

AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS (August 85 to April 92)

Compiled by Sean McMullen

This is a list of Australian artists who were paid to illustrate Australian science fiction and fantasy in the period August 1985 (Ausicon 2) to Easter 1992 (Syncon 92). The list is not quite comprehensive as a few books (or editions) are not available to the author at present. Other omissions are because photography rather than artwork was used on books' jackets, or because there was nothing that could be described as artwork at all. In the case of magazines, only the number of issues to which internal artwork was contributed is listed.

The intention behind this list is more to indicate who is active in the field, than to provide a complete picture, yet even with this modest aim it is difficult to be fair. Amateur artwork is excluded because the volume of fanzines produced over the past seven years in Australia makes a proper survey of this artwork a major undertaking involving weeks - if not months - of research. Professional SF artwork for film, television, animation, comics, T-shirts, posters, murals, models, etc has also been excluded because of the difficulty of doing a consistent and comprehensive survey.

Some artists, such as Michael Dutkiewicz and Nick Stathopoulos, were active before the period defined here, but it has not proved possible to summarise their earlier work effectively. Other artists, such as Lewis Morley and Marilyn Pride, have not done much work in SF book illustration for a long time, but have been very active in SF film and television. Yet more artists, such as Nick Stathopoulos, work in film and television as well as book and magazine illustration (Nick won a Penguin Award in 1990 for his artwork in the television feature Son of Romeo). Note that no examples of Australian SF art in overseas publications are listed. That is because the author has been unable to find any at all. Selling fiction overseas while living in Australia is very hard: selling artwork overseas is currently impossible.

Omega Science Digest's readers poll was the only poll of artwork in an Australian SF magazine known to the author. Omega ran from 1981 to 1987, so that most of the SF and fantasy artwork that Omega published is outside the period of this survey, but the results of the poll have been included. Although Australia's SF Award (the Ditmar) has had a category for art since 1980, in five years out of the seven since 1985 the wording on the ballots has been structured to exclude professional SF and fantasy art. Nevertheless, Ditmar Awards and Nominations in the art category have been noted for those artists whose work fits the criteria for this list.

It is worth noting that in Australia there is not enough work to allow a large number of artists to specialise in genre art. Thus artists with no background in SF are often recruited by publishers to illustrate book covers. This sometimes results in art that is pedestrian at best and ludicrous at worst. The small SF presses, such as Aphelion and Dreamstone, tend to use specialist artists more often, while SF magazines are the heaviest users of specialist artists. All of the foregoing is reflected in the fact that over a quarter of the artists on this list have been included on the strength of a single cover illustration. Just over a quarter of the artists were women, only slightly less than the average for female SF authors in Australia today.

Professional genre art in this country cannot develop much without small presses and magazines to provide opportunities for artists. Authors can (and do) sell fiction overseas, but artists do not have that option. Those who decide to try to make a living out of art need to move away from SF to earn enough money to pay the mortgage and buy the groceries. Buying Australian SF magazines and SF books from specialist Australian presses, such as Aphelion Publications, helps to provide local genre artists with at least some consistent work to keep their skills sharp. We need good art to package our SF for the market, because it can have no professional image or mass-market appeal without professional artwork and packaging.

- ALTMAN, Steve:
Aphelion Magazine (Cover x 2 issues)
- ANDERSON, Petra
Jerrim:Spaceworld Rolling (Cover - 1990, Collins Dove)
- BEAN, Michael
Aurealis Magazine (Cover)
- BEARD, Knarelle
Rubenstein:Space Demons (Cover - 1986, Omnibus Puffin)
- BESWICK, John
Aphelion Magazine (Cover x 1 issue)
- BETA
Computing Australia Magazine (All internals for SF stories)
- BROSSNER, Bronte
Sussex:My Lady Tongue (Internals - 1990, Heinemann)
- BROWN, Lana
Aphelion Magazine (Cover x 1 issue)
- CAMPBELL, Stephen
Lake:West of the Moon (Cover & internals - 1988, Hyland)
- CROSSETT, Warren
Broderick:The Dark Between the Stars (Cover - 1991, Mandarin)
- CURRY, C.M.
Hall: Trail to the Stars (Cover - 1986, Royall)
- DUTKIEWCZ, Michael
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)
- GALE, Peter
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)
- GOODMAN, Vivienne
Rubenstein:Skymaze (Cover - 1986, Omnibus Puffin)
- HANLON, Kerrie
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 1 issue); Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 1 issue); Dowling:Rynosseros (Internals - 1991, Aphelion)
Ditmar Nominee 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990
- HARRIS, Tim
Aurealis Magazine (Cover x 1 issue)
- HAVELAND, Cathy
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)
- HILL, Brendon
Robertson:Song of Gondwanaland (Cover - 1989, Penguin)
- HILTON, Craig
Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)
Ditmar Winner 1987, Ditmar Nominee 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992*

HOFFMAN, Jay
Crux Magazine (Cover & internals for issue 5)

KANTOR, Franz
Omega Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)
v=4/69 in Omega Readers' Poll for Wilkins: Press for Ground internal

KLOSTERMAN, Alfred
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 2 issues)

LEE, Connell
Carmody: The Farseekers (Cover - 1990, Viking)

MCHUGH, Steve
Omega Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)

MCLEOD, Marc
Omega Magazine (Internals x 4 issues)
v1/69 in Omega Readers' Poll for McMullen: The Pharaoh's Airship internal
v3/69 in Omega Readers' Poll for Dowling: The Terrarium internal

MACKENZIE, Keira
Dedman: The Dirty Little Unicorn (Cover - 1987, ???); Eidolon Magazine (Cover, internals x 8 issues)
Ditmar Nominee 1989

MARINOS, Michael
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 4 issues)

MUCCI, Michael
Buckley: State of Play (Cover - 1990, Albatros)

MULLER, Alan
Ikin: Glass Reptile Breakout (Cover - 1990, CSAL)

MUNEZ, Miguel
Omega Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)

O'KEEFE, Gavin
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 1 issue), Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 4 issues)

PAES, Robert
Aurealis Magazine (Cover x 1 issue)

PEN, Robin
Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)

POSSINGHAM, Denese
Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 4 issues)

PRIDE, Marilyn
Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)
Ditmar Nominee 1986

PYZAKOWSKI, Tony
Omega Magazine (Internals x 7 issues)
v=4/69 in Omega Readers' Poll for Reynolds: Marluc internal

QUINN, Jon
Sussex: My Lady Tongue (Cover - 1990, Heinemann)

REILEY, Michael
Aurealis Magazine (Internals x 1 issue)

RESTON, Jeremy
Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 3 issue)

ROGERS, Gregory
Dobson: The Inheritors (Cover - 1988, UQP); Caswell: Merryl of the Stones (Cover - 1989, UQP), Crew: Strange Objects (Cover - 1991, Mammoth)

SELHOFER, Johannes
Middleton: Circle of Light (Cover - 1990, Pan), Middleton: Triad of Darkness (Cover: - 1991, Pan)

STANLEY, Stephen
Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 1 issue); Dowling: The Mars You Have In Me (Internals - 1992, Eidolon)

STATHOPOULOS, Nick
Omega Magazine (Internals x 1 issue); Aphelion Magazine (Internals x 1 issue); Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 6 issues);
Jenkins: The Sword of Manuel (Cover - 1988, Albatros); Chandler: From Sea to Shining Star (Cover & internals - 1990, Dreamstone);
Dowling: Rynosseros (Cover - 1990, Aphelion); Dowling: Wormwood (Cover - 1991, Aphelion); Dowling: The Mars You Have In Me (Cover
1992, Eidolon); McMullen: Call To The Edge (Cover - 1992, Aphelion); Dowling: Blue Tyson (Cover - 1992, Aphelion)
v2/69 in Omega Readers' Poll for Dowling: A Dragon Between His Fingers internal
Ditmar Winner 1986, Ditmar Nominee 1987, 1992*

STRAUSS, Debby
Dee: Tarin of the Ice (Cover - 1987, Nelson)

TAN, Shaun
Aurealis Magazine (Covers x 5 issues, internals x 4 issues)
Won a quarter of the Hubbard ILLUSTRATORS OF THE FUTURE competition

WEBB, Melissa
Klein: Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (Cover - 1985, Viking Kestrel)

WONG, David
Rubenstein: Beyond the Labyrinth (Cover - 1988, Hyland)

YVETTE, Leisel
Eidolon Magazine (Internals x 4 issues)

* Not yet awarded at time of printing