

EUREKA!

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This zine is devoted to DOCTOR WHO, the longest running British SF series.

Table of Contents

How It Came to be.....2
Segments of Time.....4
DOCTOR WHO SPECIAL - A Review.....5
DOCTOR WHO A CELEBRATION - A Review.....6
Keys to Time - the mail.....7

NOTE: any unsigned articles are by editor

EUREKA! is a fanzine devoted to DOCTOR WHO. Since the Doctor doesn't keep a schedule, neither will this fanzine...it will come out when it comes out. EUREKA! is available by editor's whim or the usual (a letter of comment or a zine in trade) or a self-addressed, stamped envelope for as long as EUREKA! is light enough for one stamp (first class), no subscriptions. Contributions are gratefully accepted, but not necessarily used. I am looking for articles and illos on any aspect of DOCTOR WHO. No poetry (other than limerics) or fiction will be accepted. I am also looking for reviews of WHOcons, products, books, etc. Articles longer than one page single spaced (or two pages double spaced) or handwritten will NOT be considered unless prior arrangements have been made with the editor.

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How It Came to Be

I discovered the Doctor at a very early age.

I don't remember what enticed me to watch a strange show called DOCTOR WHO, but I do know I enjoyed it. My family lived near the Canadian border and I often watched the children shows offered by our neighbor to the North. At that time, Canada played many British programs.

I remember that DOCTOR WHO was shown in episodes on Saturday afternoon. My mother would watch them with me and she often explained the British references I didn't understand.

It was as if a whole new world had opened up! I had never heard of science fiction, but I knew whatever the stories were, I liked them. I religiously watched the show and discussed it with my mother. I could find no others along the children or adults I knew who watched the program.

DOCTOR WHO only played on that station for less than a year. By my memory, the station only played the first two adventures of the Doctor or eleven episodes in all. I only remember meeting Barbara and Ian, their discovery of the Doctor, their visit to the cave people and then the adventure on Skaro. Also, by my memory, it was during 1965 that I saw these episodes, so perhaps since DOCTOR WHO had only been on a year, the station only had that much to show.

For whatever reason, that was the only time that station played the Doctor, that I noticed. I had enjoyed it and was sad that it had only lasted for a short time.

Now that I think about it, DOCTOR WHO was probably the first science fiction I experienced and I knew I liked it from the start. When STAR TREK premiered in 1966, I was ready for it. With the Doctor as a background, I was delighted to be able to again travel to the stars, even though I was stuck in the present (although, STAR TREK did get around that later on).

Years went by, as they will, and I grew up, got married and moved away from New York entirely. I still remembered DOCTOR WHO, though.

My husband was also interested in science fiction and decided, once we had settled in Tennessee, to find out what science fiction conventions were like. I was surprised by people talking about DOCTOR WHO at conventions; I couldn't

EUREKA!

page 3

imagine how a program what had been on so long ago could still have an active following. Then I learned that DOCTOR WHO was still on the air.

It took a long time, but finally, on Jan. 1, 1984, Georgia Public TV began to show DOCTOR WHO. The local PBS station had shown the special THE FIVE DOCTORS, but the station manager had no interest in DOCTOR WHO despite success reports from the other Tennessee PBS stations and the fans who asked for it.

As to doing a fanzine about DOCTOR WHO, I started doing apazines when I first got into fandom about ten years ago. For those unfamiliar with apas, I'll try to give a short explanation for a long time fannish institution. Apa stands for Amateur Press Association and is composed of a group of fans who each write a fanzine and distribute it to each member of the group through an official editor. The zine usually has comments on what people talked about in the last mailing as well as updating what has been going on with their life, reviews of books, films, etc. and whatever else coming to the mind of the peson writing. Fanzines about a specific subject, such as STAR TREK or DOCTOR WHO, are an outgrowth of writing for this small audience.

I'm not sure why I wanted to do a fanzine devoted to a special topic, but I do hope to make EUREKA! different.

Most of the fanzines I've seen that are devoted to a subject carry mostly fan fiction. Fan fiction is fine, but I harken back to the idea that if it is good enough to be published, it should be professional writing and not fan fiction. However, I also realize that this type of fiction has no market in the real world. Very few magazines are buying stories about the various TV characters (which the fanzines are generally devoted to), despite the level of writing. So, fanzines provide a very important outlet for this type of writing; the writer gets exposure and experience. This is excellent and I hope they continue.

However, I won't be publishing fan fiction in EUREKA! I would like to see articles about DOCTOR WHO. Just as fan fiction needs a place, I feel fan writing about their favorites needs a place. This is the place!

So, from the humble beginning of being a child watching a new world unfold, EUREKA! is born. Like the first DOCTOR WHO adventure, the future is uncertain, but it has promise.

SEGMENTS of TIME

In this fast paced world, we often like our news in bits and pieces and in this column, I'll be doing just that with news in the WHO world as related to our own. I'll site the source of the info when I know it.

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I just received the October issue of THE UNPAID SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR (newsletter of the Companions of Doctor Who Fan Club), and this one bit of news caught my eye. Colin and Marion Baker are expecting a baby in the spring. Seems to me that the Fifth Doctor, Peter Davison and his wife were also expecting a baby sometime next year as well. There will be a lot of celebrating in Whodom this year!

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The Second Doctor, Patrick Troughton, will be featured with the Sixth Doctor in an upcoming WHO story entitled THE TWO DOCTORS. Patrick Troughton is featured in an interview in the WHOVIAN TIMES, newszine of the Doctor Who Fan Club of America, and in an article in the December number 89 issue of STARLOG. The two pieces are similar due to Ben Landsman being the writer in both cases (in STARLOG, he co-writes with Patrick Daniel O'Neill). Both articles are well done. It's good to see such a fine actor getting attention.

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Speaking of Patrick Troughton, don't miss him on the PBS show WONDERWORKS, playing Monday nights at 8 PM. The adventure is called "The Box of Delights" and will be shown in three one hour segments, beginning December 10th. I have no idea how big a role he has in the show, but he is listed in TV GUIDE as being in the first part. The program itself, WONDERWORKS, is a delightful anthology of fantasy/SF stories. Don't miss it!

Last, but not least, Who fans now have a new game - spot the Who actor! The end of November, Lucasfilms released THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK on video cassette. What makes this of interest to Who fans is that a number of actors who have appeared in DOCTOR WHO also have small parts in this Hugo award winning SF flick. As most video stores will allow you to rent the film, playing "spot the Who actor" might be just the thing for these long winter nights or a fan club meeting. No fair checking the cast list of EMPIRE until the movie is over!

In 1984, DOCTOR WHO became 20 years old and, for a TV show, that is a long time to be popular and on the air. To celebrate, the BBC published an over-size magazine detailing the 20 years of DOCTOR WHO. The fans of the show also contributed to this celebration by also putting out some very note worthy publications. This is the first of several articles which will review the publications that came out to celebrate the Doctor's 20th anniversary.

DOCTOR WHO SPECIAL -- A Review

Probably the most known 20th anniversary special publication available in the United States is the DOCTOR WHO SPECIAL, distributed by STARLOG PRESS. This over-sized magazine is an American reprint of the BBC publication, which coincided with the broadcast of THE FIVE DOCTORS. While it has been on the newsstands, it is only currently available by mail from STARLOG PRESS or from the mail order places that specialize in SF items.

The DOCTOR WHO SPECIAL is a marvelous publication which traces the show from its beginnings through the 20th anniversary show, through interviews with the various people currently involved with DOCTOR WHO. Included are write-ups of the five actors who have portrayed the Doctor over the past 20 years (as well as a sneak preview of the sixth Doctor) and a complete guide to the various companions and villains.

There are also articles on behind the scenes aspects of DOCTOR WHO, such as the craftspeople who work on the show, and the various goodies that are available. (Alas, the merchandise is mostly available in England.)

The only problem with the magazine, and it is a minor one, is in the printing. There are many wonderful color pictures, but unfortunately the registration in some issues is poor. But that is minor compared to the quantity of pictures and the "thousand words" each is worth.

The DOCTOR WHO SPECIAL is very special indeed. The writing is informative and witty, never gushy or overblown. The British wit and style make it very good reading, whether one is a WHO fan or not. It is a very recommended publication.

(Distributed by Starlog Press at \$4.95)

DOCTOR WHO A CELEBRATION - A Review

For those who like their interests extoled in hardback, there is DOCTOR WHO A CELEBRATION by Peter Haining.

DOCTOR WHO A CELEBRATION is just that--a celebration of 20 years of DOCTOR WHO by the people involved during those twenty years. Rather than interviews, Mr. Haining has articles written by the various writers, producers and actors who have been a part of DOCTOR WHO. It is a great deal of fun to read the various articles; it becomes closer to talking with the people, rather than reading one person's view of the 20 year adventure with DOCTOR WHO.

While it duplicates BBC's DOCTOR WHO SPECIAL in some respects (such as a complete listing of the companions), the features are done in greater depth regarding the various aspects of the Whoniverse and the people who have been involved with it over the past 20 years.

The various parts that have come together to make up the legend of DOCTOR WHO are also examined. "The Forgotten Doctor" is a tribute to Peter Cushing who played The Doctor in two British films in the 1960's. The films are DOCTOR WHO AND THE DALEKS and THE DALEKS:INVASION OF EARTH 2150 AD. (I have yet to see either film available on a pre-recorded video tape, but have seen them listed in TV scheduals for some cities.) There are articles which tell the story of K9 -- who dogged the Doctor's footsteps for three years, the TARDIS -- a blackbox of a spaceship which makes the Doctor's travels possible, Gallifrey -- the Doctor's home planet, and the Master -- two regenerations of the Doctor's great nemesis.

There are also articles by the various creative people who "put the Doctor on the map", so to speak. Verity Lambert discusses how the Doctor was created, while Terry Nation talks about the creation of the Doctor's greatest enemy--the Daleks. There also also views of the various periods of the show as seen by Barry Letts, Terrance Dicks, and John Nathan-Turner (current producer).

The Whoniverse occupies a special section. It includes a log of the Doctor's adventures over the 20 years of production, including the story line of the only DOCTOR WHO story to be

(continued on page 8)

EUREKA!

page 7

KEYS TO TIME -- THE MAIL BAG

As this is the first time the zine has come out, there is no mail as such. However, one of the ideas I had was to have a column on the various DOCTOR WHO clubs and organizations. I contacted several, not nearly all, and one group was kind enough to send me a note in reply. I invite any and all DOCTOR WHO clubs to drop me a few lines about their organization. I'd like to feature one group per zine and a little publicity never hurt. I want the clubs to write in, rather than me culling the info from elsewhere, so that the information will be accurate, up-to-date, and direct.

The following is an excerpt from the letter I received from the Celestial Intervention Agency (P.O. Box 733, St. Louis, MO 63188) Chancellor Laura Kyro (I hope I read that right). Membership is currently \$8 a year.

"The St. Louis Celestial Intervention Agency was founded in July 1983. The first unofficial meeting of DOCTOR WHO fans in St. Louis (in March, 1983) had 200 persons attending, so it seemed a good idea to start an official club. The C.I.A. has nearly 600 members, making it (if I'm not mistaken) the fourth largest group in the U.S. The newsletter (or journal) of the C.I.A. is known as the TIME LORD TIMES, and comes out every 6 weeks (or so). Members are encouraged to submit items to the newsletter. The Fanzine of our organization is called GATEWAY TO TIME, and includes fan fiction, art work, poems, etc. Members of our organization receive the newsletter, free admission to meetings (held every six weeks or so, but with 250 people who attend regularly, it's hard to find a large enough place), voting rights, a membership card and certificate. Meetings usually (but not always) include a time for committee reports, a slide show, an auction of DW items, refreshments, library table, jelly babies for sale, and at least 3 hours of video. C.I.A. members frequently attend DOCTOR WHO conventions, submitting reports for our newsletter, and slide presentations at the meetings.

The C.I.A. recently held its first convention, TARDISCON, with Louis Jameson, Nicholas Courtney, Ian Marter, and John Leeson, as guest. Members of the C.I.A. write and act in skits and costume presentation which are seen at the other DOCTOR WHO conventions (with the President earning top honours in the costume contests at the Panopticon West 1983 and 1984, and Omnicon V conventions)."

Thank you, Chancellor Laura Kyro.

abandoned during production-SHADA. Current to the time of publication is an index of Target novelisations and non-fiction DOCTOR WHO books, a listing of the production people on each of the DOCTOR WHO stories, a short look at DOCTOR WHO exhibitions in England and last, but hardly least, brief write-ups on the various DOCTOR WHO fan clubs on Earth.

Peter Haining has done a mavelous job in putting together an absorbing, informative tribute to DOCTOR WHO. It is an absolute MUST for the DOCTOR WHO fan who wants the complete story of this incredible TV show. It is highly recommended!

(Published by W.H.Allen, London, England at \$19.95)

(Next issue : DOCTOR WHO THE KEY TO TIME and THE UNFOLDING TEXT will be reviewed.)

Many thanks to the following people for their help and encouragement: Dick Lynch, Dorothy Tompkins, Leslie Jones, Deb Hammer-Johnson, and Laura Kyro and the C.I.A.

TRADE ?

contribution ?