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eLOCs

Lloyd Penney writes:
Dear Jean, Chris and Jack

It’s time for another SF/SF, issue 15, and while I am totally backed up with zines to work on, I am going to take this relatively new issue and do something with it. I’ll see if I can work ahead a little bit.

Chris Garcia replies: Always good to hear from Toronto’s Own SuperStar!

I have now seen *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, to use the full title. Some reviews said that it was dull, and the reviewers hated seeing the typical snotty and sarcastic English kids, but seeing the story was from a relatively small book, especially in comparison to *The Lord of the Rings*, the producers were relatively faithful to the story, and the quality of the movie is reflected in the fact that its box office has been larger than *King Kong’s*. Quite enjoyed it, and now I am hoping to make time for the Harry Potter movie before it leaves the theatres.

I’m just starting to work on cons (BayCon this year is my first with a real title) and even I have discovered that the negotiation part is very important. I’d love to go to The Gathering. Perhaps someday…

The Internet has made it easier for fans to connect, but I do feel it’s made it easier for fans to stay isolated while getting all the SF they want. There are so many fans with LiveJournals, hiding behind online names…it facilitates communications, but hinders making social contacts. Do you really know who you’re talking to?

I’d make time for Harry Potter since it’s a really solid film. Everyone I’ve talked to says that Narnia is a fantastic story, which I’ve never read, and that the movie is great, which I haven’t seen. I liked Kong a lot, but it was hurt by a combination of run-time and mixed reviews.

You’re right, Jean, running conventions is a lot of fun, and teaches a lot of valuable business skills, like teamwork, negotiation and project planning. Let me know if your staffer is coming to the Gathering of the Fellowship. I doubt I’ll be able to afford to go, for it is quite expensive. I may check with the chairman to see if there are one-day memberships.

I know exactly what you mean. I’m hidden away in a little corner of the internet, minding my own and scoping all the SF and Fandom related stuff I can. It’s interesting that a zine like SF/SF could possibly be made with three different editors who have never met. Now, I’ve met Jack and Jean, though I hadn’t met Jean before we started editing the beast and I’ve laid eyes on Jack once!

Kevin Smith’s been up here in Toronto a few times. He really seems to like it here, and there’s a teens’ show on the CTV network called *DeGrassi: The Next Generation* he likes so much, he wrote an episode, and appeared in another. Kelly Freas was the Torcon artist GoH, and he wasn’t able to be there. I never did get my portrait done by Kelly, but he was always a presence at any convention he appeared at. For a while, I knew Polly Freas better than Kelly, and she was so approachable and pleasant. I still miss her. Ad Astra has its own LJ board for announcements and general conversation, but I find that it’s little used. Blogging is getting bigger, but in some parts of fandom, I think it’s becoming almost passé. I wonder what the next quantum communications leap will be.

I knew Kelly a little bit. I met him when I was tiny (there’s supposed to be a photo of him holding me as a wee one) and I met him
again years later. His fondest wish towards the end of his life was to do a design for a bomber like he did during the war. I tried to hook him up with one of the various groups that restore the old planes, but I don't know if he ever managed to get a design done. And the next form of communication will be a return to carrier pigeon, but they'll be genetically-engineered to deliver the message and then bring back a response before dying.

I am hoping that this CD project I worked on a few years ago now will finally see the light of day. At the big mediacon in Toronto this July, Toronto Trek XX, I have been promised that there will be a CD for sale to the public with the first six episodes of *Sectarian Wave*. There also might be the possibility of participation in a Star Trek fan film later in the year. The producer/director/writer of *Sectarian Wave* is producing this, and might get me involved, to what extent, I don't know.

**Interesting. I really want to see *Sectarian Wave* a lot. There's also little I love more than a good fan film.**

That's all folks…I am so far behind, I can't see the top of the stack. Take care, and see you next issue. Chris, I will be catching up with The Drink Tank now… Yours, Lloyd Penney.

_I thank you and I hope that you'll get those LoCs to me!_

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**By Diane B. Rooney**  
Staff Writer

Last issue Jean mentioned “one of our staff writers goes to LOTR events all over the world.” Uh, that would be me. So why mention the Gathering in SF/SF? Well, SF and Toronto are kind of sister cities, really: both are hip, liberal, culturally and ethnically diverse, have great restaurants and active sci fi and fantasy communities. Plus Lloyd Penney’s practically a regular here, and HE lives in Toronto.

Anyway, as the volunteer publicist for The Gathering, a nonprofit convention organized entirely by volunteers, with proceeds to benefit ProLiteracy, I’d just like to invite SF/SF readers to check out our programming. Oh, and as an added incentive, if you do go to Toronto, stay on for Toronto Trek 20 the following weekend (July 7-9). Already going to the Trek? Come early for the Gathering.

The Gathering is the first fan-organized convention to focus on both Tolkien and C.S.Lewis in the context of both books and films. It offers the chance to see the new stage version of *The Lord of the Rings* with other fans, plus programming tracks on stage & screen adaptations, scholarship, The Inklings, language & writing, art, music, and costuming & armor. Film presentations and discussions include *The Lord of the Brush* (the new John Howe documentary), material from *Ancanar*, and most likely *Ringers*. Other special events include a picnic on Toronto Island and a banquet and costume contest.

Confirmed speakers include Bruce Hopkins, John Howe, Ted Nasmith, Mike Foster, Amy Sturgis, Ancanar, Colin Duriez, Michael Drout, Alison Baird, Vernon Flieger, Michael Martinez, Michael Coren, Laura Cooper and many more.

Please check out the Gathering at http://www.gatheringofthefellowship.org/convention/index.html

By Jean Martin

Well, we’re one month into the New Year and I hope everyone is doing great so far. The Chinese New Year always starts later and wasn’t until January 29 this year. So now it’s the Year of the Dog, which according to the Chinese zodiac is a year of fire. Just like a dog always has burning enthusiasm, the year is supposed to be marked by getting a lot of good accomplished in the world. Well, that’s something to look forward to! Dogs are also loyal, loving and playful. They create balance between working hard and resting. I guess that’s a good reminder for me, and for most everyone I would assume, to take the time to rest and take care of ourselves in the midst of all our numerous activities.

Here I was actually worried at the end of last year that this year wouldn’t be as exciting and productive. Several significant people in my life told me not to worry and it would probably be more of the same for me in 2006. Although January started out slow, things started rolling for me again pretty quickly and I’m already exhausted!

The Edwardian Ball was amazing, and I discovered a new party event organizer called Anon Salon that same evening that was quite possibly the best party I’ve ever been to. Full coverage on both events is in the pages of this issue. WonderCon is coming up and the same group that I performed with at Comic-Con will be reprising our Firefly entry. So I’ll be playing Inara again and we’ll be singing and dancing a parody of “Proud Mary.” Hope you get to see us! Although the crowd will be smaller than Comic-Con (there were 5,000 people in the audience!), this is on my home turf, at the Moscone Center.

I’ll probably be volunteering at the SF Browncoats fan table. I went to their January meeting and had a great time as usual. They’re just such friendly folk, and we all love Firefly and Serenity. So anyway, if any of you do go to WonderCon, please feel free to say hello to me, Chris and Warren.

By the way, coming up for me this year as well is a trip to New Zealand! I finally committed to doing Red Carpet Tours’ Lord of the Rings tour in March for my birthday. I’m so excited and of course, I’ll write a huge article on it and will be taking lots of photos to share.

Not a lot this week. The Drink Tank’s 100 Word special came out on eFanzines.com and featured a number of BArea writers, like Kelly Green, Fred Moulton, Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Andy Trembley, Kevin Roche and Frank Wu, along with some folks you might recognize from the SF/SF letter columns like Peter Sullivan, Eric Mayer and John Purcell. It’s all articles of 100 words exactly.

Emerald City released a new issue this last Sunday. Cheryl Morgan and her usual crowd have another great issue on their hands.

If you are a Bay Area fan who has a blog or website, send us the information at: SFinSF@gmail.com for inclusion in our Blogwatch next issue.

Editorial
The Edwardian Ball and Anon Salon: Vintage Ballroom Dance Meets Halloween and Burning Man in San Francisco One January Evening

By Jean Martin
Editor

How often have I said in the pages of this ezine that fandom seems to be all inter-related. The night of January 21st proved that point and expanded it to not just fandom! Different parts of my life, and even my past, all came together in something akin to a planetary alignment. It was surreal to say the least!

I originally just intended to check out the Sixth Annual Edwardian Ball at the Great American Music Hall in San Francisco. A dance friend of mine a while back told how much he enjoyed this event in 2005. I had never heard about it before then. I had no idea until recently that there were so many costumed events in the city all year round! I go to costumed events in the Peninsula and East Bay regularly but never in San Francisco except on Halloween.

Anyway, my friend raved about the acrobatic troupe Vau du Vire Society. I saw a promotional postcard about the Edwardian Ball at the last PEERS ball (the 12th Night Ball where I performed during the Music Hall intermission) and it reminded me that it would be a good event for me to go to (seeing as I’m into dance and costuming) and something that I would like to cover for SF/SF.

Edward Gorey Creature and Characters

Photo by Jean Martin
I did wind up going to the ball with the same dance friend and a female friend of his. Due to unfortunate circumstances, however, we didn’t get to the Great American Music Hall until 10 p.m. So we missed the burlesque/can can troupe Diamond Daggers (which I really wanted to see because that’s the kind of performing I usually do for PEERS) and singer/pianist Jill Tracy. At least we got there just in time for the headliners Rosin Coven.

Their web site proclaims them as the “worlds premiere pagan lounge ensemble.” That really intrigued me before I actually saw them but the phrase didn’t really prepare me for what to expect. They are a totally unique band, and coming from someone who used to be a music journalist, that’s quite a statement. The eight musicians wearing macabre Edwardian outfits and Addams family makeup combined rock, classical music, ballroom dance music, goth, cabaret and musical theater to form something that was haunting, moving and made you want to either watch them entranced or sing along and dance. The closest comparison I can make is to the music from Mystere by Cirque du Soleil in Las Vegas.

It was great to see a live band once again. The energy emanating from the stage as I was taking pictures reminded me how much I love watching live music, and how much I’ve missed it. The best part was, being a rocker, I loved their more rock numbers, and also being a vintage ballroom dancer, I loved their songs where they invited people to dance. There was a waltz and a tango. I didn’t get to dance as I ran into so many people I knew and I was taking photos and writing down impressions.
Yes, as I mentioned before, this is where the worlds began colliding. I ran into people from my vintage dance community, which I expected, but I also ran into a group of folks I camped with in the Black Rock Desert. They were surprised to see me there, and so was I. But it all made sense to us as we realized we were all into non-mainstream art and culture, performance art, dance and costuming! One of them offered me a name tag with a name from one of Edward Gorey’s works, the *Gashlycrumb Tinies*. I chose “Maud” who was “swept out to sea.” Their whole group was in costume representing some of the other unfortunate children from that alphabetical list of their fatal mishaps.

Which brings me to the whole point of the Edwardian Ball. It is to celebrate the genius of artist, writer and illustrator Edward Gorey. It was a little confusing to me at first because I thought the Edwardian Ball was about the Edwardian era (circa early 1900s). But then after a little bit of research, I realized that some of Gorey’s work did depict the Edwardian era as well as the Victorian age. I was only familiar with Gorey from his artwork that preceded and ended the *Mystery!* series on PBS, which I usually enjoy. But I didn’t know that he was a writer as well.

One of the numbers that Rosin Coven did was a reading of the *Gilded Bat*, which was accompanied with a fantastic musical score, and depicted by the spectacular...
Vau du Vire. The story was about a young woman who wanted to become a prima ballerina but after she achieved her dream, she soon passed away after she suffered at the hands of a controlling Baron, adoring fans and rabid paparazzi. The woman that played the main character, Maudie, looked like a marionette and did amazing acrobatic stunts including pulling her lower limbs around the back of her neck.

Anyway, as I looked around the crowd (it was a sold-out event), everyone was dressed elaborately for the occasion. Only in San Francisco can you see people dressed in Moulin Rouge-like attire but with a darker aspect. And, of course... sexier. It was a bit gothic, a bit bondage/fetish, with a dash of Tim Burton, and Jack the Ripper Victorian. It was also very unexpectedly Burning Man-like. As in the over-the-top, imaginative, free-to-express yourself manner that characterizes Burning Man. My dance friend ran into some of his Burning Man friends. I found out later that Rosin Coven has performed at Burning Man in past years.

I also looked up to see people watching from the gilded and ornate balconies and I swear it felt like I was transported in time and space into an alternate universe where it was like the Barbary Coast days in San Francisco but raunchier and a little bit futuristic. Kind of like the “Mirror, Mirror” episode of the original Star Trek.

I enjoyed the Edwardian Ball immensely and will probably go back next year. We left after Rosin Coven was done and a DJ came on. The woman with us wanted to go to an Anon Salon party, which was at a club in SOMA that she’s been to and really enjoys. It sounded appealing to me so I went along.

Interestingly enough, it also turned out to be the after-party for the Edwardian Ball and we got in at half-price because we came from that ball. I saw members of Vau du Vire in the crowd later on in the evening. What I didn’t expect, though, was that it was a Burning Man party. Well, technically it isn’t related to any camps but Burning man artists displayed their work there and the DJs perform at Burning Man.

There were several rooms on two floors. The first floor, which was actually on the second
floor and indoors, had rooms that were decorated in different themes and related artwork. One room was a lounge that had an East Indian flavor with throw pillows on the couches, carpets on the floor, beads hanging from the ceiling, and sarongs everywhere. There was a room full of stuffed animals (one was a pink bunny that was as tall as myself!), and flower and insect plush toys hanging from the ceiling. There was a room with a masseuse and a huge room for people to get their faces painted. And a huge dance floor with a stage, a pole and lots of good-looking and friendly people! The music was trance-like techno for a little while, which I really liked and got to dance to. There were four DJs that evening. Another room had four bands playing in succession. One was a rock/funk band that I enjoyed. There was even a karaoke room, a room with light toys (or “blinkies” as I call them) for sale and a pink room with a woman that sold handbags that she decorated herself (I bought a feather boa, a fluffy black hat for this year’s Burning Man, and a Playboy bunny Mardi Gras necklace from her).

For yet another cosmic convergence, in one of the rooms, I met the co-owner of Prairie Sun Recording Studio in Cotati. I went there once during my heavy metal journalist days, and he and I reminisced on those days and all the people we knew in common.

The second floor was an open-air space with lots of sculptures and tables for people to sit around and chat and drink. We hung out there for a little bit when the downstairs area got too crowded and hot after dancing. That party was probably one of the best parties I’ve ever been to in my life. We stayed there until 4:00 a.m.! Oh, and yes, Anon Salon was at Burning Man in past years as well. My life has come full circle.

Frank Wu is one of my good friends, so I’m easy to impress with his good work, and when he comes up with a good idea, I’m all for it. Recently, he came up with the concept that may well change everything!

You see, Frank Wu wrote a story for the anthology *Daikaiju*. The Giant Monster anthology was great and Frank’s story combined comedy and tragedy along with a healthy dose of media commentary. The story, *The Tragical Historie of Guidolon: The Giant Space Chicken*, was one of the stand-out stories, and it was written in screenplay style, which made sense since it was the story of a Giant Monster who directs a Giant Monster movie starring humans and Giant Monsters. Weird? Yes. Wonderful? Yes.

Frank got a good idea. Because there was no way it could be made into an actual movie without tons and tons of money for props and sets, not to mention an Olde British Acre of rubber for suits, Frank decided to hold a reading at LosCon featuring some of his friends as the voices of Guidolon and pals. I played Guidolon and did the role as only a mad-eyed, crazy-haired Californian could. Turn-out was small, but it received rave reviews from the folks who were there. This planted a seed in Frank’s mind that continued to grow. After we got back, plans were made to do it again at other cons (he and several others did a performance at Arisia where he was Artist Guest of Honor).

Then the thought of doing a version of *Guidolon* animated popped into Frank’s mind. The idea grew and he found a group that was willing to put out the effort to see about doing a trailer for the *Guidolon* cartoon.

The first step is, of course, to record the voices talking, and over the next three weeks we’ll be doing just that. The original cast from LosCon, Jim Terman (narrator), Diana Sherman (the lovely Giant Hottie Trisauron), Frank (Various Voices, Jerora the Space Jelly Fish and Fribigus) and myself (Guidolon) will be recording it for the animators to work with over the coming months.

Frank has high hopes. He’s hoping to distribute the *Guidolon* recording around to various folks and perhaps put on many more performances at cons. The cartoon will obviously be sent around to everyone he can think of and hopefully will be shown at various SF film festivals and the like. There’s even hope that a line of toys could come out of this little project. Frank’s got big ideas, and it’ll be a blast seeing where this thing goes in the future.
San Francisco and the Greater Bay Area were well represented at Creation Entertainment’s One Ring Celebration, held at the Pasadena Convention Center January 20-22, 2006. The convention brought together several hundred Lord of the Rings fans, many from the West Coast but also from places further flung including Canada, Australia, and Argentina. The weekend was full of diverse activities and programs, so this convention report summarizes the highlights.

Costuming
Masquerades and costume contests are a high point of every Lord of the Rings gathering and ORC was no exception. Friday night’s costume contest and masquerade drew about 40 entrants.

Bay Area folk took home a number of costume awards. In the novice category, Marie Alm of Santa Clara won the award for Best Re-creation for her presentation of The Shards of Narsil. Marie’s costume, made in just eighteen days, featured a dress made from six yards of grey polyester, lots of gray body paint, and a braided and styled wig. The shield on which the shards rest was made of layered cardboard covered with papier mache and Mod Podge, and the shards were made of Super Sculpey and then wired to the shield. Marie said the hardest parts of the project were wiring the shards to the shield and getting the dress to

Marie Alm as The Shards of Narsil, winner of Best Re-creation in the Novice Category.
Photo by Diane Rooney

Phil & Cathe Gust as Comrades in Arms, Best in Show - Adult Category.
Photo by Diane Rooney

By Diane B. Rooney
Staff Writer
drape properly.

Marie’s costume generated a lot of buzz, as no one present had ever seen a costumer present the famous statue holding the remains of Elendil’s sword seen in Rivendell in *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Nice work for a novice costumer.

In the journeyman category, Don Pong of Fremont won the award for Best Recreation for his presentation of the Lord of the Nazgul. (Don won last year in the novice category for his Legolas costume, in his first costume competition.) The Lord of the Nazgul costume, which took two months to construct, consisted of five layers of fabric, a giant mace made of layered and painted cardboard with links of painted plastic, and six-inch platform boots. He also wore pauldrons made of painted foam and a customized helmet and gloves.

Phil and Cathe Gust won Best in Show (adult) for their presentation of Comrades in Arms (Theoden and Gamling), which many “Rings” fans had seen at the GBACG’s Evening in Rivendell a few months ago.

The contest was judged by film mapmaker and calligrapher Daniel Reeve from New Zealand, Jeanne Kang, Tengwar and Runes expert Laura Cooper, and Laura Wilson. Tolkien artist Colleen Doran was Mistress of Ceremonies.

Winners received award certificates personalized for them by Daniel Reeve, and some received copies of *The Art of Lord of the Rings* and other volumes, some signed by artist Alan Lee.

Leah Jakusovsky taught several of the costuming panels including “Elves and Hobbits,” “All About Armor,” and “Taking That First Stitch: Getting Started in Lord of the Rings Costuming.” That’s Leah behind the orc helmet and mail.

Don Pong as Lord of the Nazgul, winner of best re-creation in the Journeyman category. Photo by Diane Rooney
Sunday to raise funds for VSA arts, which enables people with disabilities to learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts.

Celebrities – Daniel Reeve

Celebrity guests included hobbits Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, and Billy Boyd, Miranda Otto (Eowyn), and John Noble (Denethor), along with mapmaker/calligrapher Daniel Reeve. The actors mostly just took questions, which varied widely in quality, but Daniel Reeve presented a slide show with dozens of images of items he created for *The Lord of the Rings*: countless books, invitations, scrolls, labels, maps, and even props like the telescope in the library at Rivendell.

The actual film props turned out to be only part of his work. He went on to work with dozens of merchandising licensees, preparing a massive style guide for them, and then also created the titles and graphics for the DVD releases in dozens of languages.

After *The Lord of the Rings*, Daniel continued to work with WETA, creating maps and calligraphy for *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and *King Kong*. If you saw these films, you saw his handiwork in Mr. Tumnus’ arrest warrant and in the map of Skull Island and the New York newspapers, posters and menus in *King Kong*, among other pieces. He’s also created game cards for Hasbro’s upcoming game based on *Pirates of the Caribbean*.

Daniel’s story is an interesting and inspiring one. He had studied and practiced calligraphy and watercolor for many years but made his living working in the IT department of a bank. When production of *The Lord of the Rings* was announced, he sent a sample book to Peter Jackson. The studio contacted him almost immediately, and his life began to move in a different direction. He now works full time as an artist. To learn more about his work visit [http://www.danielreeve.co.nz](http://www.danielreeve.co.nz)

Celebrities – John Noble

Most interesting (to me) of the actors was John Noble, because he talked at length about the craft of acting, preparation for a role, and working on set. John is a classically trained actor who believes in...
thorough preparation, a slow infiltration into his role, taking on voice, gesture, and working with props, so that when he goes before the camera it’s not really acting – he IS the character. During the wardrobe and makeup process each day he became Denethor. In John’s view, “the craft is about getting inside a character and playing that truth,” regardless of medium.

John has a long and distinguished career as a stage actor and director in Australia and as a TV and film actor. He’s also directed in London. John has three films coming out in 2006: Running Scared, Voodoo Lagoon, and the historical epic One Night with the King. His parts are all villains and he has “some great death scenes.” This year he’s headed for Serbia to appear in Conflict, a thriller directed by John Ireland, where he once again plays the father of two sons, and to England, for a film in which he plays the Devil. You can learn more about this interesting actor at http://www.johnnoble.net/

Films

A super-secret seven-minute blooper reel with outtakes from The Lord of the Rings generated the most buzz. The reel was shown in multiple screenings all three nights with really tight security: no cameras, cell phone, video or audio equipment, and bags were wanded. The outtake everyone talked about was the poor Witch King struggling to draw his sword, which had gotten stuck in the scabbard. “This is my hour….” Well, maybe not.

The makers of Ringers: Lord of the Fans, Cliff Broadway, Jeff Marcheletta and others, did a panel on the making of that film and later showed the entire documentary. Released in November, Ringers is a sweet and light-hearted look at Lord of the Rings fandom from the 1950s to the present day. Much of it was filmed at fan conventions, notably Comic-Con. What’s scary is just
how many people in the film I knew, like Phil and Cathe Gust, to name a few.

Another film panel featured the director, cast, and crew of *Dork of the Rings*, due for release this summer. Director Jack Peterson, a.k.a. Tim Richardson, showed clips from his self-described “epic parody.” Their making-of documentary, *Dorks Gone Wild*, is already on sale at their website (just search for *Dork of the Rings*).

**Photo and Autograph Lines**

Photo ops were priced separately from convention ticket packages: $60 each for the hobbits and Miranda Otto, $20 less for other celebrities. Autographs were included in the top-priced weekend package, but for fans who didn’t have them, each autograph added $30 to $50. The photo op lines moved quickly, just 30 seconds or so to say hello, shake hands, pose, and snap. The autograph lines were another story, since this is where fans get their moment, or two, or three, to chat. Saturday’s autograph session with Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, John Noble and Daniel Reeve started around 7pm and was still going after 11pm.

**Scholars Panels**

ORC drew a good selection of scholars, writers and artists for a full program of panels covering themes in *The Lord of the Rings* and also *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Speakers included Mike Foster, Amy U.K. first editions of *The Lord of the Rings*, 1954-55. Photo by Diane Rooney
Sturgis, Alison Baird, Peter S. Beagle, Anne Petty, and Lynette Porter, and artists Colleen Doran and Tim Kirk. One challenge at ORC, as at many conventions, was juggling between programming tracks. Start times were not uniform with activities on the main stage, so visitors always seemed to be walking out on somebody.

**Other Programming**
There really was something for everyone at ORC including three workshops on Tolkien’s writing (Tengwar and Runes), the wonderful Michael Bilach as the Singing Gandalf, programs for kids and adults by Debbie Hayes on elf ears and foot hair, and an art showroom.

**Odds and Ends**
A first United Kingdom edition (1954/1955) of the three volumes of *The Lord of the Rings* signed by J.R.R. Tolkien (the signature is tipped in front of the title page) was on display Sunday at the Red Carpet Tours booth. The Los Angeles area-based owner has had them for about fifteen years and is now offering the set for $22,500. A chance to come in contact with something held and signed by the Professor.

Your reporter opened the show on Friday afternoon with a main stage slide show and commentary on her tour of *Lord of the Rings* New Zealand film locations in June of last year, which hopefully helped people get in the spirit for the convention.

There were a lot fewer vendors than in 2005 and the three vendor areas seemed quieter in terms of traffic (not in terms of noise, thanks to the friendly folks at Games Workshop). To me it seemed like the poster, photo, and t-shirt sellers did the best business.

I’m glad I went, since I think *Lord of the Rings* is a great fandom and it’s fun to put on my elf princess dress and immerse in the con for three days, seeing friends, taking pictures, checking out the programs, and even being part of it with the slide show. But it’s an expensive weekend, even without photo ops. Next year ORC is moving to the Burbank Airport Hilton. The dates are March 9-11, 2007. Yeah, I did buy my ticket for next year before I left Pasadena.

Phil Gust as Faramir.
*Photo by Diane Rooney*

Jack Peterson, director of *Dork of the Rings*.
*Photo by Diane Rooney*
By Jack Avery
Editor

In the second half of San Francisco art gallery The LAB’s two-part exhibit, five artists interpret the creatures that might inhabit a future Earth. As I did in my review of the first part, I’m approaching the review from the perspective of a science fiction reviewer rather than an art critic.

 Located at the front of the exhibit space, Tara Tucker’s “The Salties,” consisting of both pencil drawings and multimedia sculptures, best addresses the science fiction theme of the exhibit. Her creations, mutated dolphin-like creatures that are in the midst of evolving between sea and land, are the only part of the exhibit that overtly looks at the science fictional premise of the show.

Tucker describes her work as “this strange vision of whale-like creatures inheriting the remnants of a recently extinct human race.”

Intelligent cetaceans are a long staple of science fiction, usually portrayed in a sympathetic light. However, Tucker’s creations are more ambiguous. These are not cute and cuddly dolphins, but instead are strange-looking creatures with an inhuman, perhaps even cruel, intelligence. The creatures are often engaged in activities with recognizable animals, such as a cat, dogs, and an elephant. Whether these activities are benign or exploitive is left to the viewer. Tucker’s work asks questions about the nature of higher intelligence: Does such intelligence require a domination of the natural world?

In one smaller sculpture right at the entranceway, a Salty plays with a kitten, but the kitten is on a leash. In many of the
images and sculptures, the Salties are clearly in control. In one drawing a pair of Salties supervises two thoroughbred dogs in the act of breeding. In another a Salty menaces a bear with a whip. Are the Salties harsh masters? We’re not given enough context to make that determination, but the overall effect is one of menace and callousness.

Tucker’s design of the Salties is a reasonable extrapolation of evolutionary principles. Retaining a blowhole on the top of their heads and vestigial tails, the Salties’ flippers have morphed into arms and stubby legs. The overall effect is both a combination of familiar dolphin and human anatomy, and a disquieting alien effect.

In drawings and paintings with and without the Salties, Tucker creates images of animals joined with plants growing from them. There is also a drawing of several other strange animals, including a multi-
armed monkey.

Unlike Tucker’s work, two installation pieces from Tim Jag’s Industry Code Series don’t seem to ask any science fictional questions. One piece consists of a grouping of three “animals” each with a metal tripod for legs, a faux fur covered cylinder for a body, pipes for a neck and fake plant leaves for a head. Since these are manifestly human-created inanimate objects made out of artificial materials, I can’t see what they say about a post-human future. It doesn’t even seem to be saying that our junk will outlast us.

Another Jag piece, “Reception Machine,” is even less of an attempt to create futuristic fauna. All together, his work is less about the future, than about post-modern conceptual art.

Jag also has a series of paintings, of creatures that blend pipes, gauges and tripods with organic components. In some, it’s not clear if Jag views these as living creatures or as objects.

Mandy Greer’s “Jude 2000” was not created specifically for the exhibit, but is certainly an interesting work. The life-size bear is a deliberately soiled stuffed animal with matted fur and glittered claws. Posed as a stuffed grizzly would be, the animal is dressed in a decorative collar. I’m not certain what Greer is intending with this,
and a related series of the mounted heads of stuffed animals. She seems to be making life-size toy animals, then presenting them as if they were hunting trophies. Instead of trying to replicate the appearance of real animals, she uses bright colored fabrics to emphasize the human-created nature of these artificial animals.

She also has a piece that looks similar to the body of a flamingo, but in place of a head, it has two feelers that attach to a nearby wall, supporting the figure as it hovers above the floor.

And as for donelle estey’s Coral Deer paintings, I’m not sure just what it is that she’s trying to accomplish.

“I am now layering notions and dimensions as co-existent equals in personal tales without obvious beginnings, middle or end, but rather revealed moments of comprehension within storyline,” she writes.

Apparently, in the future, English will no longer be used to communicate coherent thought.

estey’s work consists of watercolors of deer but with elaborate coral structures instead of normal antlers.

The final artist in the show, Berkeley artist Daniel Ross, laminates his images of animals and landscapes onto huge wooden frameworks. This work appears to be a commentary on the attempt by artists to reproduce the natural world. Whether his art is also science fiction would depend on the viewer, although one of the images does include a pig whose snout devolves into the front half of a second piglet, giving it a mutant appearance.

Overall, this is an interesting exhibit that is worth the free admission price, although perhaps with the exception of Tucker’s work, not worth a special trip to the city to see it. The two parts of the exhibit worked well in sequence; it’s a shame that both couldn’t be exhibited at the same time.

Part one of this exhibition, Fabulandia Terra, was reviewed in issue 10.

Event details:
Fabulandia: Fauna
The LAB
2948 16th Street
San Francisco
www.thelab.org
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 1-6 PM
Free
Through February 11
The New Year – Decatur Style

By Celeste Miller
Captain, USS Decatur

Greetings and salutations from the Decatur’s haggard “commander.” Now that I am no longer in the throes of jetlag, here’s a long overdue update on the events that we were involved in over the last month and a half.

December 17th, 2005 – Starship Decatur Blood Drive

My thanks go to Jason Cherry, Alex Stewart, and Jack Twilly for joining me in giving the gift of life at the Pleasanton Red Cross Donation Center. We had our share of moral support too – Pete Briggs and Kierin Bushore gave words of encouragement and fed us juice and snacks after we donated our red blood-celled fluid. We enjoyed a Togo’s lunch of sandwiches and soup together before parting ways in the torrential rain. Again, thank you for those who participated in this endeavor! It was a great send-off before the holidaze.

January 7th, 2006 – January Meet & NYE Shindig

With one of the best turnouts to our January BBQ meet, we grilled the day away watching episodes of Firefly and the Easter egg in the Serenity DVD. Our Q Master, John Harding, experimented with the potency of Kingsford Matchlight charcoal, and Glenn Martin and Jason Cherry discovered they were fellow Reflex scooter riders. Both of them looked like superheroes in their motorcycle gear... a picture is forthcoming so you will understand my meaning. The topic of the meeting was WonderCon. It is the place where the majority of the crew will be on February 11th, and most of us will be in some kind of Firefly/Serenity costuming. I will be in Federation gear with the Klingons from the IKV Black Dragon and the IKV Bloodlust later in the evening.

January 19th – Ethics and Culture of Star Trek Presentation

Pete Briggs and I were invited to
be guest speakers at a “Star Trek Ethics” class at St. Mary’s College in Moraga. We presented the cultural differences between the Klingons and the Federation, and we represented fandom as well. Many thanks to Professor Kathy Fowler for the opportunity to express ourselves and the class for the gracious and warm reception we received. You can view the photos on [IKV Black Dragon’s website](http://www.ikvblackdragon.com) under Pictures.

**Where’s the meet?**

Well, it is official. Bill and I have started the process of packing up the apartment so the Decatur’s 10-Forward is officially trashed. The meets have traditionally been held the first weekend of the month, but I have a different idea for February’s gathering. Many of us will be at WonderCon already, so how about we make some hubbub about it and get together in San Francisco? The Metreon is right across the street from the Moscone Center, with a Starbucks Coffee on the first level (not the cart). The closest BART stations are Montgomery (3rd Street) and Powell, in that order.

So here’s the plan:

Sony Metreon

101 4th Street 151, San Francisco, California 94103

1st Level, Starbucks Coffee  415-369-6284

Saturday, February 11th @ 2pm

We’ll gather at the evil Starshmucks and choose a place to eat lunch in the Metreon. Even if you do not plan to attend WonderCon, this is a chance to see your fellow crewmen dressed in complete silliness. Consider it an enormous opportunity for blackmail material. If you would like to check us out if you haven’t met us yet, feel free to join us as well. Please drop me an email or a voice message and let me know you are coming. I will make sure everyone is accounted for (eyeofcanaan *at* gmail *dot* com or 925/570-9103). I look forward to chillin’ with my best (that means you) at the Metreon!

![Pete Briggs faces off against Star Trek Ethics students at St. Mary’s College](Photo courtesy of IKV Black Dragon)
BASFA Minutes: meeting 806

January 2, 2006

Trey Haddad, President
Nathan Slerm-r & Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:04 p.m.

18 people attended

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 804 were accepted as ‘fantabulously saturated’ & the minutes of meeting 805 were accepted as ‘in memory of Casey Forrest Wahi’

Treasurer report was that we took in $11.08 in the regular jar [& there was no party jar].

VP reports = no Nathan [week 10] & VP Chris reported ‘O so many things’ - there’s a new ‘Drink Tank’ out, that Howard Devore died on New Year’s Eve & discussed a future ‘Drink Tank’ that will deal with reassigning history.

We established a party jar.

The President reported that our mailing list has shown a sudden surge of activity.

No Committee reports.

No Announcements.

Reviews:

Ken reviewed ‘The Producers’ as he was disappointed by it & he felt it was trying to hard to be the original film & failed, but that the musical numbers were great. He thought it was worth matinee & said to stay for the credits to see the cookie.

‘Monkey’ = Chris likes monkeys.

It was mentioned that Kevin R.’s sister once led an exciting life. Kevin R. reviewed a DVD of the ‘50’s TV ‘Flash Gordon’ as it was difficult to sit through & will end up in a BASFA auction soon.

Ed reviewed ‘How to Lie With Statistics’ as a nice, useful book [& then there were some neeps about statistics].

Harold reviewed ‘King Kong’ as possibly the worst monstrosity in film - as a very long 3 hours - & overblown.

I reviewed ‘Memoirs of a Geisha’ as disappointing, lovely but hollow & worth going to go see on a gift certificate.

Chris reviewed ‘Costumers Quarterly’ as a fine read & reviewed ‘Brokeback Mountain’ [‘that gay cowboy movie’] as there’s a lot of angry love in that movie, but it’s too long - is worth full price anyway.

Andy reviewed ‘Touch of Pink’ as chaos & hilarity ensue - charming - and worth buying at Dave’s dealer table at a convention.

Ed also reviewed a ‘Settlers of Catan’ expansion called ‘Cities & Knights’ as worth full price.

Then we auctioned off stuff = comics for $0.45; a bag for $1.20 & books for $1.65, $1.00, $0.75, $3.50 & $5.00.

We adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was: ‘You Klingon bastard - you killed my rumor!’

BASFA Minutes: meeting 807

January 9, 2006

Trey Haddad, President
Nathan Slerm-r & Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Began 8:03 p.m.

22 people attended.

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 806 were accepted as ‘you Klingon
son - you killed my bastard’.

Treasurer report was that last week we took in $31.34 in the regular jar & $36.20 in the party jar.

VP reports = no Nathan [week 11] & VP Chris reported ‘O so many things’ - there’s a new ‘Drink Tank’ out, & he has another film in this year’s Cinequest = ‘Last Woman on Earth’ which may be shown on March 8th.

We established a party jar.

The President said ‘hi’ to ‘Bob’ [no last name given] - who has followed our exploits for months but was here in RL for the 1st time.

We applauded Art, as webmaster, for having helped clear up the mailing list problems [along with Michael Wallis].

No Committee reports.

Announcements:
Adrienne announced that she is on the LACon4 con committee for Writer’s Workshop.

Julie announced that a new group formed, ‘SOOT’ [Students Of Old Technology] & is meeting at Ardenwood Forge; best contact point is through the Airtight Garage.

Kevin S announced there are no print copies of ‘Emerald City’ this week.

Cheryl announced that the latest ‘Emerald City’ is online & she will be lurking in Europe for the next few months in the bitter cold [so think warm thoughts about her].

Ed announced the BASFA FurCon party will be on Friday night.

Kevin R announced the FurCon League of Evil Genius party will also be on Friday night [next to the Suburban Jungle party].

Frank Wu announced it is now Hugo nomination time for LACon4 [until March 10] & it was suggested we do nominations on the first 3 Mondays in February.

Reviews:
Joanie reviewed ‘Passage’ by Connie Willis as it is not a fast-paced, plot-driven novel, but she recommends buying it in paperback & she reviewed the spiral jetty as a harrowing ride to get there - use a sturdy vehicle - & it’s worth visiting.

I reviewed ‘Dhampir’, ‘Thief of Souls’ & ‘Sister of the Dead’ by the Hendees as I wanted to damage the protagonists as their stupidity grew worse throughout the books; to save your money & not buy these books, even for kindling. Then we neeped about vampires a little.

Cheryl reviewed her MP3 player as she loves it & it’s still only half full & reviewed Boston as very like London & the weather there is disgusting.

Art reviewed ‘Pride & Prejudice’ - seen at the Century 25 as the film’s sound went out half-way through the film - but what he saw was pretty good.

Julie reviewed the lemonade as pretty good.

Chris reviewed ‘Fantastic 4’ on DVD as not a bad film & worth DVD rental if only for the mini-documentary extra & he reviewed ‘Roller Girls’ as the single greatest show on TV ['this month', added Kevin R].

Kevin S. reviewed his train trip as excessively long [rail neeps followed].

Kevin R. reviewed Sushi to Die For as anime played on the walls [without sound], but the service was extremely slow, the food was okay & the muzak was not very good.

Adrienne reviewed the ‘Lestat’ musical ['did it suck?’ Chris asked] - as she left early for medical reasons but what she saw was enjoyable to that point.

Then we auctioned off stuff = books for $0.25; $0.75 & $1.00; a hat for $1.50 & a video for $1.25.

We adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was = ‘BASFA will unleash the beavers’.
January 16, 2006
Trey Haddad, President
Nathan Slerm-r & Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:00 p.m. 20 people attended.

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 807 were accepted as ‘damned.’

Treasurer report was that last week we took in $?? [no Treasurer].

VP reports = no Nathan [week 12] - Nathan is now free! & VP Chris reported ‘O so many things’ - there will be a new ‘Drink Tank’ out tomorrow, & an ‘SFSF’ out on Wednesday or Thursday.

We established a party jar.

The President reported that Further Confusion is this week - be there and have fun; come to the BASFA party on Friday at 8pm - and help out there, too. There was then a furry of bad jokes.

Kevin S suggested that we start Hugo nominations on Jan 30th.

Announcements Andy announced that the FurCon League of Evil Genius party will be on Friday night [next to the Suburban Jungle party] - & to come there and be a lab rat.

Ken announced the SciFi channel has finally got Dr. Who and will start showing the new show in March.

Reviews: Harold reviewed the SJ Coin Show as an insidious plot to get people to transform their money into currencies that no longer exist; thought they had a nice selection and he wasn’t able to afford much of anything.

Joanie reviewed the general tenor of reviews for Brokeback Mountain as rather insulting; Dave C asked for detail & Andy said ‘just the verbs!’ [and various neeps followed].

Andy did part 2 of his pancake review, saying the Dutch Baby - a baked custard pancake that is almost a pancake soufflé - served with drizzled lemon juice and powdered sugar - was very good, worth full price - but it takes 20 minutes to prepare.

Chris reviewed a white chocolate ice-blended mocha from the SF Coffee Bean [at Market & 2nd] as possibly the best thing humanity has ever invented - absolutely fantastic & worth selling your soul for & he reviewed a DVD of ‘Mister Show, seasons 1 & 2’ as very funny, worth whatever he paid for it & reviewed the SF silk pie as also very nice.

Art reviewed the 2nd half of Pride & Prejudice as it was equally good as the 1st half; Elizabeth follow-on’d as she enjoyed the movie but that the A&E mini-series is better and she recommends buying the new hardback that Barnes and Noble has put out on it.

Dave C reviewed Bullwinkles restaurant in Wilsonville, OR as they have very limited audio-animatronics & is a family fun center with a restaurant attached & he recommends it; Chris stated that this restores his faith in humanity.

Frank Wu reviewed Arisia [where he was the artist GoH] as it had its highest attendance ever & he got to do dueling easels with Bob Eggelton & it was really fun - reviewed the whole convention as fun, even when he pulled his shoulder.

Elizabeth reviewed Neverwhere as she likes it and can’t wait to see episode #6 & highly recommends it.

Then we auctioned off stuff: books for $2.50; $10.00, $0.50; $1.50, $0.75; $2.00, $0.25; Star Trek blueprints for $10.00; Thumb Wars [for Frank] for $1.25; the Enterprise on a stick for $1.50; MST shorts for $4.50; an audio book $1.00; an uncorrected proof [for Ken] for $6.12; more books for $0.25 & an action figure for $2.50.

We adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was: ‘Barbara hates us all with a vehement passion that is unequalled in the universe, period.’
January 23, 2006
Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:02 p.m., post-con. 18 people attended

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 808 were accepted as ‘in honor of Carl Popper.’

Treasurer report was that at meeting 807 we took in $10.52 in the regular jar & $12.21 in the party jar & at meeting 808 we took in $17.08 in the regular jar & $42.30 in the party jar.

VP report: he was sick this last week & there is a new ‘Drink Tank.’

The President reported that he was at FurCon and had fun & that it was a high-energy con, which is a good thing.

Reminder that next week is week #1 of Hugo nominations.

Announcements: Anime LA will be in Van Nuys this weekend.

Kevin S. announced that this weekend will see the last sf con at the SeaTac Radisson, the Last Guest Con, before the hotel is demolished.

Eric announced that TCM is doing Myazaki movies on Thursdays & that John Lassiter does the introductions.

Chris announced that this is the city of Fremont’s 50th anniversary [film needs followed].

Frank Wu announced that there’s a new fanzine, edited by Steve Upham called ‘Estronomics’ - and that the current issue has cover art from Frank [so go check it out].

Reviews: Further Confusion was multiply reviewed. I reviewed it as “I’m Free!,” that it was a very good convention, that most of its ills stayed out of public view & fun; Kevin S reviewed it as he felt he got his $50.00 worth, enjoyed the anime track & habit made him sit in the “fan-tables area” & he had a good time; Andy reviewed it as there was minor hotel drama & he upgraded to a Sponsor-level badge to avoid the loooong line [and it was worth the extra cost], that he did a panel on Friday, held a VERY popular panel on Friday night & the parties in general did very well, that the Masquerade started on time & tech was fabulous & that the Furry Variety Show ran so long that Sunday parties never really got going, the Hiss & Purr went well, Art Show was good & Dealer’s Den was popular; Kevin R reviewed it as stripes were achieved & the congoers seemed younger, that the Evil Genius Party was the last to close on Friday night, that Saturday was way too quiet; Dave C. reviewed it as the Writer GoH was Jane Lindskold and Tom Whitmore sold many of her books, while Nick Pollata was Dave’s biggest seller.

Kevin R reviewed Boston as really, REALLY [x6] cold, his work was accomplished, that he had squid & half a canoli & that his fur coat was good.

Julie reviewed tribe.net as she joined and then they changed their terms of service to an extremely restricted one, plus that it’s way too red; Chris follow-on’d that it had a big local fan complement & may yet still be good.

Dave G commented that user agreements are getting huge.

Andy reviewed al-ca-ma-hols - that unfiltered sake was used as Vrang milk and noted that the larger the sake bottle becomes, the higher the grade of sake it contains & that Brennivin, an Icelandic burned wine is not bad.

Dave G reviewed the Xena Con in LA as it has 95% females to 5% males - but it was an interesting convention.

Then we auctioned off stuff = books & videos for $0.25; books & audio books for $1.00; books for $1.00; $0.25, $0.50, $4.00, $0.25, $6.00; & reams of paper for $1.50; $1.00, $1.25 & $1.00.

We adjourned at 9:50 p.m. And the rumor of the week was ‘Squid, squid, squid, squid, squid, squid, squid, baked beans and squid.’
BASFA Minutes: meeting 810

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary.

Began 8:01 p.m. [with pie].
22 people attended.
Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 809 were accepted as ‘100.’
Treasurer report was last week we took in $36.49 in the regular jar [our total $8,212.44] & there was no party jar [current party total = $180.96].
VP report = he has a new ‘Drink Tank’ out & there’s been a lot of internet chatter about this issue & there’ll be a new SF/SF out this week - and he had a brilliant idea. This idea led, eventually, to Kevin S. suggesting that Chris chair the ‘Prairie Home Convention.’
The President reported a horrible pun [involving a female gaming con called EstroGenCon].
Reminder that next week is week #2 of Hugo nominations.
The party committee reported that he’s awake now & that the party was held, he got a new club member, that the Stokke family donated $50.00 to food & he needs a check for $82 [and change] for party expenses, letting the rest roll over to the next party. We then discussed this year’s Worldcon, including that it will be 1 week -before- Labor Day weekend this year.
We established a party jar.
Dave G proposed charging for puns in this issue of ‘Drink Tank’ and the motion failed.

Announcements:
Kevin S. announced that there are new ‘Emerald Cities’ in the room [yay!] & there will be the 1st of 3 weeks of Hugo nominations after the meeting tonight.

Reviews:
Anime LA was multiply reviewed. Andy reviewed it as he & Kevin ran the Masquerade, so he didn’t see much of the con, but that they stopped selling memberships at around 1350 [when they ran out of badges], that the Pirate Rum party was pretty cool but there weren’t enough anime-themed pirates & it seemed to be popular, that the Masquerade ran smoothly - if a bit delayed - and the awards included Pocky, that the drive back along the 101 was okay & that he might be crazy enough to do this again. Kevin R reviewed it as that the Masquerade lateness was not his fault; Kevin S commented that the fan base for anime fandom seems to be where fandom’s youth & energy is now.
Kevin S. reviewed ‘Last Guest Con’ as the SeaTac Radisson’s last con, a relaxicon & low-keyed reminiscence event, that the Saturday night casino was just for funzies [no cash] & that Kevin noted that more than just sf con attendees do sf con-type things at their conventions & he had a nice weekend - and he brought Chris his room’s ‘do not disturb/service request’ door sign.

Ed reviewed Ringo’s ‘Watch on the Rhine’ as ‘they all die, so why bother with characterization’ & worth full price.

Then we auctioned off pop rocks for $1.00.
We adjourned at 9 p.m.
And the rumor of the week was: ‘thank you, Kevin, for agreeing to Chair WoeBeCon.’
While some effort (OK, OK, damn little effort) is made to verify event listings, please check before attending as events are sometimes cancelled or times and locations changed.

New listings are in red.

Through February 11
The Mystery Plays
SF Playhouse
536 Sutter Street (between Powell & Mason)
San Francisco
8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday
3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday
$36

West Coast Premiere from the writer of the Fantastic Four comic book, Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa borrows from Alfred Hitchcock and H.P. Lovecraft, The Mystery Plays intertwines two seemingly random events—a Northeast train wreck and a terrifying expedition to solve an Oregon crime—sending two friends on different paths of self-discovery to find the power of forgiveness.

Through February 11
Fabulandia: Fauna Art Exhibit
The LAB
2948 16th Street
San Francisco
www.thelab.org
Wednesdays-Saturdays, 1-6 PM
Free

Featuring artwork by Donelle Estey, Mandy Greer, Tim Jag, Daniel Ross and Tara Tucker.

From their website:
“Fabulandia is The Lab’s two-part exploration into the world of the future, the domain of the impossible and the fantastical. Fauna features the work of five artists envisioning the drastically altered creatures that will populate the terrain of Fabulandia. Fauna fast-forwards viewers into a shadow land where endangered wildlife has been conveniently removed and replaced by new and improved versions. Extravagantly fabricated trophies will be the only surviving memory of the natural world and its wildlife as it once existed. Just think of it - new strains of hybrid mutations will exist simply for human convenience. Plants and animals will be co-joined as tiny deer sprout massive antlers made from brightly colored coral and double-headed sheep graze contentedly in bucolic fields of endlessly blooming daisies. Envision a hyper-efficient future when industry will have finally created a seamless biotech blend of animals, machinery and furniture. Covered in your choice of synthetic faux fur... naturally.”

Part one of this show, Fabulandia: Terra, was reviewed in issue 10 of Science Fiction/San Francisco.
Ongoing through March 12, 2006

Gross, Gruesome and Gothic
Cartoon Art Museum
655 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415/CAR-TOON,
415/227-8666
Hours: Daily 11:00 - 5:00, Closed Monday
Admission Prices:
$6.00 - Adults
$4.00 - Students & Seniors
$2.00 - Children (ages 6 - 12)
FREE - Children (age 5 & below)
The first Tuesday of every calendar month is “Pay What You Wish Day.”

From their website:
“The first Tuesday of every calendar month is “Pay What You Wish Day.”
From their website:
“From the darkest depths of the cartoon vaults comes the Cartoon Art Museum's latest exhibition, Gross, Gruesome and Gothic. This horrifying display features over 50 original cartoons from a wide array of artists and comics, from spine-tinglers to rib-ticklers and everything in between.

“Exhibition highlights include:
“Masters of the Macabre: Edward Gorey, Charles Addams and Basil Wolverton Three of the most influential humorists of all time present their unique views of the world around us in a selection of comics and illustrations dating back to the 1920s.

“Spotlight on Gahan Wilson: This creator spotlight focuses on Gahan Wilson, one of the most celebrated and respected cartoonists of our time. In the past half-century, Wilson's distinctive cartoons and illustrations have graced the pages of The New Yorker, Nickelodeon, Playboy and National Lampoon. In 2005, Wilson received the coveted Milton Caniff Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Cartoonists Society, one of the highest honors that a cartoonist can achieve.


“Scared Silly! Scary comics don’t always take themselves seriously. Bongo Comics’ annual Treehouse of Horror special features The Simpsons as you’ve never seen them before, as illustrated by Sergio Aragonés, Peter Kuper, Bill Morrison, Scott Shaw and Jill Thompson; Batton Lash’s Supernatural Law warns us to beware the creatures of the night...and their lawyers; and Charles Schulz’s classic comic Peanuts asks the burning question, “When will the Great Pumpkin arrive?”

“It came from the Seventies! As the Silver Age of comics came to an end, the Marvel, DC and Warren publishing companies unleashed a wave of horror comics that pushed the boundaries of comic book art. Alfredo Alcala, Jim Aparo, Frank Brunner, Gene Colan and Dick Giordano, among others, bring new life to classic characters from Dracula and Frankenstein's monster to anti-heroes including The Spectre, Vampirella and Morbius, The Living Vampire.

“Nothin’ But Misery: The Goon by Eric Powell Powell is the Eisner Award-winning creator of Dark Horse Comic series The Goon, a horror comedy that pits the title character and his pal Frankie against killer robots, zombies, Spanish-speaking lizards and other supernatural menaces.”

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com
February 2

_Blood Tea and Red String_

Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
5 p.m.

Part of the SF Indie Film Festival. I don’t know if this film really is a fantasy, but it sounds so weird that, what the heck, I’ll include it.

From the website:

“Blood Tea and Red String is a stop-motion animated feature that tells the charming story of love and greed, creation and loss, life and death and (of course), evil card-playing mice and birds and snakes that tear their way out of passive doll figures.

“Christiane Cegavske is the director, producer, writer, set and costume designer and animator of this dialogue-free epic about the struggle between the aristocratic White Mice and the rustic ‘Creatures Who Dwell Under the Oak’.

“The Mice commission the Oak Dwellers to create a beautiful doll for them. When she is complete, the Creatures fall in love with her and refuse to give her up. Resorting to thievery the Mice abscond with her in the middle of the night. The ‘Creatures Who Dwell Under the Oak’ must journey through this mystical land to reclaim the love they created.”

Thursday, February 2

Cal Animage Alpha Ice Skating

Berkeley Iceland
Berkeley

UC Berkeley’s anime club hold a “family night” of ice skating. See their website for details.

February 3

_Initial D_

Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
2:15 p.m.

While it doesn’t have any science fiction elements, this Hong Kong movie is based on a popular Japanese manga series that is also spawned a fan favorite anime series.

February 3

_Pirates of the Great Salt Lake_

Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.

Yet another movie at the SF Indie Film Festival that I can’t tell whether it’s speculative fiction or not. Supposed to be a comedy, Definitely going to be strange. Will contain pirates wearing eyeliner.

February 3

_Razor Blade Smile_

Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
11:45 p.m.

Part of the SF indie film festival. A slinky vampire hit woman goes up against the Bavarian Illuminati.

February 3, 4 and 5

_Back to the Future_

Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Friday at midnight, Saturday at noon and midnight, Sunday at noon.

Midnight movies return to the Act 1 and 2 theater with this Michael J. Fox time travel movie.

Saturday, February 4

_Rocky Horror Picture Show_

www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6
Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.
Saturday, February 4
Blood Tea and Red String
Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
Noon
See February 2 for details.

Saturday, February 4
Richard Paul Russo
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia
San Francisco
3:00 p.m.
Free
Borderlands welcomes Philip K. Dick Award Winner Richard Paul Russo, author of Ship of Fools and the Carlucci books. Russo will be reading from his brand-new space opera, The Rosetta Codex.

Sunday, February 5
Foothills Anime Showing
Building 1500
Foothills College
Los Altos Hills
Noon
Free
Their website says the date for this is February 6, but their showings are usually on Sunday, please check before attending.

Monday, February 6
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick’ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Monday, February 6
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
145 Dwinelle
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free
The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of Paradise Kiss and 2x2 Shinobuden, plus this week’s featured show: Maze.

Monday, February 6
Naisu no Mori: The First Contact
Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
9:30 p.m.
All I can do here is quote from the SF Indie Film Festival website description:
“If you are searching for the weirdest movie in the 2006 IndieFest program - look no further. Naisu no Mori: The First Contact is the only film that features an ejaculating Ass-Television that plugs into a schoolgirl’s navel to save an alien planet and give birth to a tiny sushi chef.

“Co-director and co-writer Katsuhto Ishii (Sharkskin Man and Peach Hip Girl, Party 7) won our Audience Award for Best Film last year with Taste of Tea. His latest film (made with two friends) is a seriously bizarre series of short films, animation, dance numbers, weird comedy, musical interludes and unclassifiable science-fiction moments loosely revolving around cult icon Tadanobu Asano (Ichi the Killer, Gohatto, Zatoichi) as Guitar Brother (one of the three “Unpopular with Women Brothers”), his horny older sibling, and their little Caucasian brother.
“This film is highly recommended for people who want to see tiny little insect spaceships, aliens, dance numbers, random jump cuts, animation, intertitle credits, fades to black, pillowfights, ping pong, stand-up comedy routines, a tribute to David Cronenberg’s Naked Lunch in a school classroom, and a generous three-minute intermission so you can go to the snack bar or restroom. If that sounds interesting, you’re in for a treat. Watch for Ryo Kase (Bright Future, Antenna, Taste of Tea) dancing on a beach with aliens and a giant animated Tango Amazon with dangerous pasties.”

**Tuesday, February 7**

*Initial D*

Roxie Cinema  
3117 16th Street  
San Francisco  
7 p.m.

While it doesn’t have any science fiction elements, this Hong Kong movie is based on a popular Japanese manga series that is also spawned a fan favorite anime series.

**Tuesday, February 7**

*Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing*

Room 60-61H  
Building 60  
Stanford Campus  
Palo Alto  
8-10:30 p.m.  
Free

**Thursday, February 9 and Saturday February 11**

*Sidekick*

Roxie Cinema  
3117 16th Street  
San Francisco  
4:30 p.m.

From the SF Indie Film Festival website:

“Comic geek Norman spends his nights dreaming of fighting crime and imagining what it would be like to have a girlfriend, until one fateful day... Norman sees something astounding that changes his life forever.

“He becomes convinced that Victor Ventura - his swagaring, pretty-boy co-worker, has telekinetic abilities. Norman is quickly obsessed with the hunky telepath and comes to the outlandish conclusion that he should train him to become a real-life superhero. His plan of action involves developing exercises to strengthen and refine Victor’s extraordinary ability -and making him a really cool costume. Norman envisions an exciting (and ambiguously gay) new life as Victor’s faithful sidekick. But all is not well in Superhero-land. Before long Norman realizes that he may have made a terrible mistake.”

**Thursday, February 9**

*Cal Animage Alpha “Family Night”*

Berkeley  

UC Berkeley’s anime club family nights are gatherings of interest groups within the club held every Thursday. See their website for details.
Thursday, February 9
Thrillville’s Sexy Sci-Fi Valentine’s Show
Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine
www.thrillville.net
Parkway Speakeasy Cinema
www.picturepubpizza.com
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
$7
It’s a sexy science fiction spy Valentine’s show featuring Vincent Price, Frankie Avalon, a crazy car chase thru San Francisco and an army of alluring androids in Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine. With a live burlesque act.

February 10-12 2006
Wondercon
The Moscone Center
San Francisco
Comic book convention with anime, summer movie previews, panels, dealers, costume contest, more.

Friday, February 10
Comics 4 Comix
Cartoon Art Museum
655 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
415/227-8666
www.cartoonart.org
8:00 p.m. - 11 p.m.
$15 - $35 (sliding scale)
Comics and comix collide as the funnies meet the funny in a fundraiser/silent art auction for the Cartoon Art Museum. Join the Bay Area’s funniest folk for a night of laffs, food, drink and fun, and bid on original art by some of the brightest stars in comics today.
In addition to its usual fare of original cartoon and comic art, the Cartoon Art Museum plays host to an all-star collection of stand-up COMICS for this fundraiser, with many of the Bay Area’s top comedic talents performing throughout the evening. Michael Capozzola hosts a variety of comedic talent, including Tony Dijamco, Brian Malow, Will Franken, and headliner Johnny Steele, with additional special guests to be announced.
As for COMIX, partygoers will have the opportunity to purchase original comic strip art from popular local and national cartoonists, including Dan Piraro (Bizarro), Paul Madonna (All Over Coffee), Patrick McDonnell (Mutts), and many more. Some of today’s most popular comic book writers and artists - including Gahan Wilson, Batton Lash, Bill Morrison and Eric Powell - will also be in attendance.

Friday-Saturday, February 10 and 11
Highlander
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight

Saturday, February 11
No Name Anime
www.nnanime.com
Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga
12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. or so
Free

Saturday, February 11
Fantastic Frontiers Meeting
Sacramento County
Email frellingbored@yahoo.com for directions
groups@yahoo.com.groups/fantasticfrontiers
Free
The group will celebrate its third anniversary with a glow bowling outing.
Saturday, February 11
Guy Gavriel Kay
Barnes and Noble
Jack London Square
98 Broadway
Oakland
7 p.m.
Free

Saturday, February 11
Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6
Midnight
Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Saturday, February 11
Two Masters of Horror
Jennifer by Dario Argento
Incident On and Off a Mountain Road by Don Coscarelli
Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
9:30 p.m.
Two short horror films originally made for Showtime. Part of the SF Indie Film Festival.

Saturday, February 11
House of Fury
Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
11:45 p.m.
Part of the SF Indie Film Festival. Martial arts comedy with lots of wire-fu and digital effects. A brother and sister don’t believe their father’s story about being a secret agent until his is kidnapped by an old enemy. Produced by Jackie Chan and has martial arts choreography by Yuen Wo Ping. Fair warning: this stars the infamous Twins.

Sunday, February 12
Initial D
Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
4:30 p.m.
While it doesn’t have any science fiction elements, this Hong Kong movie is based on a popular Japanese manga series that is also spawned a fan favorite anime series. Part of the SF Indie Film Festival.

Sunday, February 12
Gay Men’s Book Club
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia
San Francisco
5 p.m.
Free
The book for this month is Declare by Tim Powers. Please contact the group leader, Christopher Rodriquez, at cobalt555@earthlink.net for more information.

Sunday, February 12
Speculative Fiction Book Club
Kepler’s
1010 El Camino Real
Menlo Park
7 p.m.
Free
This month the group will discuss Ken MacLeod’s Newton’s Wake.
Sunday, February 12
*The Great Yokai War*
Roxie Theater
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.

Showing as part of the SF indie film festival. I can't believe somebody thought it was a good idea to let Takashi Miike made a children's movie. The last movie of his I saw that had kids in it featured a hermaphradic high school student/assassin that could shoot deadly darts from her vagina. I suspect he's toned down his legendary excesses for this one, but don't go to this one expecting to see a Japanese version of the *Care Bears* movie. This has Chiaki Kuriyama (Gogo Yubari from *Kill Bill Vol. 1*) in a supporting role. In Japanese with English subtitles.

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**Sunday, February 12**
*Naisu no Mori: The First Contact*
Roxie Cinema
3117 16th Street
San Francisco
9:30 p.m.

See February 6 for details.

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**Monday, February 6**
*Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing*
145 Dwinelle
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
7:30 p.m.
Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Jigouku Shoujo*.

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**Monday, February 13**
*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free

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**Tuesday, February 14**
*Sci-Fi Book Club*
Barnes & Noble
3501 McHenry Ave., Suite E
Modesto
Free

**Tuesday, February 14**
*Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing*
Room 60-61H
Building 60
Stanford Campus
Palo Alto
8-10:30 p.m.
Free
Wednesday, February 15
Ask a Scientist - topic: Synthetic Sight
Bazaar Café
5927 California St. (21st Ave)
San Francisco
www.askascientistsf.com/]
7 - 9 p.m.
Free

Last year Dirk Trauner and colleagues at Berkeley did something really interesting: they reengineered a non-photosensitive nerve cell so that it could be turned on or off in response to light. Come find out how they did it and how their technique could eventually become the basis of a gene therapy for certain kinds of blindness.

About the Series: Ask a Scientist is a new and different kind of lecture series. If you love watching Nova and reading Scientific American at the doctor’s office, then this event is for you. Enjoy food, drinks, socializing, and conversation about the universe’s most fascinating mysteries!

Thursday, February 16
Cal Animage Alpha “Family Night”
UC Berkeley’s anime club family nights are gatherings of interest groups within the club held every Thursday. See their website for details.

Thursday, February 16
Sci-Fi Book Club
Barnes & Noble
Creekside Town Center
1265 Galeria Blvd.
(916) 788-4320
Roseville
Free

Friday, February 17
Scott Sigler
Spellbinding Tales
1910A Encinal Avenue
Alameda
7 p.m.
Free

Appearance by San Francisco science fiction author Scott Sigler.

Friday, February 17
USS Defiance Meeting
Round Table Pizza
Howe Avenue
Sacramento
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Free

Friday and Saturday, February 17 and 18
Raiders of the Lost Ark
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight

February 17-20
Dundracon
San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon
www.dundracon.com
Gaming convention.
February 17-20
PantheaCon
San Jose Doubletree
www.ancientways.com/pantheacon
Pagan convention. Workshops, lectures, performances, rituals, vendors, drumming, dancing, costume contest.

Saturday, February 18
Donald Sidney-Fryer
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia
4 pm:
Donald Sidney-Fryer, presenting Clark Ashton Smith's *The Last Oblivion*, will share his insights on, and his performance of, the poetry of Clark Ashton Smith.

Saturday, February 18
Manga Otaku
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Weberstown Mall
4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319
Stockton, CA 95207
209-472-1885
6 p.m.
Free
Graphic novel book group.

Saturday, February 18
Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6
Midnight
Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Sunday, February 19
Science Fiction Book Club
Borderlands Books
www.borderlands-books.com
866 Valencia St.
San Francisco
6 p.m.
Free
This month’s book is *Wonderland* by Joyce Carol Oates. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

Monday, February 20
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick’ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Tuesday, February 21
Rudy Rucker
The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
www.booksmith.com
7 p.m.
Free
Novelist and scientist Rudy Rucker will read and sign from his new non-fiction book *The Lifebox, the Seashell, and the Soul*.

Tuesday, February 21
Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing
Room 60-61H
Building 60
Stanford Campus
Palo Alto
8-10:30 p.m.
Free

Thursday, February 23
Cal Animage Alpha “Family Night”
UC Berkeley’s anime club family nights are gatherings of interest groups within the club held every Thursday. See their website for details.
Friday, February 24
Sci-Fi / Fantasy Book Group
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Weberstown Mall
4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319
Stockton, CA 95207
209-472-1885
6:30 p.m.
Free

Saturday, February 25
Twenty Years Behind the Scenes at Pixar Animation Studios
Pixar Animation Studios
1200 Park Avenue
Emeryville
415-CARTOON, ext. 300
http://www.cartoonart.org
6 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30 p.m.)
$175 ($125 for Cartoon Art Museum members)

The Cartoon Art Museum hosts its third annual benefit at Pixar Animation Studios on Saturday, February 25, 2006. From Pixar’s inception in 1986 with the premiere of its iconic short film, Luxo Jr., to the studio’s latest full-length feature, Cars, attendees will get an insiders’ perspective on these computer animated creations.

The evening starts with a reception at Pixar’s Emeryville campus. Over wine and hors d’oeuvres guests will gain access to a stunning gallery exhibition featuring the pre-production artwork of The Incredibles, as well as other fine artwork by Pixar employees. Guests will then be escorted into Pixar’s state-of-the-art 240-seat theater to hear stories from artists, gain insight into Pixar’s unique movie-making process and catch a glimpse behind the scenes at the productions of Toy Story, Finding Nemo, and The Incredibles.

After the presentation, guests will have an opportunity to converse with the speakers and other Pixar employees. There will also be a glimpse into Pixar’s future, as some of the creative team of Pixar’s next short film, One Man Band, screen and talk about their film.

Hors d’oeuvres will be served during the art exhibition viewing from 6-7 p.m.. The presentation will begin promptly at 7 p.m.. and will be hosted by Dr. Michael B. Johnson, lead, Moving Pictures Group at Pixar, and will include other Pixar employees, including director Mark Andrews and animator Angus MacLane. The presentation will be followed by dessert and coffee, plus the opportunity to mix and mingle with artists in Pixar’s atrium from 8:30-9:30 p.m.

This event is expected to sell out quickly and there are only a limited number of seats available. Cartoon Art Museum members can purchase tickets for the reduced rate of $125, while the non-member rate is $175. Call 415-227-8666, ext. 300 to purchase tickets. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Saturday, February 25
Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6
Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.
Saturday, February 25
Pee-wee's Big Adventure
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight
No, I’m not sure if this counts as a science fiction movie. But what the heck, this one night only event is hosted by Peaches Christ, so it should at least be an out of this world show.

Sunday, February 26
Bad Movie Night
Astro Zombies
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
darkroomsf.com
8 p.m.
$5
Changed from *The Mysterians*.

Monday, February 27
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free
The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week’s featured show: *Ginban Kateidoscope*.

Friday and Saturday, March 3 and 4
Tron
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight
Exactly how did this movie become a “sci-fi classic”? Inquiring minds want to know.

March 3-5
Consonance 2006
www.consonance.org/
Crowne Plaza Silicon Valley
777 Bellew Drive
Milpitas
Memberships: $35 to 10/31/05, $40 to 2/18/06, $45 at door

Saturday, March 4
Warp 11
The Blue Lamp
1400 Alhambra Ave.
Sacramento
10 p.m.
The Star Trek-theme band plays a hometown venue. With songs titled “Rage Against the Federation” and “Set Your Phaser for F***” resistance is futile.
Saturday, March 4, 2006
The Phantom of the Opera Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.
Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.
Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: $15.00 in advance (by February 28)
At the door: $20.00

Don’t let those wild rumors of an Opera Ghost keep you from attending the social event of the season, the Opera Ball of the Paris Opera Populaire. This is destined to be the most spectacular of all our masquerade balls and Management assures you that “Everything is under control.”

Our special guests - Monsieur Frank Beau Davis, that American trumpet virtuoso and his brilliant Brassworks Band from San Francisco, will play an evening of opera and ballet tunes arranged for ballroom dancing and brilliant Viennese Waltzes, polkas, mazurkas, schottisches, reels, and quadrilles. All set dances will be taught or called and there will a pre-ball dance class to help you brush up on your mid-Victorian dance skills. And, of course, they will play those perennial favorites, “The Congress of Vienna Waltz” and “Sir Roger de Coverley” (with a distinctly Wagnerian edge).

Suggested costume for this gala event is Victorian evening or ball dress (circa 1860’s-80’s), period fancy dress, or modern evening dress. Masks are strongly suggested.

The fashionable young gentlemen of the Jockey Club will be pleased to know that evening’s entertainment includes operatic and ballet excerpts by the company, including the premiere of the ballet from the controversial new opera “Sappho,” choreographed by the celebrated Mme. Giry for the Peerless Ballet. Refreshments will be served throughout the evening (Since we lack the catering budget of the Paris Opera Populaire, your potluck contributions will be deeply appreciated).

Saturday, March 4
Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6 Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Monday, March 6
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free

The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of Paradise Kiss and 2x2 Shinobuden, plus this week’s featured show: Shakuyan no Shana.

Monday, March 6
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick’ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
Tuesday, March 7
Justine Larbalestier and Scott Westerfeld
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia
San Francisco
7 p.m.

Justine Larbalestier is the author of the nonfiction *The Battle of the Sexes in Science Fiction*, the two novels *Magic or Madness* and *Magic Lessons*, and the forthcoming *Daughters of Earth*. Scott Westerfeld is the prolific author of *The Risen Empire* and *The Killing of Worlds*, the awesome *Midnighters* series, *Evolution's Darling*, *Pretties*, *Uglies*, and several more.

Tuesday, March 7
*Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing*
Room 60-61H
Building 60
Stanford Campus
Palo Alto
8-10:30 p.m.
Free

Thursday, March 9
*Thrillville's Hipster Holocaust Blow-Out*
*Panic in the Year Zero*
[www.thrillville.net](http://www.thrillville.net)
[www.picturepubpizza.com](http://www.picturepubpizza.com)
Parkway Speakeasy Cinema
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
$7

It's a hipster holocaust blow-out featuring Ray Milland and Frankie Avalon in a torrid tale of post-nuked LA survival, *Panic in the Year Zero*. With explosive cocktail swingers Johnny and Gin of *The Atomic Lounge Show* live on stage!

Saturday, March 11
*No Name Anime*
[www.nnanime.com](http://www.nnanime.com)
Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga
12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. or so
Free

Saturday, March 11
*Rocky Horror Picture Show*
[www.picturepubpizza.com](http://www.picturepubpizza.com)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6
Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Sunday, March 12
*Sac Con*
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10-4 p.m.
$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.
Sunday, March 12  
Speculative Fiction Book Club  
Kepler’s  
1010 El Camino Real  
Menlo Park  
7:30 p.m.  
Free  
This month the group will discuss Lian Hearn’s Across the Nightingale Floor.

Sunday, March 12  
Bad Movie Night  
20 Million Miles To Earth  
The Dark Room Theater  
2263 Mission Street  
San Francisco  
darkroomsf.com  
8 p.m.  
$5

Monday, March 13  
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing  
Location TBA  
UC Berkeley Campus  
Berkeley  
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/  
7:30 p.m.  
Free  
The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of Paradise Kiss and 2x2 Shinobuden, plus this week’s featured show: Ichigo Mashimaro and Animal Yokochoa.

Monday, March 13  
Bay Area Science Fiction Association  
The Original Hick’ry Pit  
980 E. Campbell Ave.  
Campbell  
8 p.m.  
Free  

Tuesday, March 14  
Sci-Fi Book Club  
Barnes & Noble  
3501 McHenry Ave., Suite E  
Modesto  
Free

Thursday, March 16  
Sci-Fi Book Club  
Barnes & Noble  
Creekside Town Center  
1265 Galeria Blvd.  
(916) 788-4320  
Roseville  
Free

Friday, March 17  
Futurist Salon Book Group  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
Hillsdale Shopping Center  
11 West Hillsdale Blvd.  
San Mateo  
650-341-5560  
7:30 p.m.  
Free

March 17–April 16  
Zorro  
Berkeley Repertory Theater written and performed by Culture Clash  
The Roda Theatre  
2025 Addison Street  
Berkeley

Saturday, March 18  
Otaku Bowl 2006  
info@project760.com  
Classic Bowling Center  
900 King Drive  
Daly City  
1 p.m. -9 p.m  
Registration $20 until February 28, $25 at door.  
Fee includes food, beverages and unlimited bowling. Bowling for prizes, hall cosplay, anime video room, artist alley, exhibitors, game tournament.
Saturday, March 18
Manga Otaku
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Weberstown Mall
4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319
Stockton, CA 95207
209-472-1885
6 p.m.
Free
Graphic novel book group.

Sunday, March 19
Science Fiction Book Club
Borderlands Books
[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)
866 Valencia St.
San Francisco
6 p.m.
Free
This month's book is *Declare* by Tim Powers. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

Monday, March 20
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
[www.basfa.org](http://www.basfa.org)

Wednesday, March 22
Christopher Moore
Copperfield's Montgomery Village
2316 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa
7 p.m.
Free
7:30 p.m.
Free
The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week’s featured show: *Mushishi*.
Friday-Saturday, March 31 and April 1
*A Clockwork Orange*
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight

Local band The Holy Kiss will perform before the Stanley Kubrick classic.

Saturday, April 1, 2006
*The Toon Town Hop*
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
Doors Open: 7 p.m.
Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.
Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: $15.00 in advance (by March 25)
At the door: $20.00

From their website:

“As any cartoon aficionado can tell you, some of the best film music actually appears in cartoons. In celebration of the classic age of cartoons, we invite you to the Toon Town Hop, a vintage dance ball inspired by the best cartoon music of the 20th century.

“Suggested costume is vintage or modern evening dress (Mouse ears optional!). Guests may also attend as their favorite cartoon character (vintage or modern!).

“The dazzlingly versatile Divertimento Dance Orchestra will play a multi-period program of beautiful and energetic dance music from both classic and modern cartoons. Dance classic waltzes and polkas, ragtime teens and 20’s dances, 30’s and 40’s Swing and fox trot, stirring marches, and a variety of other ballroom and set dances at this wildly varied event. For us diehard dancers, there will be DJ dance music of some truly off-the-wall but extremely danceable cartoon music during the intermissions.

“There will be a light buffet of T.V. snacks – everything your mother said was bad for you (and she was probably right) and complimentary non-alcoholic drinks. Contributions to the buffet are, as always, very welcome. Intermission entertainment includes vintage dance performances by the Peers Flying CirCUS and a cartoon music sing-along.”

Saturday, April 1
*Rocky Horror Picture Show*
[www.picturepubpizza.com](http://www.picturepubpizza.com)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
$6
Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Sunday, April 2
*Bad Movie Night*
*Mesa of Lost Women*
The Dark Room Theater
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
[darkroomsf.com](http://darkroomsf.com)
8 p.m.
$5

Monday, April 3
*Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing*
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
[www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/](http://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/)
7:30 p.m.
Free

The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Noein*.

Monday, April 3
*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*
The Original Hick’ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
April 6-9
ConQuest Sac
Avalconventions.com/conquestsac/
Red Lion Hotel
Sacramento
$35-$45
Gaming and sf convention.

Saturday-Sunday, April 8-9
Alternative Press Expo
www.comic-con.org/ape/
Concourse Exhibition Center
620 7th Street
San Francisco
Admission fee to be announced
Exposition for alternative and self-published comics.

Monday, April 10
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free
The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of Paradise Kiss and 2x2 Shinobuden, plus this week's featured show: Akazukin Cha Cha.

Monday, April 10
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Tuesday, April 11
Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing
Room 60-61H
Building 60
Stanford Campus
Palo Alto
8-10:30 p.m.
Free

Thursday, April 13
Thrillville's Ninth Anniversary Show
Forbidden Planet
www.thrillville.net
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Cinema
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
$7
It's Thrillville's ninth anniversary show featuring the all-time science fiction favorite Forbidden Planet and spaced out theremin lounge band Project Pimento live on stage.

April 16
Science Fiction Book Club
Borderlands Books
www.borderlands-books.com
866 Valencia St.
San Francisco
6 p.m.
Free
This month's book is Dark Beyond The Stars by local author Frank Robinson. Author will visit. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

Monday, April 17
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free
The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of Paradise Kiss and 2x2 Shinobuden, plus this week's featured show: Magikano.
Monday, April 17
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free

Friday, April 21
Middle Earth Festival
Forum on the Themes of Tolkien
Downtown Vacaville
Free (or at least they don't have an admission fee listed)
   The second annual Middle Earth Festival opens in Vacaville with a symposium.
   For more events, see April 22-23 listing.

Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23
Middle Earth Festival
Downtown Vacaville
Free
   Second annual festival to celebrate Tolkien's work, both the books and the movies adapted from them. Vendors, food booths, staged and walkabout entertainment, games for kids, trivia contest, Gollum Impersonation Contest.

On Saturday will be a Long Expected Party and on Sunday there will be a fun run.

Sunday, April 23
Cherry Blossom Festival
8th Annual Anime Costume Parade
Sponsored by Japan Video
1737 Post Street
San Francisco
Noon check in for participants
1 p.m. parade starts in front of City Hall
Pre-registration deadline April 17
Free
   Costume contest with prizes, contestants and other cosplayers will march in the annual parade ending at San Francisco's Japantown. The Cherry Blossom Festival, which runs this weekend and the previous weekend in San Francisco's Japantown, also hosts many other Japanese cultural events, usually including an anime room.
   Costume contest participants need to register in advance at Japan Video, limited slots are available so sign up soon.

Monday, April 24
Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free
   The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of Paradise Kiss and 2x2 Shinobuden, plus this week’s featured show which will be announced later.

Saturday, May 6
The Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.
Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.
Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: $15.00 in advance (by April 29, 2006)
At the door: $20.00
Sunday, May 7
Bad Movie Night
Battlefield Earth
The Dark Room Theater
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
darkroomsf.com
8 p.m.
$5

May 11-14
World Horror Con 2006
Gateway Holiday Inn
www.whc2006.org
The world horror con comes to the bay area.

Thursday, May 11
Thrillville’s Mad Mexican Monster Mash
Night of the Bloody Apes
www.thrillville.net
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Cinema
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
$7
It’s a mad Mexican Monster Mash featuring the lurid South of the Border clas-sick Night of the Bloody Apes, with masked female wrestlers vs a rampaging rapist apeman and his evil mad scientist creator. Live opening act.

May 21, 2006
Science Fiction Book Club
Borderlands Books
www.borderlands-books.com
866 Valencia St.
San Francisco
6 p.m.
Free
This month’s book is the graphic novel Watchmen by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

May 26-29, 2006
Fanime Con
San Jose Convention Center
San Jose
www.fanime.com
The largest annual anime convention in the Bay Area. Dealer’s room, panels, costume contest, multiple tracks of anime, Asian films, J-pop concert, much more.

May 26-29, 2006
Baycon
San Jose Doubletree Inn
San Jose
www.baycon.org
$45 until August 31
The largest annual general SF convention in the Bay area. Dealer’s room, panels, costume contest, anime room, much more.

May 26-29 2006
Kublacon
Burlingame Hyatt Regency
1333 Bayshore Highway
Burlingame
Guests: TBA.
Memberships: TBA.
Gaming convention.

Sunday, June 11
Sac Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10-4 p.m.
$5
Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.
Saturday, July 15
Sac-Anime
Sacramento area
Details to be announced, the previous July shows have been held at the Sunrise Mall.

August 4-6 2006
Anime Overdose 2006
www.animeod.com
San Francisco
$30 to ?, $45 at door
Anime convention.

Saturday, September 2
Captain Morgan’s Privateers (We Ain’t Pirates No More) Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.
Dance Lesson: 7:15 p.m.
Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.
Tickets: $15.00 in advance (by August 26, 2006)
Tickets: $20.00 at the door

Sunday, September 3
Sac Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10-4 p.m.
$5
Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

September 8-10
Creation Salutes Star Trek: The 40th Anniversary Celebration
Doubletree Hotel
Sacramento
2001 Point West Way
Sacramento
Memberships: Gold Weekend Package: $399.
Creation brings William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy to Sacramento. And no, that’s not a typo on the price. Cheaper packages will be announced later.

October 6-8
SiliCon
www.siliconventions.com
Doubletree Hotel
San Jose
$35 until August 31

November 4
Le Bal des Vampires
PEERS
Venue: TBD
No information as yet for this vampire-theme ball event.

Sunday, December 10
Sac Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10-4 p.m.
$5
Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

July 6-9, 2007
Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound
DoubleTree Hotel
San Jose
Ongoing:

Daily
San Francisco Ghost Hunt
Walking Tour
www.sfghostshunt.com
Begins: Queen Ann Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia
San Francisco
7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
$20

Ongoing Fridays-Mondays
Haunted Haight Walking Tour
www.hauntedhaight.com
Meets at PlanetWeavers Treasure Store
1573 Haight Street (at Clayton)
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Reservations required
$20

Ongoing Fridays and Saturdays
Vampire Walking Tour
www.sfvampiretour.com
Meets corner of California and Taylor
San Francisco
8 p.m.
$20
 Led by Mina Harker. Tour is cancelled if there is heavy rain.

Mondays
Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick’ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
Mondays at 8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Legion of Rassilon
Doctor Who fan group
www.legionofrassilon.org/
Carl’s Junior
2551 N. First Street
San Jose
Meets every fourth Friday at 7:30 p.m.
(No December meeting)
Free
 Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Bay Area Role-Playing Society
www.BayRPS.com
Go-Getter’s Pizza
1489 Beach Park Boulevard
Foster City
Wednesdays from 6pm to 10pm
 Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details send email to: GM@BayRPS.com.

SF Games
vax.hanford.org/dk/games
Muddy’s Coffeehouse
1304 Valencia Street near 24th
San Francisco
7:00 p.m. to midnight
Free
 SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a cards night on Tuesdays at Café Macondo, 3159 16th Street between Guerrero and Valencia.