

Progress Report 2

Boskone 47



February 12-14, 2010
Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel
Boston, MA USA
www.boskone.org

Boskone 47 Guests

Alastair Reynolds
John Picacio
Tom Shippey
Mary Crowell

Artwork by John Picacio www.johnpicacio.com

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the New England Science Fiction Association, Inc.

Late-Breaking News

Information about Boskone, including any changes to the program participant list will be updated at www.boskone.org. The near-final schedule will be uploaded to our Web site a week before the con.

Hours for the Con

Area	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Registration	4PM — 9PM	9:30AM — 6PM	9:30AM — Noon
Art Show	6PM — Midnight	10AM — 10PM	10AM — Noon
Con Suite	4PM — 1AM	9AM — 1AM	9AM — 4PM
Hucksters Room	5PM — 8PM	10AM — 6PM	10AM — 3PM
Information/Volunteers	4PM — 9PM	10AM — 6PM	10AM — 3PM
Dragonslair	5PM — 8PM	10AM — 6PM	10AM — 3PM

All Boskone activities are in the same wing of the hotel as the City Bar and M. J. O'Connor's pub. As you walk in the main lobby, take a left after the City Bar to reach the escalators to Boskone.

Registration is on the 2nd floor, near the escalators. Most Program, most Events, Anime and the Play are also on the 2nd floor. All Exhibits (Hucksters Room, Art Show), Services (Volunteers, Information, Office), Program Desk, Gaming, DragonsLair, the Playroom, the Sword Demos, the Zombie Casino and the Boskone Reception are in the Galleria Ballroom on the lower level.

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Registration

Registration will be open Friday (starting 4PM) through Sunday (noon) in the second floor pre-function area. To reach the Registration area, take a left past the City Bar as you enter the lobby through the main doors. Check posted signs for the location of Registration. Everyone (committee, staff, program participants, artists, hucksters) must register there to get name badges and convention materials. We will make it as painless an experience as we can!

Please remember to bring government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport, to registration. If you arrive late, ask in the Con Suite about the location of after-hours registration.

A Boskone 47 registration form is online at www.boskone.org/join. Register online or print and mail the form to PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701, or fax it to 617-776-3243. **Advance membership is \$47 through Tuesday, January 19, 2010.** We accept Visa, MasterCard, checks (in US\$ drawn on a US bank), and money orders.

At-con rates are: Full membership \$57, Friday \$17, Saturday \$42, Sunday \$20. After January 20th, at-the-door memberships will be available online. There is no reduced rate for children. However, children under 10 who stay with their parents at all times are considered kids-in-tow who need not have memberships. (Kids-in-tow do not receive any convention materials.) DragonsLair is not child care, but program designed for our younger members (ages 7-12); it is included in the cost of memberships.

Transferring Memberships

Boskone does not refund memberships. However, you may transfer your membership to someone else. All membership transfers must be done in writing. Your transferee will be able to register much more quickly at the convention if you write to us in advance (at the PO Box or to info-b47@boskone.org) to let us know of the transfer, and have your transferee bring a copy of your transfer letter to Registration. Life Memberships are not transferable

Boskone Guests

Guest of Honor **Alastair Reynolds**

Author of novels such as *Revelation Space* and *House of Suns*, Boskone Guest of Honor Alastair Reynolds became the "One Million Pound Man" in 2009 when he earned a million pound advance for his next ten novels from his publisher Gollancz. He served as an astronomer for the European Space Agency in the Netherlands, and has recently returned to Wales to live and write full time. His next novel, *Terminal World*, will be published in March 2010.

The Boskone GoH book, *Deep Navigation*, a collection of selected short SF by Alastair Reynolds, will be available for sale at Boskone.

Official Artist **John Picacio**

Official artist John Picacio also received a major professional assignment in 2009 when he was named to create the artwork for the 2011 *A Song of Ice and Fire* calendar. Picacio has been nominated for the Hugo and World Fantasy Best Professional Artist award several times, and won a Chesley Award for best paperback cover for *Fast Forward 2*.

Special Guest **Tom Shippey**

Special guest Tom Shippey is both a longtime British SF fan and a Tolkien scholar. He taught medieval literature at universities in England and America before his retirement. Shippey wrote *J.R.R. Tolkien: Author of the Century* and *The Road to Middle Earth*.

Featured Filker **Mary Crowell**

Featured filker Mary Crowell is a performer, jazz musician and music teacher. She's been nominated for a number of Pegasus Awards, and won Best Performer in 2007. She's released a CD, *Courting My Muse*.

NESFA Guests

In addition to our Boskone guests, NESFA brings several industry professionals to participate in Boskone.

NESFA Press Guest **Lois McMaster Bujold**

Bujold has published dozens of novels in her Vorkosigan, Chalion, and Wide Green World series. She has won five Hugo Awards and three Nebula Awards for her work. NESFA Press has published hardcover editions of a number of her books. A hardback edition of *The Vor Game* will be out for Boskone.

NESFA Press Guest **Michael Whelan**

Boskone will feature a retrospective of this Hugo Award-winning artist's work. Whelan and his wife Audrey run Glass Onion Graphics, which sells prints of his work. He created the acclaimed wrap-around cover for NESFA Press's six-volume set of Roger Zelazny's works.

Hal Clement Science **Vernor Vinge** Speaker

A retired computer science professor at San Diego State, Vinge's been a published SF writer for forty years and has won five Hugo Awards.

About NESFA and NESFA Press

Boskone is the annual convention of NESFA, the New England Science Fiction Association. NESFA has frequent meetings and maintains a clubhouse and library in Somerville. Stop by our Web site (www.nesfa.org) for more information—visitors encouraged!

NESFA Press helps keep in print works by dozens of classic science fiction writers, including Cordwainer Smith, Zenna Henderson, Anthony Boucher, and William Tenn in addition to publishing guest of honor works by Boskone guests including Alastair Reynolds. New books since the last Boskone include two more volumes of Roger Zelazny's work, a collection of Lester Del Rey's work and a collection of James Blish's work. Stop by the NESFA Press table in the Hucksters' Room to add to your book collection. Buy all you'd like—we'll print more!

Exhibits

The **Art Show** will have about 100 4'x6' panels and a dozen tables of SF and fantasy art work, most of which will be available for sale by written bid. We will also have special exhibits of the work of Official Artist John Picacio and NESFA Press Guest Michael Whelan.

We still have some spots left! For complete rules and an entry form, check our Web site at www.boskone.org/artshow.html. The Art Show will be located in the Galleria Ballroom. You are also invited to attend the Boskone Reception starting at 10:00 pm on Friday.

Artists in the show include: Alan Beck, Jim Belfiore, Merrick Berman, Charlene Taylor D'Alessio, Bob Eggleton, Tamara Gurevitz, S.L. Hughes, Johnna Klukas, Charles Lang, Liz LaValley, Gary Lippincott, Theresa Mather, Sally Mayer, Thomas Naked, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, John-Pierre Normand, Priscilla Olson, John Picacio, Marianne Plumridge-Eggleton, Omar Rayyan, Sheila Rayyan, Richard Sardinha, Wendy Snow-Lang, Joan Turner, Michael Whelan, Brianna Spacekat Wu, Frank Wu, Donna Young

The **Print Shop** will have about a dozen panels, displaying prints available for immediate sale at a fixed price.

Art Show Sales will be from 1PM—3PM Sunday; there is no Art Show Auction. Contested pieces which have the maximum number of bids will be auctioned at the location of the artwork at closeout which will be about noon on Sunday.

How to Re-sell Art at the Art Show We will charge a \$1.00 hanging fee per piece and a 10% commission on sales (to be capped at \$100 per piece). So, if your piece fails to sell, it will only cost you \$1!

The **Hucksters Room** will feature a wide variety of science fiction, fantasy, and genre books, jewelry, clothing, and all manner of other fun stuff for sale. Check the Boskone Web site (www.boskone.org) after January 22, 2010 for a list of dealers scheduled to attend. The Hucksters Room will be in the Galleria Ballroom, sharing space with the Art Show, Con Suite & Gaming. The Hucksters Room is full for this year.

Follow Us Online!

Follow Boskone updates, post questions, make comments or upload photos to Facebook (boskone), LiveJournal (boskone), Twitter (boskone47), Twitpic (boskone47) or Flickr (boskone). We will be reporting from the con on Twitter and Facebook. Check our Web site, boskone.org for the latest info

Hotel Information

Boskone's hotel is the Westin Boston Waterfront, located just south of Chinatown off the Massachusetts Turnpike. The hotel rates per night are: single/double \$153, triple \$163, quad \$173, all plus tax.

The best way is to book is online. Reserve your hotel room by going to www.boskone.org/hotel.html and following the instructions. You can pick a room in either the party or the non-party block.

Contact us at hotel@boskone.org for suite availability.

Reserve your room now!

While we encourage you to make your hotel reservations online, you can make reservations by phone by calling 800-937-8461. Specify Boskone 2010 Party Block or Boskone 2010 Main (Non-Party) Block to get the convention rate. Additional rooms may be available after the deadline, but only on a first-come first-served basis.

Reservation deadline: January 31st 5pm EST

The hotel has changed its cancellation policy. You must cancel your room reservation at least **three days** in advance, or you will be charged for one night's stay.



W – location of Westin Boston Waterfront, 425 Summer St. (corner of D St.) in South Boston. Near the World Trade Center Silver Line Stop.

Directions to Boskone at the Westin Boston Waterfront From Logan International Airport

Mass Transit (the T): Take the Silver Line Bus SL1 towards South Station and get off at the World Trade Center Station.

Cabs: Taxis costs about \$15 (somewhat more during rush hour).

Shared Van: You can take a shared van to the hotel for about \$10. See details at: www.massport.com/logan/getti_typeo_share.html.

Be sure to specify “Westin Boston Waterfront, Summer St.” as there are other Westins in the Boston area.

Rail

Take Amtrak to South Station and transfer there to the Silver Line Bus SL1 or SL2 to World Trade Center Station.

Mass Transit (the T)

Go to South Station and transfer there to the Silver Line SL1 or SL2 to the World Trade Center Station. For details, see www.mbta.com/schedules_and_maps/subway/lines/?route=SILVER#Waterfront, call 617-222-3200 or 1-800-392-6100.

From World Trade Center Station

Go up 3 escalators, following signs to World Trade Center Avenue.

Note: You'll see signs for “World Trade Center” and “World Trade Center Avenue” in the T station. Follow the signs for “World Trade Center Avenue” to reach the Westin.

At the top of the final escalator, veer slightly to the left, then take the door in front of you to World Trade Center Avenue. If you see a large statue of four horses on your left, you're going the right way. You'll also see the large Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC) directly in front of you, and the Westin to its immediate left.

Walk along World Trade Center Ave. until it ends at Summer Street. Cross the street and veer left beside the driveway to the Westin door. Total walk is less than 1/4 mile.

Driving to Boskone

From the NORTH

Take I-93 South and go into the tunnel.

Take exit 20A, South Station.

At the top of the ramp, cross a pedestrian walkway and turn left on Summer.

Go 0.8 miles on Summer St.

Turn right at the light past the convention center, then left to the hotel.

From the NORTH SHORE via route 1A

Take 1A south towards Logan airport.

Take the Mass Pike westbound (Ted Williams Tunnel) to exit 25, South Boston.

Make slight right onto Congress St.

Turn right onto D St. Turn right onto Summer St.

Turn left at the next traffic light (very close), then left into the hotel driveway.

From the SOUTH

Take I-93 north to exit 20 toward I-90/Logan Airport/South Station/BCEC.

Take the left fork towards Logan Airport and South Boston.

In the tunnel, take the right fork for South Boston.

At the top of the ramp, bear right toward D St.

Cross B St. (traffic light), turn right on D St. (next traffic light).

The first light on D St. is Summer St.; turn right. Turn left at the next traffic light (very close), then left into the hotel driveway.

From the WEST

Take I-90 (Mass Pike) eastbound to the South Boston exit.

Get in the left-hand exit lane, marked "Seaport Blvd."

As you get out of the tunnel, follow the left-hand ramp.

Go through the first traffic light.

Go one long block and turn right on Northern Avenue.

Go through two lights (B St. and an overpass/pedestrian crossing.)

At the 3rd light, turn right on D St.

Go through two lights (Congress St. and a trolley-bus road.)

At the 3rd light, turn right on Summer St.

Turn left at the next traffic light, then left into the hotel driveway.

Lost? Westin Boston Waterfront Phone: (617) 532-4600

Parking: There is no longer any legal free evening/weekend parking near the hotel. All street parking is metered until at least 6pm. Check the signs carefully, as a large part of the street near the hotel is reserved for taxis. Check the Web site for possible parking alternatives closer to Boskone.

Services & Publications

Volunteers Boskone welcomes volunteers of all kinds: from newbies to veterans, for all kinds of tasks. If you work at least sixteen hours (setup and teardown count double), we will thank you with a non-transferable membership in Boskone 48. If you work eight-fifteen hours, you'll get a T-shirt. All volunteers are encouraged to use the volunteer/staff den for a quick snack or something cool or hot to drink.

We particularly need volunteers for move-in and set-up Thursday night and for teardown and move-out on Sunday night. Report to the Volunteer table in the Galleria Ballroom after 5pm on Thursday and by 3pm on Sunday if you can help us out. We will provide food both nights for workers.

Club & Bid Tables Want to publicize your club, convention, or bid? We will have a limited number of tables available for you. Table space is limited, so please write or email us (at info-b47@boskone.org) in advance for information and reservations.

Helium Balloons Available for Pre-Order! We're ordering Mylar balloons to decorate the Galleria again this year. If you'd to order balloons for your party, you can join the order by E-mailing info-b47@boskone.org with the number of balloons by 1/31/10. It's \$30 for 10 Mylar balloons, mixed colors. Include the number of balloons (lots of 10 only) and cell phone number in the order. Last year, the balloons were delivered Friday and were still floating Sunday. **You must pick up & pay (cash or a check) at the Con Office in the Galleria between 5pm & 8pm on Friday.**

The **Newsletter**, *Helmuth*, *Speaking for Boskone*, features updates and changes to the program as well as lists of parties and other news. Copies of *Helmuth* will be distributed around the hotel: Art Show, Hucksters Room, Con Suite, *et al.* *Helmuth* is always looking for line art. E-mail ideas and digital graphics to info-b47@boskone.org or bring contributions to Information at-con.

The **Restaurant Guide** is available at www.boskone.org/rest.html. We've got great seafood restaurants in the neighborhood of the hotel and Chinatown is less than a mile away. Reminder: St. Valentine's Day is Sunday, so you might want to make a reservation well in advance.

Program Participants

Confirmed Program participants as of January 3, 2010 include:

Scott Andrews	Jack Haringa	Peter Olson
Ellen Asher	David G. Hartwell	Priscilla Olson
Beth Bernobich	Daniel Hatch	Margaret Organ-Kean
Lois McMaster Bujold	Jeff Hecht	Chad Orzel
S.C. Butler	Walter H. Hunt	Jennifer Pelland
Jeffrey A. Carver	Elaine Isaak	Larry Pfeffer
Neil Clarke	Alexander Jablokov	Liz Pfeffer
John Cohn	Matthew Jarpe	John Picacio
Bruce Coville	Andrew Zimmerman Jones	Steven Popkes
F. Brett Cox	Jordin Kare	Alistair Reynolds
Mary Crowell	Mary Kay Kare	Faye Ringel
Leah Cypess	Robert I. Katz	Margaret Ronald
Michael J. Daley	James Patrick Kelly	Ken Schneyer
Don D'Amassa	Dan Keohane	Karl Schroeder
Gay Ellen Dennett	Daniel Kimmel	Darrell Schweitzer
Daniel P. Dern	Dani Kollin	Tom Shippey
Bob Devney	Eytan Kollin	Steven H. Silver
Paul diFilippo	Geoffrey A. Landis	Vandana Singh
Vince Docherty	John Langan	Melinda Snodgrass
Ann Downer	Fred Lerner	Everett Soares
Debra Doyle	Paul Levinson	Ed Stauff
David Anthony Durham	Suford Lewis	Allen Steele
Sarah Beth Durst	Shariann Lewitt	Edie Stern
Thomas A. Easton	James D. Macdonald	Erwin Strauss
David Louis Edelman	Jim Mann	Charles Stross
Bob Eggleton	Laurie Mann	Michael Swanwick
Gregory Feeley	Darlene Marshall	Ian Tregillis
Michael F. Flynn	Gary McGath	Paul Tremblay
Rose Fox	Steve Miller	Mary A. Turzillo
Charles Gannon	Resa Nelson	Vernor Vinge
Greer Gilman	Kate Nepveu	Jo Walton
Ethan Gilsdorf	Benjamin Newman	Mary Ellen Wessels
Christopher Golden	Feorag nicBhríde	Peter Weston
Theodora Goss	Patrick Nielsen Hayden	Christopher Weuve
Glenn Grant	Teresa Nielsen Hayden	Michael Whelan
Justine Graykin	Jean-Pierre Normand	Frank Wu
Lev Grossman	Mark Olson	Jane Yolen

The Boskone 47 Program offers panels, talks, discussions, demos, and workshops on many aspects of the science fiction and fantasy field. The full schedule will be in the Pocket Program, and posted on the boskone.org Web site about a week prior to the convention.

Highlighted Program Items

Vernor Vinge will be on a panel with Charles Stross and others to talk about the Singularity.

Internet connection willing, we are planning to run a joint program item with Capricon (Chicago) on Sunday afternoon.

IBM Fellow John Cohn talks about his experience on the Discovery Channel reality show *The Colony*.

Other panels will include:

- Do Werewolves Get the Respect They Deserve?
- Graphic Novels & Webcomics—Different Ways to Tell a Story
- Exploring the Markets for Art
- Exploring the Markets for Short Fiction
- The Heroine's Journey

Filking Filksongs are fandom's folk songs, with themes of SF, fantasy and fannish interests. Items include theme circles, NESFA Hymnal singing and the Featured Filker Concert. There will be more of an emphasis on song circles, including circles on "Mythology" and "Tolkien." Ed Stauff, Mary Ellen Wessels, and Sassafrass will be performing. There will be a panel on the educational uses of filk.

Anime/Video The Anime Festival starts at 4:30 PM on Friday. Watch your favorites during our film festivals.

Readings Hear writers read and discuss their own works.

Kaffeeklatsches/Literary Beers Participate an informal discussion with one of our program participants over coffee, tea, or beer. Sign up for these at the Program Desk, in the Galleria near Information.

Autographing will go on in the Galleria on Saturday and Sunday.

Discussion Groups Join program participants and other members in the Boskone con suite, our very own living room of fandom. This year, we'll have even more individual presentations and focused discussions as well as a Knit-a-long. E-mail discussion group ideas to: program@boskone.org.

Boskone's Hub—the Galleria Ballroom

The Galleria Ballroom, on the lower level of the Westin, is the hub of the convention. To find the Galleria, take a left past the City Bar, near M. J. O'Connor's Irish pub on the left side of the lobby and take the escalator to the lower level. Free Wifi will be available in the Galleria Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Information will be inside the door of the Galleria. Information is your place to find answers to your questions. You'll also be able to drop off items for the convention newsletter, *Helmuth*. Find something? Drop it off at Information. Lose something? Check with Information first. Stop by the Information desk and see what we can do for you!

Con Suite is our hospitality area, and it's between the Art Show and Hucksters Room. Stop by for some soda and munchies, to meet new and old friends and have fun!

Viable Paradise will again sponsor a Sunday morning brunch in the Con Suite.

The **Playroom** is a little nook of puzzles and informal table games near the Con Suite.

The **Program Desk** is between Information and the Office in the Galleria. Stop by to sign up for a Kaffeeklatsch or a Literary Beer.

Gaming will be located in the Galleria Ballroom near the Hucksters Room. Did a swashbuckler steal your gold? Did Batman divert your nuclear strike on your estate? Not to worry, gaming has you covered. Both tournaments are back and, because you asked for it, the video games have been updated and Call of Duty will be on the Xbox 360. We've even got zombie games for the zombie party, so come on in and play, but please don't fall to pieces.

DragonsLair is a place for kids activities and programming. Any child between the ages of 7 and 12 with a membership may attend. Games, readings and crafts are among our activities.

Events

Friday Night

The **Zombie Casino** will open in the Galleria Ballroom at 8:30PM—**we will rot you!** Dress in your worst—if it's too decrepit for the Salvation Army, wear it Friday night as part of our Damnation Army.

The **Boskone Reception** immediately follows the Zombie Casino in the Galleria Ballroom and starts at 10PM and will feature live music by Sonic Explorers.

Saturday Night

The **Featured Filk Concert** with Mary Crowell will open the evening at 8PM, followed by the **annual awards ceremony** at 9PM. Yes, Jane Yolen will retell the dramatic story of how her Skylark Award nearly brought destruction to a small Massachusetts town and how the current Skylark winner can prevent this from happening in the future.

The main event of the evening begins at 9:30PM and is the **world premiere of Roger Zelazny's "Godson,"** with original music by David G. Grubbs, Jerry Sabatini and Debra Lebrun. "Godson" is a play in three acts and is not to be missed! Zelazny based the play on his short story "Godson," which was based on the Grimm fairy tale "Godfather Death."

Throughout the weekend, Boskone will have mini-musical events in the Galleria Ballroom.

Higgins Armory will present demos of fighting styles, ranging from medieval dagger displays to light saber duels!

Kunstbruder will present informal training in swordsmanship.

Parties will run every night. Be sure to reserve a room in the party block if you plan to throw a party (see Hotels on Page 7 for more information). You can list your party on the party board in the Galleria. You can also publicize your party with a notice in the convention newsletter, *Helmuth*. If you need a suite, be sure to write to hotel@boskone.org.