

# WisCon<sup>23</sup><sub>♀</sub>

Progress Report 3

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May 28-31, 1999

## Memorial Day Weekend

SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL EVENTS	
5:00 pm Thursday	Packet Stuffing, Concourse Hotel, (a good way to help AND get an early start on your convention)!
6:30 pm Thursday	Reception for WisCon 23 authors at A Room of One's Own Bookstore (including a reading by Mary Doria Russell and Terri Windling), 307 W. Johnson St., 2 blocks from the Concourse Hotel
7:30 pm Thursday	Dinner and socializing with guests, concomm and early arrivers at the Angelic Brew Pub, 322 W. Johnson (across the street from A Room of One's Own)
1:00 pm Friday	Registration opens
7:30 pm Friday	Opening Ceremonies
8:15 pm Friday	U.S. premier of film, <i>What if a Film About Judith Merril</i> , followed by commentary by WisCon 23 guests of honor, Terri Windling, Mary Doria Russell, and other WisCon luminaries
7:30 pm Saturday	Tiptree auction, hosted by Ellen Klages
7:30 pm Sunday	Dessert reception and GoH speeches, Mary Doria Russell & Terri Windling
Late Monday afternoon	Dead Dog Party
There's a non trivial chance that "Star Wars 1: The Phantom Menace" will be playing at a theater two blocks from the hotel.	

## Luminaries and Their Works

Hugo nominated **Mary Doria Russell**—*The Sparrow*, *Children of God*

**Terri Windling**—*The Wood Wife*, *Bordertown*, *Black Thorn*, *White Rose* (ed.), *Briar Rose* (ed.), *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* (ed.)

**Eleanor Arnason**—*A Woman of the Iron People*, *Ring of Swords*, *Daughter of the Bear People*; **Suzy McKee Charnas**—*The Slave and the Free* (*Walk to the End of the World*, *Motherlines*, *The Furies*), *Conqueror's Child*, *The Kingdom of Kevin Malone*, *The Vampire Tapestry*, *Dorthea Dreams*; **Richard Chwedyk**—"Last One Close the Door," "A Man Makes a Machine," "Surfaces"; **Ellen Datlow**—*Sirens and Other Daemon Lovers* (ed.), *The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* (ed.); **Kate Elliott**—*Crown of Sars* series: *An Earthly Crown*, *Prince of Dogs*, *The Burning Stone*; **Karen Joy Fowler**—*Black Glass: Short Fictions*, *The Sweetheart Season: A Novel*, *Sarah Canary*; **Suzette Haden Elgin**—*The Gentle Art of Verbal Self Defense*, *The Grandmother Principles*, *Ozark Fantasy Trilogy*, *Native Tongue*; **Jim Frenkel**—Editor, TOR; **Heinz Insu Fenkl**—*Memories of My Ghost Brother*; **Eileen Gunn**—"Stable Strategies for Middle Management", "Alternate Presidents", "Lichen and Rock", "Computer Friendly", "The Sock Story", "Spring Conditions", "Contact", "What Are Friends For?"; **Anne Harris**—*The Nature of Smoke*; **P. C. Hodgell**—*Dark of the Moon*, *Godstalk*; **Peg Kerr**—*Emerald House Rising*, *The Wild Swans*; **Ellen Kushner**—*Swordspoint: A Melodrama of Manners*, *The Horns of Effland* (ed.), *Through a Brazen Mirror*, *Thomas the Rhymer: A Romance*; **Jonathan Lethem**—*As She Climbed Across the Table*, *Motherless Brooklyn*, *Amnesia Moon*, *Girl in Landscape*, *Gun*, *With Occasional Music*; **Laurie J. Marks**—*Dancing Jack*, *Children of Triad* series, *The Watcher's Mask*, *Delen the Mislaid*; **Mary Anne Mohanraj**—*Torn Shapes of Desire: Internet Erotica*; **Debbie Notkin**—*Flying Cups and Saucers: Gender Explorations in Science Fiction* (ed.), *Women En Large: Images of Fat Nudes*; **Severna Park**—*Hand of Prophecy*, *Speaking Dreams*; **Katya Reimann**—*The Tielmaran Chronicles*, *Wind from a Foreign Sky*; **Jessica Amanda Salmonson**—*What Did Miss Darrington See?: An Anthology of Feminist Supernatural Fiction* (ed.), *The Mysterious Doom: And Other Ghostly Tales of the Pacific Northwest* (ed.), *Amazons* (ed.), *Amazons II* (ed.); **Delia Sherman**—*Through a Brazen Mirror*, *Essential Bordertown* (ed.), *The Porcelain Dove or Constanca's Reward*; **Midori Snyder**—*Beldan's Fire*, *The Innamorati*, *Hatchling* (*Dinotopia*, No. 3); **Michael Swanwick**—*Stations of the Tide*, *In the Drift*, *The Iron Dragon's Daughter*, *Jack Faust*, *Vacuum Flowers*, *Gravity's Angels*; **Cecelia Tan**—*SexMagick: Women Conjuring Erotic Fantasy*, (ed.) *Forged Bonds: Erotic Tales of High Fantasy*, (ed.) *Telepaths Don't Need Safewords and Other Stories from the Erotic Edge of SF/Fantasy*, (ed) *Genderflex*, (ed) *The New Worlds of Women* (ed.); **Amy Thomson**—*Through Alien Eyes*, *The Color of Distance*, *Virtual Girl*; **Charles Vess**—*The Sandman: The Wake* (illustrator), *Tarzan: The Lost Adventure* (illustrator), *Horns of Effland*, *The Book of Night*; **Joan D. Vinge**—*The Snow Queen*, *World's End*, *The Summer Queen*, *Dreamfall*, *Catspaw*, *Heaven Chronicles*, *Lost in Space* (novelization), *Psion*; **Elisabeth Vonarburg**—*In the Mothers' Land*, *Reluctant Voyagers*, *The Silent City*

## TIPTREE EVENTS

### TIPTREE AUCTION & ART SHOW

The WisCon 23 art show and Tiptree Award sale items will be displayed together, and you will be able to make written bids on everything that is for sale from Friday through Saturday night. Most items will be sold by written bid and available for "pick up and pay" on Sunday and Monday.

The most contested items, and some specially selected by the auctioneer, will be auctioned Saturday night. You won't want to miss another in the amazingly entertaining series of Ellen Klages Live Auction Performances. The Tiptree Award will receive all proceeds from donated items and a commission on art show items.

Convention members will have the opportunity to vote on the art show awards again this year, with categories like "Best of Show," "Most Feminist," and "Most Politically Incorrect." WisCon 23's art show will continue to focus on feminist art, art by women, and art by Midwestern artists.

Donations for the Tiptree auction can be mailed to Scott Custis, 2825 Union St., Madison, WI 53704, to arrive at least one week before the convention. If you wish to bring the auction item to the convention with you, then please let Scott know as soon as possible what you are bringing. You can notify us via the WisCon phone number or email.

### TIPTREE BAKE SALE

If you'd like to prepare some baked goods or other treats for the bake sale, please call the WisCon hotline (1-608-233-8850) to get information on where to bring goodies. And come to WisCon ready to munch!



**FROM E. WASHINGTON AVE.** head toward the State Capitol. Two blocks before the Capitol turn right onto Webster St., after two blocks follow the traffic and turn left at the light onto Dayton St. (90° angle, don't take Hamilton). The Concourse is on the left after two blocks. Free parking is available under the hotel to all registered hotel guests. Additional parking is available in the public parking ramp a ½ block down Dayton at Dayton and Carroll St.

**By Bus.** Van Galder (1-800-747-0994) runs regular service from Chicago's O'Hare Airport and from the Chicago Amtrak Station to the Memorial Union in Madison, which is about 10 blocks from the Concourse. Tickets can be purchased from the driver.

Badger Coaches (1-608-255-6771) has service from the Milwaukee Airport to Madison, with a stop at the Memorial Union.

At the Memorial Union you may call the Concourse (257-6000) to catch a ride on the hotel's shuttle, take a cab from Union Cab (242-2000) or Badger Cab (256-5566), or walk about a mile up State Street.

**By Train.** If you make Madison your final destination, Amtrak (1-800-USA-RAIL) includes thruway motor coach service from Chicago in the ticket price (see by bus).

**By Air.** Dane County Regional Airport, located minutes from downtown Madison, offers more than 75 daily flights. Airlines that serve the Madison area include: American Eagle (1-800-433-7300), Comair (1-800-354-9822), Midwest Express/Skyway (1-800-452-2022), Northwest Airlines (1-800-225-2525), TWA (1-800-221-2000), and United (1-800-241-6522).

The Concourse runs a shuttle to the airport from 7 am to 11 pm for arriving guests, with a courtesy phone in the baggage claim area. Allow 15-20 minutes for it to arrive and meet it directly outside the baggage claim doors.

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## Hotel

The Concourse Hotel is located at 1 W. Dayton St., Madison, WI 53703; phone 1-800-356-8293 or 608-257-6000. Room rates are \$85 per night for up to four people. WisCon 22 filled up the hotel last year, and we expect that rooms will sell out again for WisCon 23, so please book your rooms early and mention "WisCon 1999" when you call.

The Concourse is a handicapped-accessible hotel; call for specific information about accessibility. Smoke-free rooms are available upon request. The hotel is located in the heart of Madison, so there are plenty of restaurants, shops, and interesting people and places within easy walking distance. The Saturday Farmers' Market on the Capitol Square is a popular choice for breakfast browsing.

**If you need a room and have not booked one, book one now!**

## Wisconsin DPI Clock Hours

WisCon has been authorized by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to offer 30 clock hours to teachers, librarians, etc. for attendance at the con's programming. Pick up a clock-hours form from the registration desk at any time during the weekend, but be sure you've completed it and turned it back in before you leave.

## Volunteers

You can save \$20 by working for six hours or more at the convention. Register at the regular rate, and a refund will be mailed to you after the convention. Contact WisCon via phone or email before or during the convention.

## New this year! Lunch! Writer's Respite!

The WisCon programming committee has arranged special programming this year to help meet the needs of writers on all levels. We're calling it "Writers Respite" and will start a bit earlier than the rest of the con, with the writers workshop, and continue throughout Friday (and the rest of the con) with special events just for writers. Friday afternoon the editor's panel with Terri Windling and Ellen Datlow (4:00 p.m.) is totally open to anyone attending WisCon. So tell your friends to come early this year.

Throughout the weekend, we'll be trying out a new concept this year, which we're calling Living Rooms. All during the convention, we'll be using a sixth-floor party suite for group discussions on how to survive the practical and artistic struggles of being a writer with Suzy McKee Charnas, Suzette Haden Elgin, Karen Joy Fowler, Ellen Kushner, Laurie Marks, Pat Murphy, Jessica Amanda Salmonson, Delia Sherman, and Michael Swanwick. These, too, are open to everyone at WisCon, though to keep it cozy, we will limit attendance via a sign-up sheet located at the con.

## What If: A film about Judith Merril

U.S. Premiere— Friday, May 28, 1999, WisCon 23

WisCon is proud to present the U. S. Premiere of *What If A Film About Judith Merril* on Friday, May 28, 1999 at WisCon 23, following opening ceremonies. A former resident of Toronto's notorious Rochdale College, Judith Merril is the candid, clever trailblazer of *What If*. She is credited with being one of the first writers to create believable women in SF stories.

*What If* is the passionate story of Science Fiction author, anthologist and activist Judith Merril. La Grande dame of Science Fiction's literary world for over 50 years, Merril pushed the boundaries of science fiction, a genre once dominated by men. Her first story—"That Only A Mother", brought her overnight success in 1948 with a harrowing tale about a seriously deformed child. Author Robert J. Sawyer had this to say about Merril, "she demonstrated with that one, simple, stark story that SF could be a vehicle not just for detached extrapolation about the future, but for powerfully moving explorations of the human condition." In *What If* Merril describes how science fiction was one of the only forms of popular culture where dissenting opinion could appear during the Cold War.

*What If* explores science fiction's Golden Age of the forties and fifties, as seen through the eyes of one of its shining stars. Actor Jackie Burroughs evokes the intensity of Merrill's vision through dramatic readings of her intimate memoirs, *Better to Have Loved*.

*What If* was directed by award-winning filmmaker Helene Klodawsky and produced by Genie recipient Richard Elson.

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### Dessert Function

A dessert function will be held before the Guest of Honor speeches on Sunday evening. For \$7.00 you can enjoy your choice of two desserts, tea, milk, or coffee, and advance seating for the event. Please purchase your ticket by May 20<sup>th</sup> by sending your check to WisCon. There will be a limited number of tickets available at the Con.

Please complete this form and mail by May 20<sup>th</sup> to

WisCon, PO Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701-1624

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert Ticket

\$7.00 enclosed

Make check payable to WisCon

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