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Aussiecon 4
68th World Science Fiction Convention

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Melbourne to Host the World Science Fiction Convention

The 2010 World Science Fiction Convention, Aussiecon 4, will be held 2-6 September 2010 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Worldcon will attract science fiction fans, writers, artists, and editors from all over the world. Although the emphasis of the convention is on the literary side, all other forms of speculative fiction, such as movies, TV series, and graphic novels are included. Hundreds of speakers will be involved in programming, which will include panel discussions, lectures, readings, and autographings.

Major events for the conference will include the Hugo Awards Ceremony (the science fiction field's premiere fiction award), Masquerade, Ditmar Award Ceremony (the Australian national science fiction awards), Norma K Hemming Award (a new Australian award honoring the best exploration of themes of race, gender, class and sexuality), and an evening social event for horror writers.

Aussiecon 4's Guests of Honour are:

Kim Stanley Robinson, Hugo and Nebula-Award winning author of the Mars trilogy (*Red Mars*, *Blue Mars*, and *Green Mars*).

Shaun Tan, award-winning artist and writer whose works include the acclaimed wordless novel, *The Arrival*, and *The Rabbits*.

Robin Johnson, chair of the first Aussiecon and a longtime conference organizer.

Best-selling Young Adult writer Garth Nix will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the Hugo Award Ceremony on Sunday, September 5.

Check our "Also Attending" list on the website to see a partial list of the professional writers, artists and editors are planning to attend Aussiecon 4: <http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/index.php?page=85>

Panel discussions will be held on a wide range of topics -- including the writing process and craft, explorations of popular culture, young adult fiction, science and history, and Guest of Honour presentations. Aussiecon 4's academic track will feature presentations on "The Many Uses of Science Fiction."

In addition to panel discussions and evening events, Aussiecon 4 will feature a large Art Show, and a Dealers Room with vendors selling books, jewelry, clothing, and DVDs.

People who purchase their Aussiecon memberships before 31 July 2010 are eligible to vote for the Hugo Awards.

Memberships are available from our website: <http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/index.php?page=27>. They may be purchased online in advance of the conference, or at the door once the conference opens.

The 2010 Aussiecon is the fourth Worldcon to be held in Australia, and all have been held in Melbourne. Previous Worldcons were held in 1975, 1985 and 1999.

For more information on Aussiecon 4, visit our website: <http://www.aussiecon4.org.au>

Media Resources: <http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/index.php?page=32>

A complimentary press pass will be extended to professional journalists and photographers who have been assigned to cover Aussiecon 4 for newspapers, magazines, television and radio stations, and new media outlets. Professional press representatives must submit a Request for Press Credentials (http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/press_cred_form.php) in order to be considered for a press pass. Aussiecon 4 reserves the right to deny press passes to individuals or media organizations as it sees fit. E-mail atconpress@aussiecon4.org.au if you have any questions about covering the Worldcon for your media outlet.

Aussiecon® 4 is convened under the auspices of the Victorian Science Fiction Conventions Inc (ABN 90 257 542 181), a not for profit association incorporated under the Victorian Associations Act, 1981. "World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", "Hugo Award", and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

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