



TROPICON

For additional
information, call:
Joe Siclari, Chairman,
392-6462, evenings.

P.O. Box 2811 Boca Raton, Florida 33432

P R E S S R E E E A S E # 3

Tropicon, the South Florida science fiction convention, will be held over the March 12 - 14, 1982 weekend. It will be the event where local science fiction readers can meet a number of well-known professionals in the field. Tropicon is being held in conjunction with the Florida Atlantic University Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, and some conference programs will also be open to Tropicon attendees.

The Tropicon art show will feature special exhibits of the works of science fiction artist Vincent DiFate and collage fantasist John Digby. DiFate's astronomical paintings have appeared in Analog and the Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction and are widely available as paperback book covers. DiFate's CATALOG OF SCIENCE FICTION HARDWARE (1980) is a showcase for his work, which is also featured in Ian Summer's critically acclaimed TOMORROW AND BEYOND. Also represented will be astronomical artists Morris Scott Dollins and Dexter Dickenson as well as Sarah Clemens, Sabrina Jarema, Gail Bennett, Paul Johnson and others. The art show will be open Friday and Saturday from 10 AM to 8 PM. On Sunday it will be open 9 AM to 11 AM, followed by the art auction.

Sunday afternoon, Tropicon will hold an auction of the works on display at the art show. Although the art show is limited to convention members, the auction will be open to the public.

The Tropicon program of events includes panels on Fantasy Art, Fads in Science Fiction, Tarot and the Supernatural, and more. Participants include the 1980, 1981, and 1982 World Science Fiction Convention Fan Guests of Honor as well as professional artists and writers. There will be a special presentation on two upcoming films, THE THING, based on "Who Goes There?" by John W. Campbell, and DARK CRYSTAL, the fantasy based on designs by Brian Froud.

Tropicon's special guest is Lee Hoffman. Lee is a long-time fan and has authored over a dozen published novels, both science fiction and western. Her science fiction novels include CAVES OF KARST, ALWAYS THE BLACK KNIGHT, and TELEPOWER. Her science fiction fan magazine, QUANDRY, was a focal point of fan activity in the 1950's with contributors including Harlan Ellison, Robert Silverberg, Walt Willis, Wilson Tucker and Robert Bloch. Lee's western novels are highly regarded, and one of them, THE VALDEZ HORSES, won the Western Writers of America's coveted Silver Spur award for best novel of the year.

Other convention attendees include: Brian Aldiss, Jack Dann, Ellen Datlow (fiction editor of OMNI), Samuel R. Delany, Vincent DiFate, Joseph Green, James Gunn, David Kyle, Fritz Leiber, Jacqueline Lichtenberg, Brad Linaweaver, Jean Lorrah, John Morrissey, Frederik Pohl, Gary Alan Ruse, Somtow Sucharitkul, Timothy Robert Sullivan, Gene Wolfe, and William F. Wu.

Tropicon will be held in the new Boca Raton Sheraton Hotel located at the southwest corner of the Glades Road exit from I-95. Convention activities will begin at Noon on Friday and will continue through Sunday afternoon. A full weekend registration fee is only \$10.00 per attendee and will be collected at the door. A special Sunday only registration may be purchased for \$5.00.

If you would like to arrange for press passes or for an interview with one of the writers or artists, contact Joe Siclari at 392-6462 evenings.