



THE 77th WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

Opening Ceremony

Thursday, 15 August 2019
Auditorium — Convention Centre Dublin
8:00 PM



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Welcome

Welcome & Fáilte to the Opening Ceremony

Welcome to Dublin 2019, An Irish Worldcon! We're delighted to have you at our Opening Ceremony and Retro Hugo Awards.

It is wonderful to bring the World Science Fiction Convention to Ireland, and to share the best of Ireland with the world as we celebrate the brilliance that we all love in works of the fantastic.

Ireland is a land of stories, and you being here helps add a story, a scéal, about a science fiction convention in Dublin run by passionate and determined fans, where awards are presented, and which you helped to make happen. I am grateful that you are here tonight to start what I hope will be a wonderful weekend as we recognise what has gone before with the Retro Hugo Awards and look forward to all the amazing programming, events, exhibits, and more that we have planned for you.

I am very proud of the wonderful work Eleanor Wheeler and Jim Fitzpatrick have done on our Hugo Bases, and it is indicative of the brilliance that we are here to celebrate this whole weekend.

I hope you have a really nice time, learn, discuss, meet, and engage as you interact and participate in the convention and enjoy this evening's Opening Ceremony and Retro Hugo Awards.

On behalf of the committee, staff, and volunteers, thank you for joining us.

James Bacon
Chair, Dublin 2019

Tonight's Hosts

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Welcome from Ellen Klages



This is my 17th WorldCon, and my first visit to Ireland. I am thrilled to be in Dublin and co-hosting the Opening Ceremony with the remarkable Dave Rudden. We have an exciting event planned to introduce you to the con, to your 2019 Guests of Honor, and to a little bit of Irish culture. In addition to presenting the Big Heart and First Fandom Awards, we will also be taking a little trip back in time to award the 1944 Retro

Hugos. Will Fritz Leiber beat out C.S. Lewis? Will H.P. Lovecraft lose to *The Little Prince*? Come and see as these and other mysteries are revealed in an evening of fantastic entertainment.

Welcome from Dave Rudden

To a science-fiction loving kid growing up in rural Ireland, Worldcon and the Hugos seemed as far away and glamorous as actual space travel. Then again, that's the point of speculative fiction – bringing the impossible right to your door. I am delighted to welcome you to An Irish Worldcon and to co-present the Opening Ceremony with the wonderful Ellen Klages. There is an incredible constellation of events ahead. I hope you enjoy.



Further information about our hosts can be found on the Worldcon website:

<https://dublin2019.com>

Guests of Honour

Bill & Mary Burns



Avid SF readers and fans, Bill and Mary have been attending conventions and WorldCons since the 1960s. Despite living in the USA, they have not missed a single Eastercon, racking up a total of a hundred Eastercons between them as of 2017. Mary ran the Eastercon art show for a number of years, then managed on-site registration, whereas Bill founded the eFanzines.com website to help traditional fanzine publishers make the transition to

on-line publication. Bill was the recipient of the Doc Weir Award in 2003, and in 2009 Mary and Bill were joint Fan Guests of Honour at Eastercon LX in Bradford.

Diane Duane

Diane's first novel, *The Door Into Fire*, was published in 1979 and was nominated for the John W.Campbell Award. She has since sold more than fifty other novels set in her own universes and in numerous others – more or less accidentally, she has acquired the distinction of having written for *Star Trek* in more formats than anyone else alive! Diane has appeared



a number of times on the New York Times Bestseller List, and has garnered numerous awards for her YA writing. In her spare time Diane gardens, cooks, hangs out on Twitter and Tumblr, and studies astronomy, food history, and her husband of thirty years, the fantasy novelist and screenwriter Peter Morwood.



Ginjer Buchanan

Ginjer Buchanan discovered science fiction fandom in the late 1960s, and became a Founding Mother of the Western Pennsylvania Science Fiction Society. She has worked on the con committees for Suncon

and the 1979 World Fantasy Con in Providence. She served as a World Fantasy judge in 1984 and in 1989 was Toastmaster for the Seattle World Fantasy Con. In 1984, she was offered a full time job as an editor at Ace Books, and has progressed in the industry to the point where, in 2007, she became Editor-in-Chief, Ace/Roc Books. Ginjer was nominated for the Best Editor-Long Form Hugo six times (winning the honour in 2014) and for the World Fantasy Special Award-Professional twice. She's received the Skylark Award for contributions to fandom from NESFA and the Solstice Award for contributions to the professional field from SFWA.

Ian McDonald

Ian McDonald sold his first story, *Islands of the Dead*, to the Belfast-based *Extro* magazine in 1983. Since then he has gone on to be nominated for every major SFF award (including World Fantasy!) and won a few, including a Hugo in 2007 for the novelette *The Djinn's Wife*. Most recent books include the 'New World Order' sequence of *River of Gods/Cyberabad Days*, *Brasyl* and *The Dervish House*, set in the developing world in the near future, the Planesrunner series for young and young-at-heart readers, and the Luna series, which is set in a developing economy on the Moon. In addition to his career in fiction, he worked for sixteen years in programme development with a number of Northern Ireland TV production companies, has taught for Clarion West and Stonecoast and worked with clients on Arts Council NI mentoring schemes.





Jocelyn Bell Burnell

Dame Susan Jocelyn Bell Burnell is a Northern Irish astrophysicist. As a postgraduate student, she was the first to observe and precisely analyse radio pulsars. Bell Burnell was President of the Royal Astronomical Society from 2002 to 2004, president of the Institute of Physics from October 2008 until October 2010, and interim president in early 2011. In March 2013 she was elected Pro-Chancellor of the University of Dublin and was then elected as President of the Royal Society of

Edinburgh in October 2014.

Dame Jocelyn was Scientist Guest of Honour in Glasgow at Satellite 4, the 2014 British National Eastercon.

Steve Jackson

Steve Jackson has been playing games for at least 50 years, and designing them since 1976. His first published game was *Ogre*, released in 1977 by Metagaming, followed by many other hits. In 1983, Steve was elected to the Adventure Gaming Hall of Fame. He has received 12 Origins Awards, as well as various other honours, for game design. His current mega-hit is *Munchkin*, a very silly card game about killing monsters and taking their stuff.

In 1990 and 1991, Steve became the "poster child for electronic freedom" after the Secret Service's invasion of his office and confiscation of equipment and manuscripts. SJ Games filed suit against the Secret Service and the U.S. government, and won more than \$50,000 in damages. Steve remains intermittently active with the Electronic Frontier Foundation, in hopes of preventing further offences against other computer users.



Featured Artists

Afua Richardson

Afua is best known for her work on *Genius* and *World of Wakanda*, and has recently created a variant cover for *Shuri #2*, the Wakanda-based series written by Nnedi Okorafor. She also worked with U.S.

Representative and civil rights leader John Lewis to illustrate *Run*, a volume in his autobiographical comic series. In 2011,

Afua won the Nina Simone Award for Artistic Achievement for her trailblazing work in comics.

In addition to being an illustrator and writer, Afua is a musician, vocalist, performer, songwriter, voice actor, activist, and mentor.



Jim Fitzpatrick

Jim is well known for his gorgeous artwork inspired by Irish Celtic traditions, including *The Book of Conquests*, and for the covers of rock albums for artists including Thin Lizzy. Perhaps his most iconic image is the two-tone illustration of Che Guevara created in 1968 and copied across walls, posters and t-shirts ever since.

Maeve Clancy

Maeve creates stunning works for both adults and children out of paper, drawing and stories. She is the author and illustrator of the financial crisis travelogue *A Hibernian in Hellas* (Cardboard Press) and the web comic *Flatmates*. She also creates large-scale works in cut paper, mural and other forms. Maeve



has produced commissioned artwork for Tall Ships Dublin and a puppet show set for the children's theatre Branar Téatar do Pháistí.

Sana Takeda

Sana is best known for drawing the prizewinning *Monstress* series, written by Marjorie Liu and published by Image Comics. Since it premiered in 2015, *Monstress* has won three Hugos, five Eisners, three British Fantasy Awards and a Harvey Award. Takeda's artistic reference points range from Japanese woodblock prints to Marvel Comics, where she has drawn for franchises including X-Men and Ms. Marvel.



Special Guests



Dr Eleanor Wheeler

Eleanor is an architectural and sculptural ceramicist who has created large scale art for public spaces including at the Market Square in Armagh and the Gasworks, the Mater Hospital and Drumglass Park in Belfast. She lives in County Down and has had numerous solo exhibitions, drawing on her travels locally as well as throughout Asia, Africa and Europe for inspiration. More information in the 1944 half of the programme.



Dr Norah Patten

Dr Norah Patten is a faculty member at the International Space University and is a citizen scientist-astronaut candidate with Project PoSSUM (Polar Suborbital Science in the Upper Mesosphere).

Norah initiated and managed 'The Only Way is Up' project which launched Ireland's first student experiment to the International Space Station. Norah holds a PhD in engineering and has industrial experience from The Boeing Company and Bell Labs Alcatel Lucent. She currently works as a project manager at the Irish Composites Centre, and in September 2019 will publish a children's book, 'Shooting for the Stars', published by The O'Brien Press.

Dr Jeanette Epps

Jeanette J. Epps was selected by NASA in 2009 as an astronaut. She completed astronaut candidate training which included intensive instruction in International Space Station systems, spacewalk training, robotics, T-38 flight training and wilderness survival training. The New York native was a NASA Fellow and authored several journal and conference articles. She then worked for Ford Motor Company and, after leaving Ford, joined the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) for seven years working as a Technical Intelligence Officer before becoming an astronaut. She currently serves in the ISS Operations Branch working issues in support of space station crews.



Awards

This evening we are very proud to present the

- The Big Heart Award
- The First Fandom Hall of Fame Award
- The First Fandom Posthumous Hall of Fame Award
- Sam Moskowitz Archive Award

The Big Heart Award

The Big Heart Award is presented annually at the World Science Fiction Convention to a person who, in the words of one recent recipient, embodies "good work and great spirit long contributed". It was established in 1959 in honour and memory of E. Everett Evans. It may go to a fan or a pro – as has been noted elsewhere, some people are both.

The First Fandom Hall of Fame Award

The Posthumous First Fandom Hall of Fame Award

First Fandom was founded in 1959 to organize the science fiction fans of the golden era and bring back fans who had dropped out of fandom. The first president was Robert A. Madle, a position that he held for more than 25 years. First Fandom was originally limited to fans active prior to 1938 but a category of Associate Membership was added for enthusiasts who have actively and regularly engaged in Fandom for at least 30 years.

The First Fandom Hall of Fame Award is presented for contributions to the field of science fiction dating back more than 30 years. Contributions can be as a fan, writer, editor, artist, agent, or any combination of the five.

Sam Moskowitz Archive Award

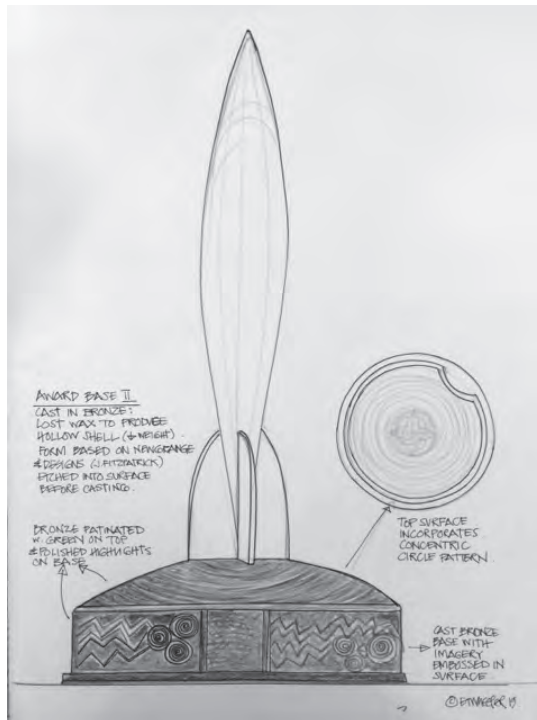
The Moskowitz Archive Award is presented for excellence in science fiction collecting. The award will be presented by one of First Fandom's founding members, Mr. Erle M. Korshak.

Hugo Award

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The 2019 Hugo base was designed by Jim Fitzpatrick and created by Dr Eleanor Wheeler.

Jim's inspiration for the Hugo Base

"The 2019 Hugo base motif is based on the earliest carvings in Newgrange and the triple spiral from the inside. I traced the original from the side stone myself, years ago. The science fiction aspect is interesting as the triple spiral, for me, represents the triple stars in Orion's Belt, a source also represented by the three pyramids in Giza – except that Newgrange is over 1,000 years older." – JF



Featured Acts

Firedoor Theatre



Firedoor Theatre was established in 2013 by a small gang of actors, writers, and directors looking to bring fresh and accessible theatre and workshops to Dublin City. Since then the group has morphed and grown, but still sticks to this core principle.

Firedoor also works to produce a variety of shows and plays, with a particular interest in contemporary and original works as well as give weekly workshops.

<http://www.firedoortheatre.com>

Director: Alex McKenzie
Producer: Marta Calleva
Script Writer: Simon Murphy
Costume: Mr Ben Hats

Members of the ensemble:
Dylan Reilly
Shannon Rogers
Keith Patrick Byrne
Alan O'Connell
Marta Calleva

Songs in the Key of D



Songs in the Key of D (SitKoD) are Dublin's community choir, comprised of up to 50 members across 5 choral sections. Our repertoire is made up entirely of songs that are either about Dublin or that have a strong link with Dublin. We sing everything from the Hallelujah Chorus to U2! Established in 2013 by producer Eoin Kilkenny, for what would become two sold out shows for Dublin's Fringe Festival, the choir have gone from strength to strength since. We've performed with some of Ireland's leading artists, including Aslan, Glen Hansard and Picture House and on stages such as London's Trafalgar Square and the National Concert Hall. Whilst we're normally accompanied by our musical directors, Chris O'Sullivan and Killian Grumley-Traynor, tonight's performance will be conducted by Louise Carley.

www.sitkod.com

Members of the Choir performing tonight:

Conductor: Louise Carley

Marian Walker, Laura Smith, Rosemary Wilson, Maria Fleming, Tony Fleming, Mary O'Shea, Erika O'Reilly, Noreen Lawlor, Beryl Healy, Pat Caulfield, Elma Jackson, Gráinne Hogan, Carol Morgan, Jonathan O'Reilly, Alex Whelan, Sylvia McLoughlin, Bronagh Sands, Anthony McGuinness, Tony Byrne, Paul Healy

Autographs
