michelle MARQUARDT	NSW	Lisa SIMPSON	ACT
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Richard HARLAND	NSW	Clare McDONALD	VIC	Trevor STAFFORD	ACT
Lea HENDERSON	NSW	Rose MITCHELL	VIC	Nick STATHOPOULOS	NSW
Andrea HERISEANU	NSW	Anne MOK	NSW	Robert STEPHENSON	SA
Karen HERKES	ACT	Andrew MOORES	NSW	Anna TAMBOUR	NSW
Joanne HERKES	ACT	Lewis MORLEY	NSW	Greg TANNAHILL	ACT
Christopher HERKES	ACT	Sharon MOSELEY	VIC	Kimberley THOMAS	SA
Stuart HERRING	ACT	Ken MOYLAN	ACT	Val TOH	ACT
Margaret HILLIARD	NSW	Nicole MURPHY	NSW	Wayne TURNER	NSW
Robert HOGE	QLD	Sarah MURRAY-WHITE	NSW	Conny VALENTINA	SA
Robert HOOD	NSW	Jason NAHRUNG	QLD	Annette VINCENT	ACT
Beverley HOPE	VIC	Clive NEWALL	VIC	Joan D. VINGE	USA
Steve JACKSON	USA	Estelle NEWALL	VIC	Jane VIRGO	ACT
Kathleen JENNINGS	QLD	Roger NEWALL	VIC	David WALKER	ACT
Robin JOHNSON	TAS	Tara OTT	ACT	Karen WARNOCK	NSW
Elaine KEMP	WA	Danny OZ	VIC	Kaaron WARREN	ACT
Richard KERSLAKE	NSW	Shane PARKER	ACT	Jaunita WHITEHEAD	WA
Russell KIRKPATRICK	NZ	Jason PAULOS	NSW	Marty YOUNG	NSW
Jonathon KROMKA	TAS	Les PETERSEN	ACT	Not a member yet? Fill in	
Frances LA FONTAINE	VIC	Gillian POLACK	ACT	the form overleaf before the	
Mark LONEY	ACT	Allan PRICE	ACT	next rate rise.	
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Gregory Benford



Charles Stross



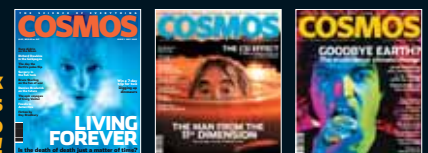
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Conflux 3 Medieval Banquet tickets are \$40 per person. The banquet will be held on Saturday 10 June, doors opening at 7:30pm and serving at 8pm. Buffet* includes smoked leg ham, roast sirloin beef, breast of turkey, antipasto selection with herbed Turkish bread, veal and mushroom casserole, slow braised lamb with rosemary and root vegetables, vegetable pasta bake with parmesan topping, four seasonal salads, Chef's selection of House made desserts, and a selection of cheese with crackers and sliced fruit *menu subject to change

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