

ART SHOW: REACHING OUT, REACHING IN

Swancon is a celebration of creativity in all its different forms. We'd like to reach out and encourage people to enter the Swancon Art Show. Everyone has the capacity to create something interesting; everyone is an artist. Except maybe that person responsible for 'Dogs Playing Poker'.

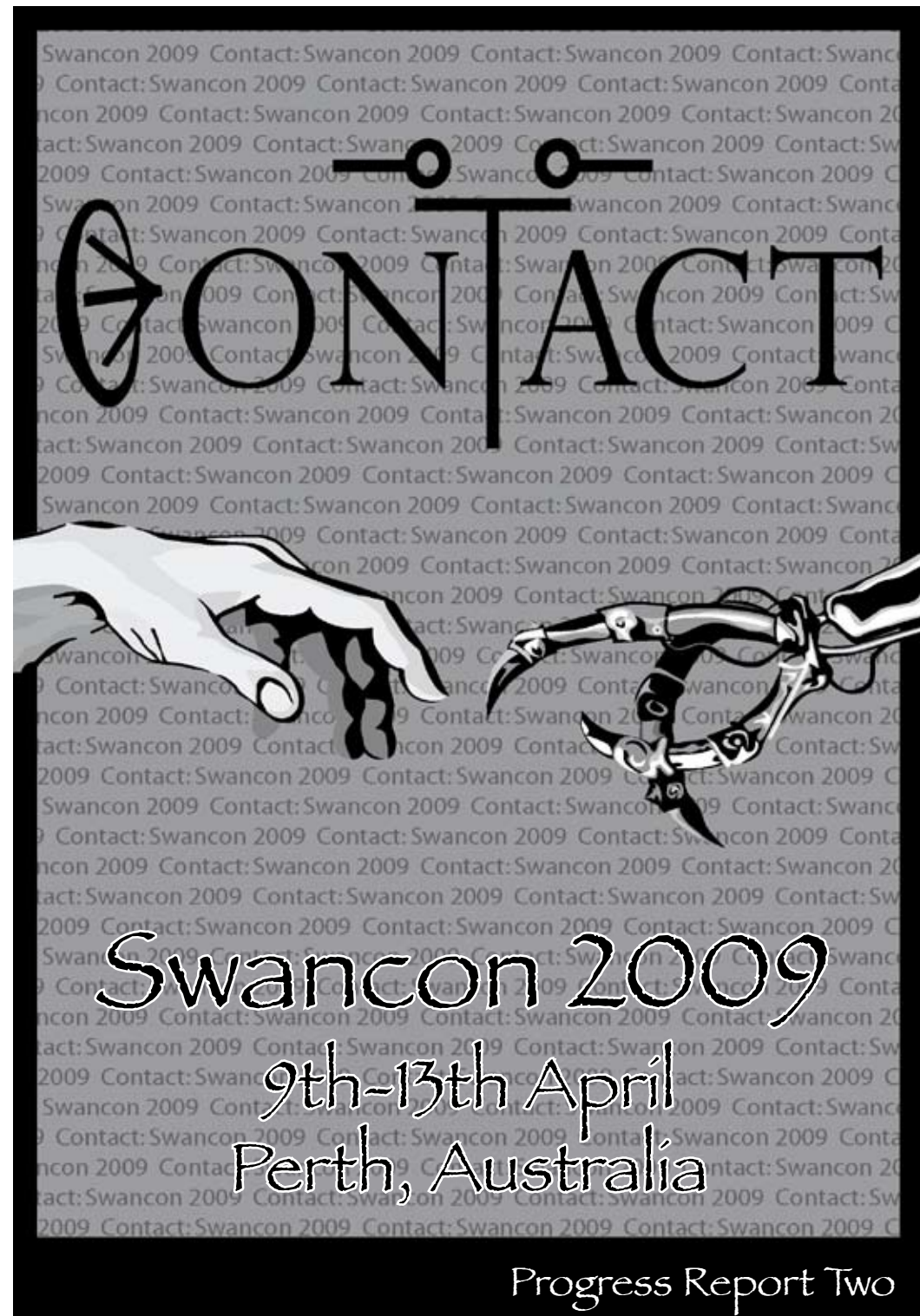
The Art Show covers just about every medium you can imagine: pencil, paint, leather, lace, plaster, CG, paper and steel. You'll have the option of displaying your work as 'not for sale' or offering it for purchase in a silent auction. Judges' and People's Choice prizes are awarded.

Swancon also features other competitions and display opportunities for the under-12s, comic artists, fanvidders, short fiction writers, cosplayers, costumers, model makers, toy makers, and hobbyists.

If you already consider yourself an artist, why not try an entirely new medium? Even if you hesitate to call yourself creative, why not take up the challenge to enter something in the show? Reach within yourself and find something new.

Submission guidelines are available at: www.swancon.com

Swancon 2009 is an official project of the Western Australian Science Fiction Foundation Inc. (WASFF) and runs under its directives. WASFF is a non-profit, incorporated organisation. Their website is <http://wasff.sf.org.au>






WELCOME

Welcome everyone to Progress Report Two - an update for **Contact: Swancon 2009**, Perth's premier speculative fiction conference.

First off, I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who dropped by our stall at **Supanova** and bought a raffle ticket or signed up to receive information about Swancon. Regarding the raffle, congratulations to Jason Adamczyk, who won a full membership to **Contact: Swancon 2009**.

Speaking of memberships, the current pricing is valid until December 31st, 2008, after which it will definitely increase. With Christmas coming up, a Swancon 2009 membership may be the perfect present, either for yourself or someone else - so get in fast to beat the price rise.

If you're planning to stay at the All Seasons Perth during the convention, you may want to book your room soon. Over a third of the hotel rooms are already booked with previous years being a complete sell out.



With the Blockbuster movie season drawing to a close, movie screenings will become more sporadic pending genre releases. Hopefully there will be a couple of good movies for a Boxing Day screening, however release dates often vary right up until the week of release!

Fear not, in the absence of movie screenings other social events are being organised, such as a BBQ similar to the one conducted earlier this year. Planned for Sunday November 30th, this will include good food, fantastic company, and further discussion on the Swancon program.

Our website has been steadily developing. As well as information about the convention, guests and committee it now contains previous Progress Reports, artwork for downloading, and a program section where you can submit new panel ideas or vote on existing ones. For more information about **Contact: Swancon 2009** and upcoming events, check our website: www.swancon.com

See you soon,

PRK

Chair, Contact: Swancon 2009.

VOLUNTEERING

My name is Alistair McKie and I'm the volunteer coordinator for **Contact: Swancon 2009**. My focus is to ensure that Swancon runs smoothly and delivers the con experience you have all come to expect. To do this I need you. More specifically, I need you to volunteer to help prepare for and make Swancon happen. You can volunteer to help with things like setting up the con, fund raising events or with the pre-con organisation. That's just the tip of the iceberg though and there are plenty of things that need doing that might suit your skills and abilities.

Right now, I'm after people to help sell fund raising chocolates and also general expressions of interest in helping out with the con. Drop me an email at **volunteers@swancon.com** if you feel you can contribute to making Swancon fun and enjoyable for everyone.

Alistair McKie

ACADEMIC STREAM: CALL FOR PAPERS

The Academic Stream at Swancon 2008 was an outstanding success, and as Academic Programme Co-ordinator for **Contact: Swancon 2009**, I would love next year's to be as good or even better. With this in mind, I am calling for papers on any subjects of interest to sf and fantasy writers, students, and fans. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

Studies of sf/fantasy in any media
Future trends (technological, social/political, linguistic, environmental, etc.)
Comparisons of fantasy and history
Alternative or parallel history
Astronomy, exobiology and space sciences
Forensic sciences
Psychology or sociology of fandom
Fan fiction, slash, filk, zines, vids, cosplay, and other forms of fan creativity

Please email your proposal/s to **sd@stephendedman.com**. They should include a 500-word abstract, current/working contact information (snailmail and email addresses), and details of any audio-visual equipment your presentation requires.

Stephen Dedman

SWANCON 2009 COMMITTEE

Chair - PRK

Puppet Master - Jaunita Landéesse

Treasurer - Elaine Kemp

Secretary - Jess Bridges

Programme Coordinator - Maia Bobrowicz

Academic Programme Coordinator - Stephen Dedman

Design & Publishing - Kathryn Linge

Queen of Arts - Stephanie Bateman-Graham

Webmaster & Data Wrangler - Christopher Phillips

Volunteers Wrangler - Alistair McKie

EVENTS



MOVIE SCREENINGS

Swancon has held a multitude of screenings this year! We're very grateful to **Genghiscon** for sharing the work this year and to the entire community for their support for both the conventions and the social gatherings. We've enjoyed them immensely, and hope the rest of you have as well.

There are still several screenings yet to come, but they're at the behest of Hollywood and its varying release schedule. Stay tuned to the Swancon mailing list, www.swancon.com or <http://community.livejournal.com/swancon/> for details.

SOCIAL BBQ

Swancon will be hosting another social BBQ on **Sunday November 30th**.

There will be a small cost per head and we'll do all the catering for you. The promised feast will include sausages from Mondo's, fresh bread and several varieties of salads. Those who attended last time will know how amazing the food was and that there was something for everyone.

This is a family-friendly social and fundraising event for Swancon. Please contact Ju via events@swancon.com if you wish to attend.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Greetings and Salutations from your friendly 2009 Programmer!

The program is coming along well; there are currently approximately 170 program suggestions up for your perusal and voting at www.swancon.com. We have the standard stream, a family-friendly stream and a steady trickle of interesting suggestions coming in. Stephen Dedman will be running the academic stream – see his call for academic papers if you want to submit an abstract.

Keep an eye out for open programming meetings advertised via <http://community.livejournal.com/swancon> and the mailing list, or visit the website to contribute suggestions at any time.

You can also email me directly at programmer@swancon.com; I'd love to hear from anyone interested in being a panellist, facilitating a panel or wanting to do in likely suspects.

Maia Bobrowicz

HOTEL AND VENUE

Announcing the Swancon 2009 venue: The All Seasons Perth Hotel.

The All Seasons Perth is a boutique hotel situated in Northbridge. Accommodation is comfortable, good value for money and the hotel boasts an inviting restaurant with a fully licensed bar.

Accommodation is available at the hotel at special Swancon rates. Standard (internal) rooms are \$115 per room, per night (up to 2 people), while Superior rooms are \$135 per room, per night (up to 2 people). Breakfast is an additional \$12.50 per person, per night. Rooms are going fast, with over a third already reserved. Book early to ensure you get a room.

Bookings are requested no later than March 16th and bookings made after this date will be charged at the hotel's standard rates. Please mention Swancon when you are booking your accommodation.

Address: 15 Robinson Avenue, Northbridge (just off William Street)

Website: <http://www.accorhotels.com.au/allseasons-perth>

Telephone: (08) 9328 0000

MEMBERSHIPS

Swancon memberships will be \$140 (full) and \$125 (concession: student, health care card, or between the ages of 12-18) until 31st December 2008. After 31st December, memberships will rise to \$160 full, and \$140 concession. Children under 12 are free but must be accompanied by an adult member at all times.

These memberships grant full access to the convention. Day memberships will be available closer to the event. Memberships can be obtained from committee members and at fundraising events like movie screenings and BBQs.

Memberships are also available from the following venues:

Fantastic Planet: *Science fiction, fantasy and horror bookshop*
8 Shafto Lane
Perth CBD
Phone: (08) 9481 8393

Planet Books: *Contemporary and alternative bookshop*
636 Beaufort Street
Mount Lawley
Phone (08) 9227 9731

Tactics: *War and fantasy gaming supplies store*
Basement of London Court,
near St Georges Terrace
Phone: (08) 9325 7081

White Dwarf: *Science fiction, fantasy and horror bookshop*
Shop 48, Carillon Arcade (1st Floor)
opposite Games Workshop in the Mall
207 Murray Street
Phone: (08) 9481 3468

GUESTS

INTERNATIONAL GUEST - RICHARD MORGAN



Born in 1965, Richard Morgan's desire to be a writer was nearly exorcised, when in sixth form English he was subjected to Dickens' *David Copperfield*. Overcoming that temporary obstacle, Richard continued his education and graduated from University with his desire to write intact and an added desire to travel the world.

Joining the English Language Teaching industry to facilitate travelling, Richard taught in London, Istanbul, Madrid and Glasgow. Writing on and off whilst teaching, Richard honed his writing skills through various mediums including short stories, articles, a screenplay and a novel, as well as many articles expressing fury over various editorials, none of which were ever published.

With the successful publication of his first futuristic SF thriller, *Altered Carbon*, in 2002, Richard left his teaching position at Strathclyde University to become a full time writer. Since then, Richard has published several more SF novels and two *Black Widow* graphic novels. His latest work, a foray into fantasy called *The Steel Remains* was published in August 2008.

PROFESSIONAL GUEST - THERESA ANNS

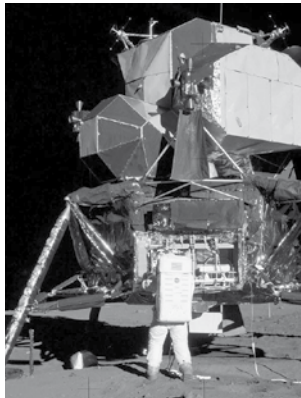
HarperCollins, WA

Once upon a time, a little girl asked her parents to switch the TV station over from the historical televised moon landing so she could watch *Superman* (the cartoon version). That little girl was Theresa and, although her parents thankfully didn't grant her wish, it was that day that Theresa's love of all things science fiction began.

Unfortunately, Theresa lost her way when she became part of the demanding world of retail management. Years later she finally came to her senses and sought alternative employment, joining the publishing house of HarperCollins in 1992. Theresa was in heaven - books, books, so many books.

Theresa was reintroduced to the SF community in 1995 when she was asked to escort an author to something called Swancon. Theresa agreed but with trepidation, wondering what on earth a Swancon was.

Her apprehension turned to delight when she was reacquainted with old friends thought lost and her passion for all things SF was reignited. With that one fateful weekend Theresa's grand adventures began, with conventions both local and interstate.



NATIONAL GUEST - TRUDI CANAVAN



Trudi Canavan lives in Melbourne, Australia. She has been making up stories about people and places that don't exist for as long as she can remember.

Her first short story, *Whispers of the Mist Children*, received an Aurealis Award for Best Fantasy Short Story in 1999. When she recovered from the surprise, she went on to finish the fantasy novel-that-became-three, the bestselling *Black Magician Trilogy: The Magicians' Guild, The Novice and The High Lord*, which brought her international prominence. Trudi's second trilogy, *Age of the Five*, has also enjoyed bestselling success.

Trudi is currently working on both a prequel to the *Black Magician Trilogy* and a sequel trilogy. The prequel, titled *The Magicians' Apprentice*, and the first of the trilogy, titled *The Ambassador's Mission*, are both due for publication in 2009.

FAN GUESTS - ALICIA SMITH AND ROB MASTERS

(A Marriage of Bwahahaha!)

Rob and Alicia (Leece, please!) are usually found in the gaming room of most WA conventions, accompanied by The Ark of the Covenant - er, their big box of games.

Over the years Leece and Rob have organised game tournaments, "My Word" style write offs, quizzes, and introduced many people to the world of card and board games.



In 2008, Rob and Leece were recipients of the Marge Hughes 'MumFan' award - recognition for their many years of sustained support of Swancon and welcoming people to the convention.

Contact: Swancon 2009 will be Rob and Leece's 20th full Swancon. They are very much looking forward to emerging, blinking, from the gaming room and helping make Swancon 2009 one to remember!

