

Sensor

A REVIEW OF IRISH SCIENCE FICTION

INTERSECTION SPECIAL

issue 1.5

SUMMER 1995

David Murphy wins major literary award

David Murphy, regular contributor to Irish and British Small Press publications, has won the coveted Maurice Walsh Memorial Award with his short story 'Lost Notes', a fantasy. This mainstream literary competition had some 500 entries and had a first prize of £500. The award coincided nicely with the launch of a collection of Dave's short stories, including 'Lost Notes', which has just appeared from albedo one publications. This collection 'Broken Heroes' can be ordered from:

albedo one publications, 8, Commons Road, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, for £3.95 (inc. p+p)

New committee for ISFA

In February, following two months of administrating, Brendan Ryder chaired an Extraordinary General Meeting which saw the election of four new committee members to run the Association. Kathryn and Ruth Cassidy (Public Relations Officer and Treasurer, respectively), Vincent Canning (Secretary) and Conor Stephens (Chairperson and Membership Secretary) will see the Association through until the AGM at the end of the year; Robert Elliott agreed to continue editing and producing the Newsletter, and the Phase magazines would be produced Paul Sheridan and Padraig O'hIceadha.

Further information regarding the ISFA from The Secretary, 21 St Joseph's Road, Aughrim Street, Dublin 7. The obligatory e-mail address is vcanning@dit.ie

The ISFA workshop co-ordinator can be contacted at 564 River Forest, Leixlip, Co. Kildare

Timewarp 2 is a great success

The largest gathering of Star Trek fans ever in Ireland took place at the Grand Hotel, Malahide in March. Timewarp 2, with Guest Of Honour Majel Barrett Roddenberry and other guests Diane Duane and Peter Morwood, attracted a membership of 1460. The Dealers Room was well supplied with shops from Ireland, Britain and the US. The disappointment of the cancellation of special guest Leonard Nimoy due to filming commitments resulted in a very few cancellations (the membership had been informed in February) - good publicity (including half-page national newspaper advertisements sponsored by Zanussi) more than made up for those. In addition the charity premiere of Star Trek VII - Generations, from which Timewarp (and thus their charity Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Crumlin) received half of the profits, raised the profile of the convention. Some £15,000 was raised for the charity from the convention, five times the amount the original Timewarp generated.

Next big Star Trek Convention: Visicon. Details overleaf

£25 prize for best story in albedo one

albedo one, the small press science fiction, fantasy and horror magazine, has secured sponsorship from a Dublin book shop for a regular competition to find the best story in each issue. The Rathmines Book Shop, a regular advertiser in the magazine, has put up the sum of £25 per issue initially for the story judged best by the readers. This incentive is expected to increase the number of submissions considerably, and will be publicised heavily within Ireland and the small press in general.

Submissions for consideration should be sent to the editorial address of:
albedo one, 2, Post Road, Lusk, Co. Dublin.

Submissions by e-mail are also accepted at bhry@iol.ie

Current subscription rates for four issues of the magazine are £9 (Ireland and U.K.), £12/\$18 Europe (airmail) £17/\$24 Rest Of World (airmail)

Octocon 1995

The sixth Octocon, the Irish national science fiction convention, will take place as usual in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, on the 14th and 15th October. This year it is chaired by Maura McHugh, and there are a few new faces on the committee, along with some old hands. The guest list is once again impressive: Mary Gentle is Guest Of Honour, last year's GOH Robert Holdstock promises a return and Michael Carroll, Diane Duane, Maggie Furey, Katherine Kurtz, Morgan Llywelyn, Anne McCaffrey, Scott MacMillan, Tom Matthews, Peter Morwood, Kim Newman, Tom Richards, Michael Scott, Sue Thomas, Freda Warrington and James White will also attend. Special comics GOHs are Wendy & Will Simpson.

Further details from:

Octocon, 30, South Circular Road, Dublin 8, Ireland.

Phone: +353-1-453-9502

E-mail: mmmchugh@tcd.ie

URL: <http://arrogant.itc.icl.ie/OctoCon.html>

Upcoming conventions:

Summer Sci-Fi Experience,

With Dean Stockwell, Claudia Christian, Jerry Doyle, Denise Crosby

At The Royal Dublin Society, Ballsbridge, Dublin
26th & 27th August,

*The second attempt to run this professional event
(the first, on the 24th and 25th June, was cancelled).*

Irecon 5

With Peter David and Robert O'Reilly,
Special Guest Shelley Jarvis.

At UCG Conference Centre, Galway
16th & 17th September

*Star Trek convention in aid of Children of Chernobyl
(50% of profits to the charity)*

Information: Mairead King, Irecon 5,
4, Lisin, Tullyglass, Shannon, Co. Clare

Jumpgate II

With Michael O'Hare and Ed Wasser

At Dublin City University, Dublin
Saturday 23rd September, 10.00 a.m.

Attending: £10

Information: Jumpgate II, 18 Watermill Road, Raheny, Dublin 5
E-mail: Babylon5@dcu.ie

*A follow-up to the successful one-day event held in June with
Peter Jurasik*

Octocon 1995

GOH Mary Gentle, for other guests see article

At Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin
14th and 15th October

Attending: Adult £16, Junior £12

Information: Octocon '95, 30 South Circular Road, Dublin 8
E-mail: mmmchugh@tcd.ie

WWW: <http://arrogant.itc.icl.ie/OctoCon.html>

Sixth in the series, Irish national sf convention

Gaelcon 95

Ireland's International Games Convention

At The Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, Dublin
29th - 31st October

Attending: £10

Information: I.G.A., P.O. Box 4345, Dublin

Visicon, Star Trek Convention

With Nana Visitor, Robert Picardo, Diane Duane, Peter
Morwood, Michael Carroll

At Dublin City University,
22 and 23rd June, 1996

Run in aid of the Coombe Hospital

Attending: early registration, before February 1996: £35,
afterwards £40. Junior rates half adult.

Information: Visicon, P.O. Box 1996, Dublin 14

*Expected to be the largest convention of 1996, if not ever, in
Ireland!*

Editorial Address:

30 Beverly Downs, Knocklyon Road,
Templeogue, Dublin 16, Ireland.

E-mail: bhry@iol.ie

Small Press

New publications seen since issue 1 of Sensor

The Always Groovy Dreamer Comet, issue 1, October 1994

Nicely produced comic, only one issue seen to date.

A4, 48 pages, fully printed on newsprint

Available for £1 plus p+p. from

St. Joseph's Studios, Waterford Road, Kilkenny

Big Comic, No. 1, October, 1994

From artists Peter and Martin McCanney

A5 in size, photocopied, 24 pages

£1 plus p+p from

Big Comic, 37 Castle Avenue, Swords, Co. Dublin

Darklands, Vol. 3 No. 3

February 1995

The magazine of the UCD Science Fiction and Fantasy Society

16 A4 pages, photocopied.

Available for 50p (plus p+p) from

UCD Science Fiction & Fantasy Society,

Box 12, Students Consultative Forum,

Student's Union Building, Belfield, Dublin 4

PsychoBabble, volume 1, issue 1

A free games fanzine, 20 A5 pages, fully printed.

Available from

Caelen King, Basement Flat, 2, Belvedere Place, Dublin 1

Vigilante, issues 1 (Autumn 1994) and 2 (no date)

Games magazine. Issue 1 was photocopied, issue 2 is very well
laid out and printed.

A5 in size, #1 32 pages, #2 56 pages

Available for £1 from

Vigilante Magazine, Kilfane Cottage, Thomastown,
Co. Kilkenny

Within, issue 1

January, (?) 1995

Nice looking comic from Cork based artists, working with the
ISFA workshop

£1.75 plus p+p from

Within, 32 Glencurragh, South Douglas Road, Cork

*New issues of albedo one (issues 7 and 8) and of Phase
also appeared. The ISFA Newsletter was fairly frequent, and
other groups also produced club publications, more or less
on time. More details in issue 2.*

Mini-editorial

This has been a special issue of Sensor, produced for
Intersection. Normal service will resume with issue 2, which
will be available at Octocon. Comments (preferably LOCs)
should reach me by the latest 21st September. I would also
like some input regarding a Fan History of Irish fandom which
I have started. Anecdotal material, publications such as fan-
zines, basic information regarding clubs and societies can be
sent to the Editorial address opposite.

See you at Octocon.

Brendan Ryder