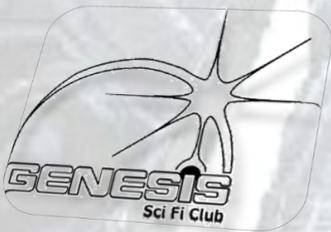
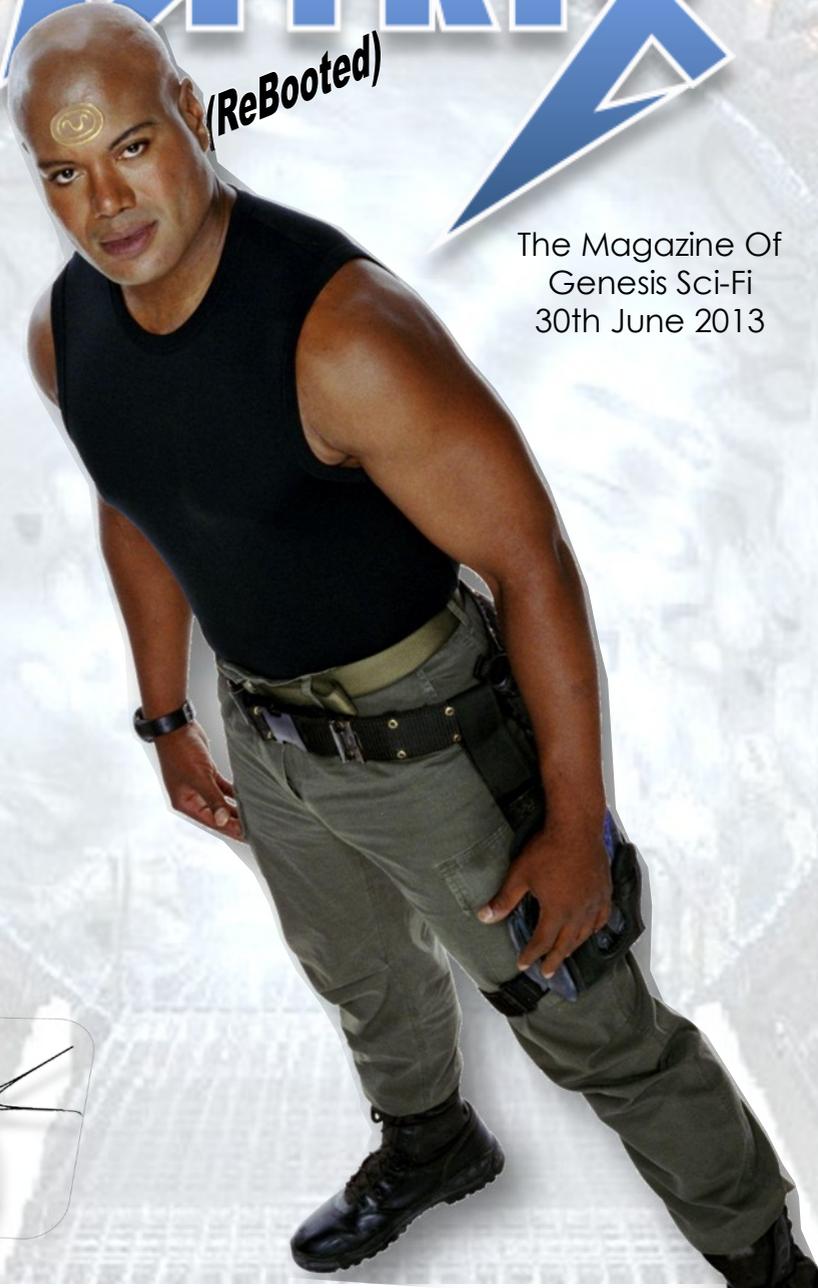


THE
GENESIS

MATRIX

(ReBooted)

The Magazine Of
Genesis Sci-Fi
30th June 2013





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Paul Russell

Vice Chairman
David Offen-James

Treasurer:
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30 June 2013
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All sources acknowledged, we own nothing. No infringement intended, no money made etc etc.

—
INTRODUCING MICHAEL
JAYSTON AS THE
TWELTH DOCTOR!
KEEP CALM.

GOLD CHANNEL

Thank you to Ross for last months programme and quiz, it was great to see the return of Universally Challenged, even better since I seemed to have been on fire (*wouldn't that have been a little dangerous?! – Ed*) and Tony and I stormed the quiz with our team mates Ann and Susan. This month sees Tony doing the programme, and I know there will be some cool stuff on there.

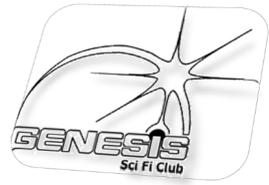
As a club we do like to help people out whenever possible, so if you're thinking of doing a programme and a quiz for a meeting, but don't wish to stand up in front of the rowdy people out there, we can organise someone to read it out for you, (me usually) and we can normally source anything and everything when it comes to video. So do not be afraid to ask for help with anything club related, I know I won't if I wish to delegate stuff to you.

It's June (*or at least it has been - Ed*) and therefore time for me to go away, (it has been 12 weeks since I last had a holiday), well OK, I just got back yesterday. This is one of the advantages of semi-retirement. Popped over to Sweden to see those people who were Genesis's second wedding, that's right, my sister Ruth, and hubby Richard. (Due to publishing deadlines, I am writing this weeks in advance so I can't say how they are doing. But speaking to them before I went they seem to be living the life out there).

So anyway, on with the meeting, bring on the cool stuff.

Chairperkin

The Event Horizon



Club Events For Your Diary



Saturday 13th July - Greenwich & LOTNA

Our summer jaunt to the Smoke, taking in the Greenwich Observatory and LOTNA's meeting at The Mad Hatter, a short walk from Waterloo, in the evening.



Nine Worlds is a new convention which might be a tad ambitious in its aims. According to the organisers, it's about 'gaming, film, cosplay, fandom, literature, science, geek culture, meeting people and having a really big party'. The event was funded via Kickstarter, so a lot of people already have advance tickets, but regular tickets have now gone on sale. The convention takes place from **9-11 August at Heathrow**, and you can find out more at nineworlds.co.uk.

This is **ArmadaCon's** 25th Anniversary year; guests already announced include Doctor Who make-up supervisor / guru Neil Gorton, and the weekend will also feature the filming of the ArmadaCon 25th anniversary short film. Find out more at www.armadacon.org.

Cinema Trips

Films being released over the next few months which we may be going to see...

- > Superman: Man of Steel > The Wolverine (26th July)
- > *The World's End* (14th August)
- > *The Hobbit: Part 2—The Desolation Of Smaug* (13th December)

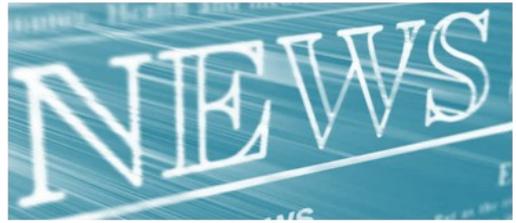
MEETING DATES FOR 2013.....

	Pub	Book Club	Main meeting	Program/ Quiz
July	18th July	20th July	28th July	Steve Brice
August	15th August	17th August	25th August	Mark Sinclair
September	12th September	14th September	22nd September	Paul Belsey
October	10th October	12th October	20th October	Matthew Greet
October / November	31st October	9th November	10th November	The Commit
December	5th December	7th December	15th December	Robert Green

Pub meetings are at the Queen's College Arms on the A340 between Basingstoke and Tadley until further notice.

The Genesis Book Club is at South Ham Library, Basingstoke, on the dates listed above, from 10.00 am to mid-day.

MATT SMITH LEAVING DOCTOR WHO AT THE END OF 2013



So, unless you've been hiding in a mud-filled cave on Androzani Minor for the last few weeks, it cannot have escaped your attention that the BBC are on the look-out for a new *Doctor Who* lead actor, after it was announced that Matt Smith will not be returning for 'series 8' in 2014.

The news was announced late on Saturday 1st June, after the story found its way to the website of a broadsheet newspaper – it had been intended that the news would be announced at midnight, by the BBC. It later emerged, if certain tabloid newspapers are to be believed, that a leaked e-mail from BBC Worldwide had given the game away about Smith's departure, as well as the likely length (12 episodes) and broadcast date (August 2014) of 'Series 8'.

All this means in practical terms that the new Doctor needs to be cast and in the job in quite a short period of time, as the Christmas Special will begin filming in September. Matt Smith is currently in the US working on his first film role - in Ryan Gosling's directorial debut *How To Catch A Monster* – and this is expected to finish in July. An announcement on the identity of the new Doctor could be made in the next few weeks, although at the time of writing the role had reportedly been offered to Rory Kinnear according to one newspaper, while another source has quoted Steven Moffat as saying that the casting process had barely begun and Smith's co-star Jenna Louise Coleman supposedly commented that it would be a 'long search'. This was backed up a couple of days later when the BBC stated

that the part had not been offered to Kinnear and the casting process for the new Doctor was indeed ongoing.

Many of the usual suspects have once again been touted for the role – Eddie Izzard, Simon Pegg, Hugh Laurie and Benedict Cumberbatch among them (but distressingly, not Marcus Brigstocke!), and there has been increased speculation that the producers of the series will break with tradition and cast a female Doctor, with Lara Pulver and Helen Mirren among the names mentioned. Early names in the frame in the hours following the BBC's

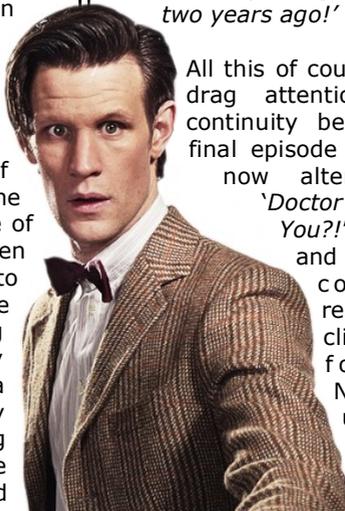


Steven Moffat reacts to the latest doctor Who casting rumours—"No, no, no, it's SO not going to be Graham Norton!"

statement were Ben Daniels (*Law & Order UK*) and Rory Kinnear, and it was Kinnear who quickly emerged as a favourite. (*And if he gets the job, as I hope he will, I will look incredibly smug and say 'I told you so, two years ago!' – Ed*).

All this of course, has done little to drag attention away from the continuity bending climax to the final episode of 'series 7, part 2', now alternatively Christened 'Doctor Who The Hell Are You?!' in some quarters, and we still have the continuation and resolution to the series cliff-hanger to look forward to in November's as yet untitled anniversary episode.

Jeremy Ogden



WHO *should be*

WHO

Twelve possible candidates for the biggest role on British TV....

(Clockwise from top left: Chiwetel Ejiofor, Ben Daniels, Rory Kinnear, Hugh Laurie, Rupert Grint, , Benedict Cumberbatch, John Hurt, Chris O'Dowd, Simon Pegg, Ben Whishaw, Lara Pulver, Richard Coyle. And in the middle, Marcus Brigstocke!)



Iain Banks 1954 to 2013



Author Iain Banks died on 9th June, aged 59, two months after announcing he had terminal cancer. Banks, who was born in Dunfermline, Fife, revealed in April he had gall bladder cancer and was unlikely to live for more than a year. He was best known for his novels *The Wasp Factory*, *The Crow Road* and *Complicity*.

In a statement, his publisher said he was "an irreplaceable part of the literary world". A message posted on Banksophilia, a website set up to provide fans with updates on the author, quoted his wife Adele saying: "Iain died in the early hours this morning. His death was calm and without pain."

Publisher Little, Brown Book Group said the author was "one of the country's best-loved novelists" for both his mainstream and science fiction books. "Iain Banks' ability to combine the most fertile of imaginations with his own highly distinctive brand of gothic humour made him unique," it said.

After announcing his illness in April, Banks asked his publishers to bring forward the release date of his latest novel, *The Quarry*, so he could see it on the shelves. On Sunday, it was revealed the book - to be released on 20 June - would detail the physical and emotional strain of cancer. It describes the final weeks of the life of a man in his 40s who has terminal cancer.

Speaking to the BBC's Kirsty Wark, Banks said he was some 87,000 words into writing the book when he was diagnosed

with his own illness. "I had no inkling. So it wasn't as though this is a response to the disease or anything, the book had been kind of ready to go," he said. "And then 10,000 words from the end, as it turned out, I suddenly discovered that I had cancer."

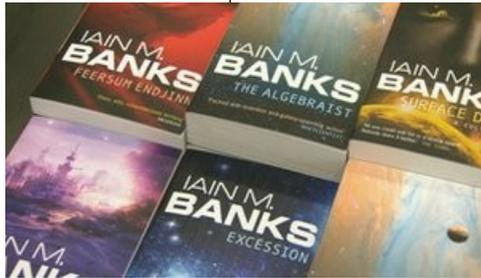
Little, Brown said the author was presented with finished copies of his last novel three weeks ago. Banks' first novel, *The Wasp Factory*, was published in 1984 and was ranked as one of the best 100 books of the 20th Century in a 1997 poll conducted by book chain Waterstones and Channel 4. In 2008 he was named one of the 50 greatest British writers since 1945 in a list compiled by *The Times*. The writer also penned sci-fi titles under the name Iain M Banks. His most recent book, *The Hydrogen Sonata*, was released last year.

Fellow Scottish author Ken MacLeod paid tribute to Banks, saying he had "left a large gap in the Scottish literary scene as well as the wider speaking English world. He brought a wonderful combination of the dark and the light side of life and he explored them both without flinching," he said. "He brought the same degree of craft and skill and commitment to his science fiction as he did to his mainstream fiction and he never drew any distinction in terms of his pride in what he was doing."

Another contemporary, Iain Rankin, told the BBC that Banks was "fascinating, curious and full of life".

"He didn't take things too seriously, and in a way I'm happy that he refused to take death too seriously - he could still joke about it," he said. "I think we all thought he would have a bit longer than he got."

"What made him a great writer was that he was childlike; he had a curiosity about the world. He was restless, he wanted to transmit that in his work, and he treated



the cancer with a certain amount of levity, the same that made him a great writer.

"You never knew what you were going to get, every book was different."

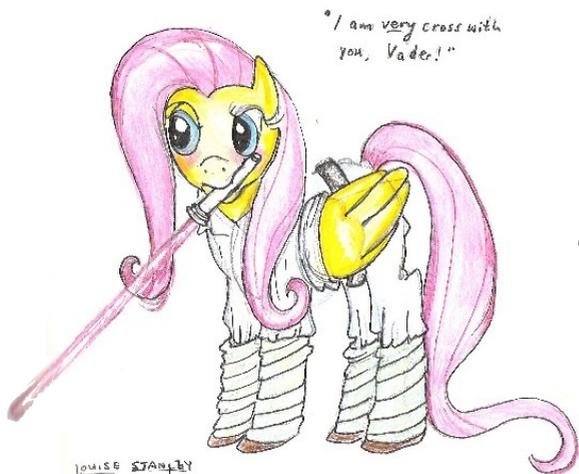
Other authors to pay tribute included Irvine Welsh, who tweeted: "RIP Iain Banks. One of the finest writers and greatest imaginations ever." Sci-fi writer John-Paul Cleary also said: "Tragic news about Iain Banks, my hero and inspiration, a writer of incredible creativity and wit."

Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond said: "Iain was an incredibly talented writer

whose work, across all genres, has brought pleasure to readers for over 30 years. His determination not just to complete his final novel but also to reflect his illness in the pages of his work, will make that work all the more poignant and all the more significant."

After announcing his illness, Banks had described being "hugely moved" by the public support for him through his website. till knocked out by the love and the depth of feeling coming from so many people; thank you, all of you," he wrote on Banksophilia last month. *Source: bbc.co.uk*

Pony Puns



LOUISE STANLEY
06-05-13.

Flutter Skywalker



LOUISE
STANLEY
25-05-13.

Twilight-Luc Picard

GENESIS AT THE MOVIES: IRON MAN 3



Tony Stark (the indefatigable Robert Downy Jr) is just perfecting his latest way of getting into his suit, when an evil terrorist smashes through his house with tracer missiles and wrecks a rendezvous with an ex-girlfriend and her mutant plant genetic code. Meanwhile, the evil Mandarin (Ben Kingsley) is waging a campaign of destruction throughout America and beyond. In other words, it's a big, dumb movie from the people who brought you ... other big dumb movies.

Except it's not quite so dumb, though it is big and loud. I saw *Iron Man* a couple of years ago when it was just on at a friend's house and no-one could be bothered to change the channel, so thanks to that little moment of glorious madness, I knew I'd enjoy this before I went in. I'm not really *into* the genre: I just love big dumb movies with big dumb heroes who get the girl at the end and have a cute black sidekick in order to cross all the T's and dot all the I's. (Pepper Potts and Warmachine do play a bigger role in this one; I get the feeling I need to see *Iron Man 2*, because Warmachine is a new character to me, working closer with the US Government than Stark/Iron Man does.) Unless they seriously messed with the superhero formula, and made this all about the

terrible angst of being an internationally renowned, sexy, rich guy with a basement full of toys that you can use to shoot and blow up terrorists (actually, wait...ALL superheroes have to feel this way now, it's a legal requirement - see also the upcoming *Superman Man of Steel* film), it was going to have an easy ride, because although I'm not really into the *Avengers* metaplot, it's an entertaining way to spend a bank holiday afternoon.

The good thing about the film is it doesn't take itself terribly seriously: there is serious action, and yes, a bit of angst over what Tony

Stark saw in New York during the *Avengers Assemble* movie, but it's all mixed in with some hilarious moments. Sadly describing one of the best would also be a humungous spoiler, as would speculating on whether there will be an *Iron Man 4*. Much of the comedy is all in the timing, but Iron Man's crazy manoeuvre to get all thirteen survivors of an air crash to safety is enjoyably cheesy, and the way Stark fumbles around with his suit is typical of the crazy inventor. There's the creepy *Bond* Villain action from Guy Pearce (or, as I'm informed, Mike Young from *Neighbours*), Tony's attempts not to get punched in the face by his own codpiece, and the will-they-won't-they romp at the end across a disused oil tanker to rescue the President, with a dramatic role for both Pepper and Warmachine that makes strides forward as regards the place of women and ethnic minorities in action films. The villain is also an equal opportunities employer too.



It's both exciting and hilarious in equal measure. Superman and Batman might be played absolutely straight but I do get the impression Iron Man is meant to be a little bit more tongue-in-cheek. I'm not saying that I instantly want to jump into the whole series of *Avengers* films and watch them start to finish, but I would like to see *Iron Man 2* at some point and fill in some of the blanks.

I'll give it 4 and a half Plutos. The half mark is really lost because the film is a bit too tongue-in-cheek in some places, and the role of the Vice President is never fully explained (I suspect there was more but it got left on the cutting-room floor). But it's an enjoyable romp - so definitely worth watching. If you haven't caught it at the cinema, then I would advise giving it a look on DVD.

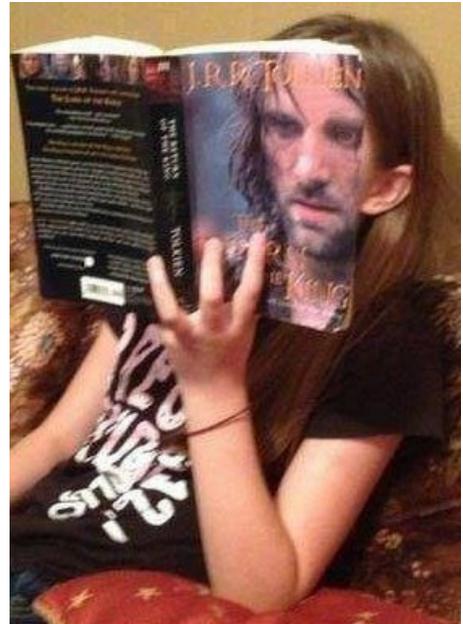
Louise Stanley



In other words, "GET OFF MY LAND!!"



At night, this shopping mall could be a little on the dark side...



PhotoBomb Level: Aragorn

.....And I really hope that this escalator is located here

WEIRD SCIENCE

Multiverse or Universe? Physicists Debate

Whether you believe our universe is unique or one of many co-existing realities, there's a scientific model that backs up your views. Cosmologists on both sides debated the issue June 1 here at the "Multiverse: One Universe or Many?" panel at the World Science Festival.

"Is the multiverse idea something that's implied by deficiencies in existing cosmological theories, or is it something some scientists need to help them explain certain unresolvable problems in existing theory?" journalist John Hockenberry asked, acting as moderator to scientists Andreas Albrecht, Alan Guth, Andrei Linde, and Neil Turok, who took the stage at New York University's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts.

The possibility of a multiverse is raised by the theory of cosmic inflation. This idea posits that the universe grew exponentially in the first fraction of a second following the Big Bang, expanding even faster than the speed of

light. Some versions of this theory suggest that certain areas of the universe expanded faster than others, creating separate bubbles of space-time that might have developed into their own universes.

The theory of inflation was thought untestable when MIT cosmologist Guth and his contemporaries first proposed it more than 30 years ago, but since then observations of the light left over from the Big Bang, called the cosmic microwave background radiation, have offered strong support for inflation.



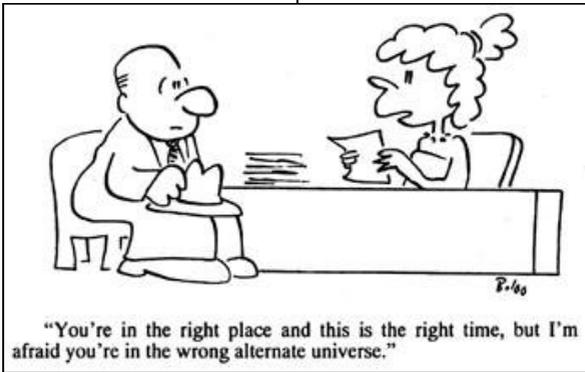
Somewhere, within the quantum foam of existence, amongst the very building blocks of reality, there is a universe where you....are Batman.

In fact, although the four scientists did not see eye-to-eye on the existence of multiple universes,

they all considered inflation to be a workable starting point for explaining the size and uniformity of the observable universe. "The four of us agree far more than we disagree," said Turok, director of the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Ontario, Canada.

While inflation does not necessarily

predict multiple universes, Guth said that it does make them feasible. "Energy is either positive or negative, and in fact, the total energy of our universe is completely consistent with adding up to zero," he said. If the universe requires a sum total of zero energy to produce, then "the universe is the ultimate free lunch," Guth said. "Nothing we know can only be produced once."



progress that researchers had made, both with regard to inflation and the multiverse idea. "The gold standard of science is ruling theories out," he said. Data gathered within the last 10 years

has invalidated a number of potential models explaining inflation, limiting the pool of candidate theories to a smaller set of more likely possibilities.

"I was really impressed by the universe until you said that," Hockenberry replied.

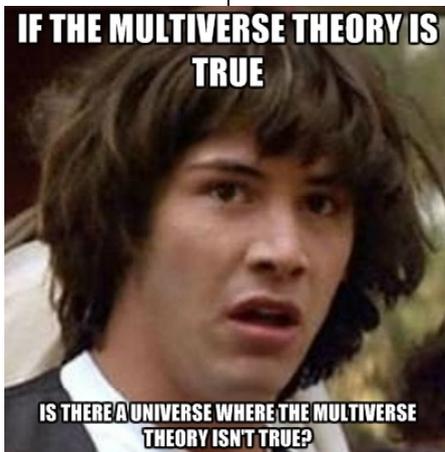
"That's a real, palpable sense of progress," said Albrecht, even though the right model that accurately describes — or predicts — all aspects of inflation and its results has not yet been identified.

The strongest support for the concept of a multiverse came from Linde, a physicist at Stanford University. When he began to research inflationary theory, he was struck by the incredible regularity of the universe.

Nothing in the current body of scientific knowledge prohibits a multiverse, and inflationary theory supports a number of principles that make it possible. At the same time, there is also no hard evidence that a multiverse does, or must, exist.

"I was nearly crying. It was that magnificent," he said.

Linde explained that the universe's regular distribution of matter and heat, save for structures like galaxies, is a cosmological principle. Because inflation created a stable, uniform cosmos, there is no reason to think that it could only happen once, he said. While the four cosmologists did not come to a consensus



In either case, the existence of a multiverse may not have much impact on everyday concerns. When discussing trends on Google for users seeking to learn about the universe and the multiverse, Linde explained that "the peak of interest is Miss Universe from Brazil."

by the end of the panel, Albrecht, a physicist at the University of California, Davis, was very pleased with the

Marshall Honorof, Staff Writer
Source: space.com

Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope

“Aren’t You a Little Short For A Stormtrooper?”

So – we reach the original, and best.

I don’t feel quite right saying this, but watching the opening 15 minutes or so, one might be forgiven for thinking that the first few audiences might have walked out wondering just what sort of cobblers they had paid to see. Between Leia’s capture and the two droids getting to Luke’s home, the whole sequence is...pretty surreal.

After that, it gets better. Much better.

I’ve seen this before in the cinema (when the enhanced edition was released in 1997) and only really remembered the end scene where Luke rather cleverly shafts the Death Star and wins a crucial battle – though, as we know, not the war. The film is good at putting things like Han’s scepticism in context, and there is a refreshing lack of silly muppet sidekicks who you just know are going to screw up royally in a later film: possibly since the lack of any decent CGI at the time the original film was made, although the enhanced edition that I saw makes Mos

Eisley a much more credible wretched hive of scum and villainy than it was originally. I have Jeremy to thank for pointing all this out as we went through. *(Although the Hog’s Head in Newbury on a Friday night is a much greater, far more wretched hive of scum and villainy – Ed)*

A film as iconic as *Star Wars* doesn’t need too much nit-picking about tropes or gender roles or diversity in general. The whole thing is essentially Dungeons and Dragons in Space!!!, so it has a fantasy appeal as well as the science-fiction

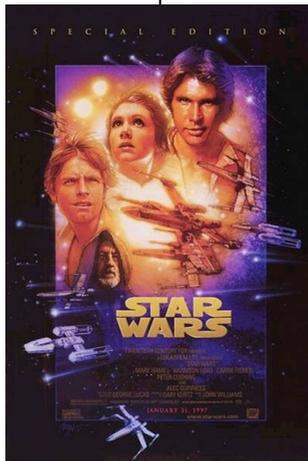
premise. The Death Star scenes are just classic dungeon-crawling, with Obi-Wan giving the party a Gandalf. Alec Guinness is just amazing and delivers immortal lines in a voice as smooth as silk. The only real disappointment was Darth Vader. After years of imagining him speaking in a deep, booming voice, James Earl Jones’ voiceover (since that’s not JEJ in the suit) sounds a bit lacking in gravitas to me. This is something, of course, fans with a better memory for voices will know already, but it took a bit of getting used to. And I totally forgot the added wit and banter that the droids add to the film. It gives a bit more humour to the film without going over into cute alien muppet territory as with Jar-Jar or creating offensive stereotypes like Watto (for whom there was really, really no excuse).

It’s quite interesting to note that many actors are British, since the filming was partly done over here. Despite Leia’s initially rather passive role, Carrie Fisher’s snark makes her a breakout heroine, just like her mother

before her, skilled at both diplomacy and kick-ass fighting, and it’s a pretty good take on it for a film that’s nearly forty years old. Still, I just feel bad criticising this – it’s like taking Jane Austen or Charles Dickens to task for being sexist.

Overall, I’d definitely give this film 5 Plutos out of 5, not that we’re really able to do real justice to such a classic on that scale, because there are some films that are simply timeless.

Louise Stanley



RASA



by Louise Stanley

The Hunger Games



'There's twenty-four of us, Gale – only one comes out.' – Katniss Everdeen

The first rule of The Hunger Games is that you DO talk about the Hunger Games. At length, in a very loud voice, and while wearing clothes that make you look like a Eurotrash reject. On prime-time TV.

Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark are thrown in to a deadly game where only one can survive. And every waking moment is broadcast to TV screens of the nation of Panem, a far future, dystopian America where a greedy, decadent Capitol leeches off the work of exploited peons in twelve Districts and demands teenage tributes from them in memory of a rebellion that happened 74 years ago.

Like most franchises, there is still more to come – the sequel, *Catching Fire*, is due out later this year, and the third part, *Mockingjay*, is to be made into two films. Because the first book was simply the story of the



first Hunger Games and how Katniss triumphs in the arena, and partly because the two hour duration lacks the time to expand on the setting properly, the richness of Collins' worldbuilding is absent. In fairness, it is rather more relevant to the following two novels. However, the first big, glaring plot-hole – how Katniss can somehow get through a high-voltage electric fence surrounding District 12 to get out into the forest to hunt – is explained in the book (no-one can be bothered to power it, and electric current is intermittent at best and prioritised for use in propaganda exercises by the sinister Capitol). All we really get from the set-up

scenes in the first hour is how backward and poor Katniss' home district is. We don't really see why there is such a discrepancy between this craphole and the glittery and hi-tech Capitol. It would only have been another quarter of an hour extra to give us a scene explaining this gulf and introducing the Panem setting. That said, I'm prepared to wait for the three forthcoming films to explain this, and part of the reason that *Mockingjay* is intended to be split may be more exposition for Panem itself.

Sound and vision are extremely important to the overall experience. James Newton Howard has composed beautiful music for

the most horrific of scenes, going for a Scandinavian feel for the Appalachian woodland setting of the Arena. He uses the Finnish *kantele* or zither in places where no-one else would (or even *should*), but

keeps the initial scenes chillingly bereft of incidental music or score for maximum creep-factor during the rather horrifying exposition. Casting, like scenery, was apparently accurate for the setting; Katniss is supposed to come from Kentucky, and Jennifer Lawrence was born in Louisville in that state; the producers used North Carolina, but the mining village is authentic. Rue unfortunately fits the 'black dudette dies first' trope; although Collins never openly states she is black in the books, it's widely assumed that District 11, glimpsed in the throes of a riot, is analogous to the deep South, although assigned to food production rather than



cotton. Certainly the rioters we see there bear out that supposition. Katniss avoids many of the stereotypes female characters fall into. A good test for this sort of thing is asking whether the character could have been either male or female, and in many books Katniss would have been male. Meanwhile, the 'Career' girl – trained to be in the Games – from prosperous, elitist District 1, Glimmer. She looks like a young Cersei Lannister from *Game of Thrones* – the one who...well, you know what happened in that scene. Meanwhile her male counterpart Cato could pass for Joffrey Baratheon, both in looks and general sadistic tendencies. It's most definitely not deliberate, but quite uncanny.

Really, for this series to be a truly great adaptation of the books, it needs some more exposition of the concept of Panem. It's really not yet clear *why* all this is happening, aside from a single newsreel which doesn't go into enough detail. In fairness to the first film/book, this is really the sort of stuff that's in the second two books. It stops it getting a full five plutos because of this, but I'm only inclined to take 0.0001 point off. As a film for teenagers, it really can't be as savage or as graphic as, say, *The Dark Knight Rises*, so some of the harsher scenes in the book are toned down. So I'm going to dock another 0.0001 for that. Still, that leaves us with 4.9998 plutos: not bad at all, and I'm really looking forward to the next films, which I hope give us more sophistication in plot and hopefully a lot more world-building to do justice to Collins' excellent books.

Louise Stanley



KAREN GILLAN CAST IN MARVEL GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY FILM

Former Doctor Who actress Karen Gillan has landed a role in Marvel's upcoming superhero film *Guardians of the Galaxy*.

The 25-year-old will play the lead female villain in the film, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

Benicio Del Toro is also said to have joined a starry ensemble that already includes Glenn Close and Zoe Saldana.

Gillan's last episode as Amy Pond was broadcast on BBC1 last autumn. Her latest film, *Not Another Happy Ending*, closes the Edinburgh Film Festival this month.

Shooting on *Guardians of the Galaxy*, about a group of aliens tasked with the protection of Earth in the 31st Century, is due to begin this month. It is set for release in August 2014.

The film forms part of Marvel's so-called "Phase 2" movement, following an initial raft of superhero movies that culminated with 2012 blockbuster *Avengers Assemble*.



Star-Lord, Gamora and Drax the Destroyer are among the characters who will feature in James Gunn's movie.

Gillan will also be seen next year in *Oculus*, a US horror film that recently finished shooting in Mobile, Alabama.

Source bbc.co.uk