

The 2nd International Week of Science Fact and Fiction



PROGRAMME BOOK

19 - 25th May 2003 - Timisoara

Autographs

The 2nd International Week of Science and SF Souvenir Programme Book

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The 2nd International Week of Science and Science Fiction

Four days of informality followed by a two-day convention for science fiction professionals, personalities and fans.

With:

Danut Ungureanu

Romanian SF writer

Ian Watson

English SF writer

István Nemere

Hungarian SF writer

H.G. Wells

English writer, our Week's Ghost of Honour

and

Vince Docherty

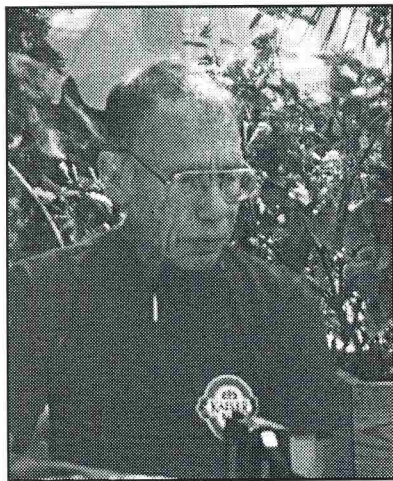
Scottish SF fan and Worldcon organiser

Presented by the Week's toastmaster

Roberto Quaglia

Italian SF writer

**19 - 25th May 2003
Timisoara, Romania**



Robert Sheckley, US Guest Author of the 1999 International Week, recalls Timisoara

Here I am sitting in my apartment, which is bare of anything except a laptop computer, a chair and table. In a few days I move to Nevada City CA, for two months, then back to Portland. Everything I own is stored or thrown out. Timisoara seems a long time ago, but here are some of my impressions of my visit.

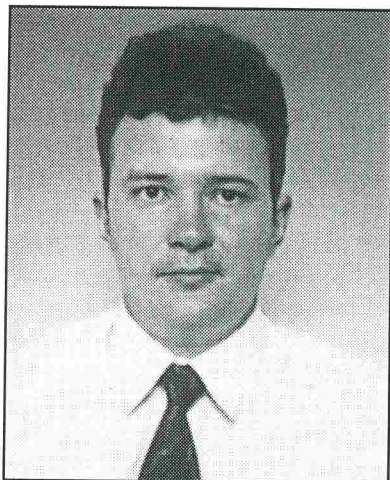
What a glorious feeling it was, to leave the Hungarian border and cross into Romania. I remember the roads, long and straight and lined with poplar trees. Passing through small towns, the houses lined up neatly on either side of the highway. I remember the historical sense of going deeper and deeper into a homeland of the Latin people. Heat was radiating out of a pale blue sky. Then Timisoara, entering it, going to our hotel, a bit of banal international architecture, one size and shape fits all. Many fans. Their enthusiasm contagious. Almost makes you want to write again. Many congratulations, toasts proposed and drunk, the camaraderie off an international function. A blur of memories of people, fading internal thoughts about them. The differences in a cuisine and national style different to what I had known.

It's the people you remember. The look of the ones you don't meet, the look of crowds. A sense of being among cultured people in an international setting.

My thanks for it all. I hope that I will return and experience it all again.

Robert Sheckley

Footnote: There is no keeping a good man down. Having been a Guest of Honour at the *1st International Week*, Bob will be a guest among thousands of participants at the World SF Convention, *Interaction*, to be held in Glasgow in 2005. By sheer synchronicity, one of the guests for the *2nd International Week* just happens to be organising the 2005 Worldcon. Can this truly be coincidence or is this some huge, peculiar cosmic joke? No! It is a *small* cosmic joke; we know a *little* astronomy.



Welcoming you, Terrestrial SF trekkers, is a very pleasant duty for us.

Why choose Romania, why Timisoara for this special close encounter? The answer is really quite easy and it is based on an elementary statistic: usually Romanians have a high degree of open-mindedness, and here in Timisoara (according some E.T. classified studies) we have reached the peak value in mindedness.

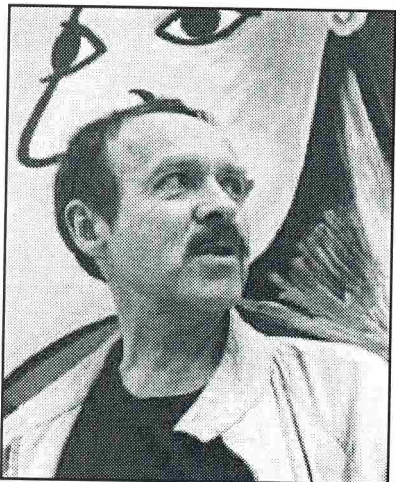
Also, welcoming you, our friends, is an honour for us because we are members of the H.G.Wells Science Fiction Society, where a new member is welcomed as if as an old friend.

I remember my first visit to the H.G.Wells SF Society way back in November 1991, when I met Silviu and Antuza Genescu and other SF literati such as Dorin Davideanu, Laurentiu Nistorescu, Adrian Musca, Costel Babos and more others in this big family. At the Society I learned to appreciate the value of a short story. Because in fantasy and science fiction we can convey quite a message, an idea, in just a few pages. At that moment I was a rookie, a beginner in SF, but all the people I met there were interested in listening to my point of view about their works. It was an extraordinary experience for me to discuss with them and to discover the intrinsic mechanism of literary creation.

And I still believe that they have really created 'literature' and are not just writing for fun. After eleven years I still have in my mind that amazing feeling as if I were a novice and I hope you can share this with me during the forthcoming *2nd International Week of Science and Science Fiction*.

Anyway, I do not know if I have managed to capture your attention but I must tell you this: Timisoara is not just an ancient town with an interesting history. SF in Timisoara is alive thanks to its people and especially to a group of open-minded people who enjoy meeting new friends. This group is known as the H.G.Wells SF Society.

Cristian Koncz
President H. G. Wells SF Society
Timisoara



One of England's most thought-provoking science fiction writers is profiled by Jonathan Cowie

It is most appropriate to have Ian Watson as the western European Guest at the 2nd International Week in Timisoara, Romania, in 2003 hosted by the H. G. Wells SF Society for a variety of reasons. Politically aware, Ian is only too conscious of the problems that have beset the former communist block countries. Indeed this is reflected in his writing and nowhere more starkly than in the title story in his collection of shorts *Stalin's Teardrops* (1991). In terms of appropriateness in time, 2003 marks the 30th anniversary of the publication of Ian's first novel *The Embedding*. Happy anniversary Ian. In terms of H. G. Wells, his

being guest is appropriate because one of his most famous short stories (and among the most technical of his SF works) is *The Very Slow Time Machine* which itself is the title of his first collection of shorts. Finally, he is an appropriate Guest to attend Romania for among his SF friends are SF friends of Romania such as the late John Brunner.

Ian is a fun soul whom I first met in the gentlemens at a Birmingham (UK) SF convention, *Novacon 9* (1979). Perhaps a veil should be drawn over that episode but needless to say he subsequently made an excellent Guest of Honour at my college's SF convention *Shoestringcon 2* (1980) and regularly attended a biennial series of London region conventions I helped run in the 1980s, the *BECCONs*. Indeed there was a strange encounter with H. G. Wells that took place at the 1987 *BECCON* which also happened to be that year's UK national convention in Birmingham; and I dare say we will learn more about that episode during the course of the Week!

So what is his writing like? Well, Ian is a versatile writer. Not only does he write his own fiction, which is science fiction but it is SF very much on the edge of fantasy (also appropriate for Romania, given the albeit limited amount of Romanian SF that I have read). Ian tends to explore inner space - the space of the mind - as much as he does outer space: in fact more often than not he combines the two. But Ian does not only write for himself. He is equally at home writing for commercial enterprises, be they games firms or film producers. An example of the latter is the screen story he wrote for Stanley Kubrick loosely based on a Brian Aldiss short story. This almost failed to see the light of day when Kubric died but fortunately Stephen Spielberg took over the production and so we have the 2001 film *A.I.* Such activity demonstrates that Ian is game for almost anything. Perhaps this is why he accepted the invitation to Timisoara. It is truly a rare opportunity to have the chance to experience an artistic intellect such as Ian's. Take my advice, make the most of this week.

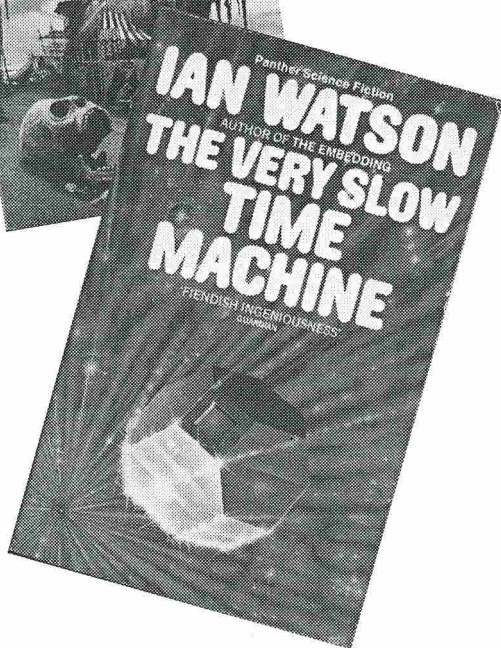
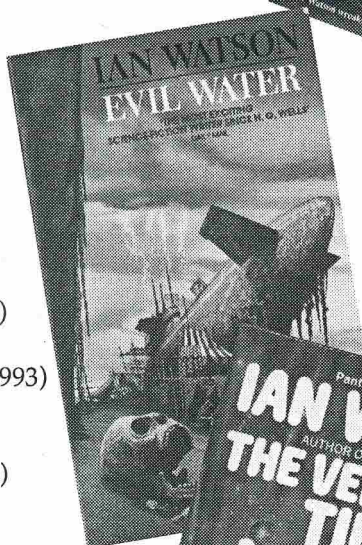
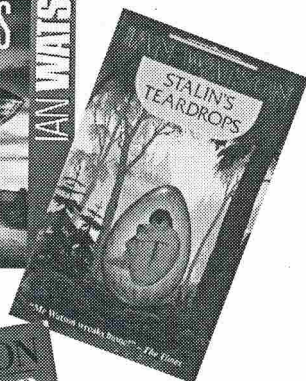
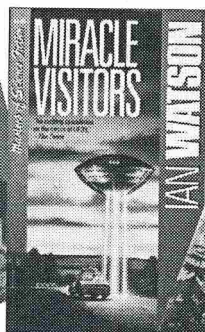
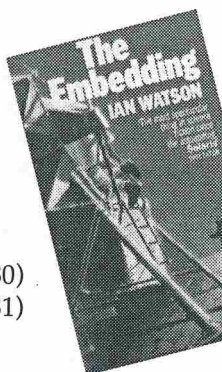
Ian Watson - A science fiction and fantasy bibliography

Novels

The Embedding (1973)
The Jonah Kit (1975)
The Martian Inca (1977)
Alien Embassy (1977)
Miracle Visitors (1978)
God's World (1979)
The Gardens of Delight (1980)
Under Heaven's Bridge (1981)
Deathhunter (1981)
Chekhov's Journey (1983)
Converts (1984)
The Book of The River (1984)
The Book of the Stars (1985)
The Book of Being (1985)
Queenmagic, Kingmagic (1986)
The Power (1987)
The Fire Worm (1988)
Meat (1988)
Whores of Babylon (1988)
The Flies of Memory (1990)
Warhammer 40,000: Inquisitor (1990)
Nanoware Time (1991)
Warhammer 40,000: Space Marine (1993)
Lucky's Harvest (1993)
The Fallen Moon (1994)
Warhammer 40,000: Harlequin (1994)
Hard Questions (1996)

Short story collections

The Very Slow Time Machine (1979)
Sunstroke (1982)
Slowbirds (1985)
The Book of Ian Watson (1985)
Evil Water (1987)
Salvage Rites (1989)
Stalin's Teardrops (1991)
The Coming of Vertumnus (1994)
The Great Escape (2002)





One of Hungary's most established SF authors is profiled by Judit Trethon

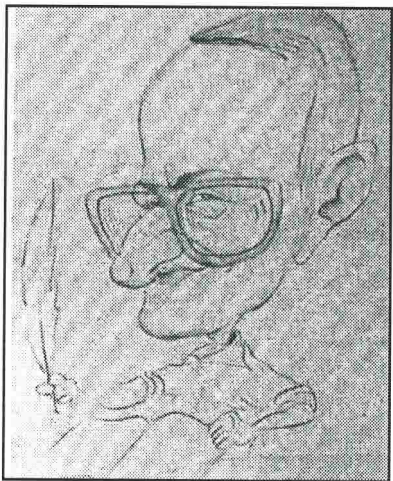
István Nemere was born in 1944, and since then he has written more than 300 books. These include not only works of science-fiction but also pseudo-documentaries, crime and historical novels as well as juvenile sci-fi series.

It would be wrong to stereotype István's work, but the following illustrates the varied nature of his writing. In his series *Fall to the Sun*, *The Last Planet*, *Among the Wild*, *To Be Or To Live*, *Scorpion*, and *The Golden Planet* - published between 1986-1988 - the narrator introduces life in the twenty fifth century on Earth and on planets both near and far away. István cleverly presents this through the mundane routine of his protagonists' everyday life. Each volume has a central plot around which the writer builds the world being explored.

Conversely *The Fight of the Dead* could be as much a thriller as a work of science fiction. It begins in 2003. At that time a great battle is going on between terrorists. These are being pursued by a team of five agents. All well and good but then the science fiction comes to the fore when a terrorist kills the wife and children of the agents' leader. To escape, the murderous terrorist puts himself into suspended animation and so hopes to quietly out-live the agents after him. However the agents' leader realises what has happened and so puts himself also into a cryogenic sleep to follow his wife's murderer. A hundred years later the terrorist finds out that he is being literally chased through time and so sets out to 'welcome' him. They continue their battle in the future. However in an additional twist the author asks whether they are really alive or did part of them die during the hibernation process? In the ultimate irony the two play the same roles in this future as they had in the past, one a terrorist, the other his assailant.

István also writes disaster SF. In *A Play for Ten Billion* a small unknown planet is heading straight for Earth. This discovery is only made eight days before the impending lethal collision. The government sends out an unusual group in a spaceship to "play billiards" with the planet by pushing another towards it so as to knock it off its Earth-bound trajectory. In the meantime, in case this audacious plan does not work, the Earth prepares for the calamity.

Prolific, varied (both within and outside of science fiction), European SF Award winner, welcome Nemere István.



István Nemere has written over 330 books published in 10 countries and 14 languages. Some 11,000,000 copies have been produced and the man is still writing.

This great amount of books cover a range of genre types and not just science fiction. They also include: fantasy, criminal detective stories, romance and erotic novels, children books, political novels, and different non-fiction books. There are historical books on great personalities of antiquity, analyses of modern history (such as the KGB, Nazis, Mafia, secret inventions *etc*) or historical accounts of past events that have shaped our modern world. Then he has covered

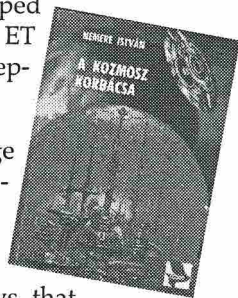
Fortean phenomena (such as UFOs, cryptozoology, and paranormal phenomena). Fortunately for us he also took time to write over 30 science fiction novels.

The following listing represents just the SF books of his bibliography. The number beside each refers to the *opus* number on his website. (www.nemere.hu)

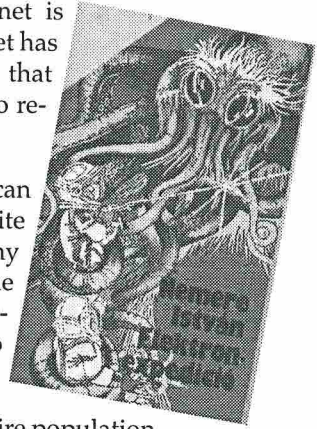
Mandics György

Note: Due to technology limitation in this English version of the programme book, the Hungarian characters in the typography below have not been reproduced properly.

2. *A Triton gyilkosságok (The Triton Crimes)*, 1977. On the Earth in the future the arrival of extraterrestrials is detected, and strange crimes are committed. The Planetary police are alerted.
6. *A Neutron-akció (The Neutron Action)*, 1982. This novel helped Nemere co-win the EUROCON Award in 1982. It is a tale of ET terrorism. (The other co-winner sharing the prize for quite separate reasons was Christopher Priest.)
11. *A kozmosz korbácsa (The scourge of the Cosmos)*, 1982. A strange disease apparently comes from outer space. But is it a natural phenomenon or something else?
14. *Kalóznak az űrben (Cosmic Piracy)*, 1983. A civilian tourist ship is taken by space pirate gang. The captured pilot knows that nobody can possibly help him. He must rely on his own resources to survive.



16. *Elektron expedíció. (The Electron Expedition)*. A planet is colonised by humans from Earth. However the planet has a developed ecology. The colonists begin to realise that the animals are intelligent creatures and they have to re-evaluate their attitudes.
17. *Időtörés (Fracture in Time)* (1984). In a southern American country a strange dictator is comes to power. Despite the population hating their ruler, nobody knows why there does not exist any opposition to the regime. The ruler apparently has super-normal abilities even clearly he is human. Then suddenly a group arrives to oppose him and they have strange abilities too.
20. *Ébredés előtt (Before waking)*, 1985. In the future the entire population of the Earth enters into a long and deep sleep. A returning spaceship observes that not every man is unconscious: some people gather the nuclear weapons, and take them to a small country.
23. *Holtak harca - Játszma tíz milliárdért (The Fight of the Dead and A Game for Ten Billion)*, 1986. Here are two novels published in a single volume. In the first a criminal on the run goes into suspended animation to escape capture and execution. He hopes that the future will be kinder to him. But the police agent pursuing him will not let him escape so easily and puts himself into hibernation as well. *The Fight of the Dead* will continue in future but has hibernation taken more than just the passing of time?



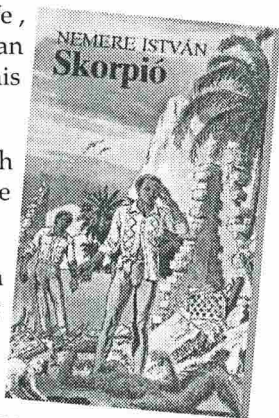
In the second novel, *A Game for Ten Billion*, an asteroid cones towards Earth from the depth of space. A group of astronauts tries to divert the asteroid from its trajectory, but how will they do this? The solution comes in the form of a billiard game...

25. *Zuhanás a Napba (Falling in the Sun)*, 1986. A strange great object enters the solar system. It transpires that it is an artificial hollow planet. The protagonists realises that inside there might reside intelligence. But is it alive?
26. *Klausztópolisz (Claustopolis)*, 1986. Beneath a great Scandinavian research centre a scientist discovers a hidden subterranean city. There they find a civilisation dating from the Middle Ages but are they really from such remote times?
27. *Az utolsó bolygó (The Last Planet)* 1986. Oban Dorg is exiled from Earth to a lonely planet called Trendal. But shortly



two astronauts saved from a catastrophe land on this planet. This novel represents the start of the 'Dorg Saga', a serial of novels about the Dorg family.

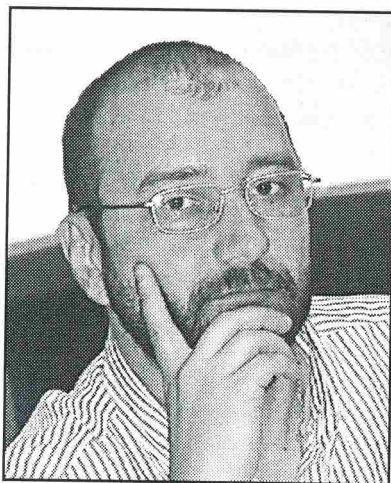
31. *Terra (Terra)*, 1987. It is the far future and humanity has long colonised the Galaxy. However over this time there have been conflicts and interstellar war so that the historical records are far from complete. Consequently such basic knowledge such as *Homo sapiens* home world have vanished into myth. Was there an Earth?
33. *Vadak közzött (Between the Savages)*, 1987. Oban Dorg's wife, goes to Earth to try to get the conviction against Oban Dorg over-turned. But occult powers try to stop her. This is part of the Dorg Saga.
35. *Skorpió (The Scorpion)*, 1987. Dorg's children in South Africa encounter a strange creature. This is part of the Dorg Saga.
38. *Lenni vagy élni (To Be or To Live?)*, 1988. The Martian odyssey of one of the Dorg boys. This is part of the Dorg Saga.
41. *Aranybolygó (The Planet of Gold)*, 1988. The Moon odyssey of the Dorg brothers. This is part of the Dorg Saga.
48. *Pokoljárás (Going to Hell)*, 1988. Heroes from Greek mythology (Daedalus, Icarus, Ariadne and Theseus) live in the future.
51. *Alfa-művelet (The Alpha-action)* 1989. Letta Dorg, the Dorg children's mother, goes to Mars to find out what happened to her boys. This is part of the Dorg Saga.
58. *Túl a Plutón (Beyond Pluto)*, 1989. Astronauts exploring the outer solar system discover a new planet beyond the Pluto. On it there is a strange labyrinth.
60. *Hajnal a Trendalon (Dawn on Trendal)*, 1989. Letta Dorg tries to establish a new colony on Trendal. This is part of the Dorg Saga.
67. *Az esemény (The Event)*, 1989. An ET arrives on Earth. The novel describes the next three days.
80. *A Titán terv (The Titan Plan)*, 1990. Trin Dorg, one of the Dorg boys, discovers a cosmic laboratory, where some demented geneticists are creating mutant brains. What else would they be doing we hear you cry... This is part of the Dorg Saga.
102. *Világok világa (The World of the Worlds)*, 1990. In a superworld there exists a powerful race, the Eternals, who make games out of such mundane pastimes as creating new universes. It transpires that *Homo sapiens* are merely a by-product of these activities...



103. *A téridő istenei (The Gods of Space-Time)*, 1990. Magnus and Negat are superior beings who can materialise in human form. One is the embodiment of good, the other the Evil. The history of Mankind is a fight between these two in different forms from the time of Atlantis, to the future cosmic era.
117. *Kozmikus összecsapás (Cosmic Fight)*, 1991. Magnus and Nagat continue to battle in the form of different extra-terrestrial intelligences .
122. *Istenek harca (The War of the Gods)*, 1991. Magnus and Nagat encounter a planet similar to Earth. But the locals will have none of this good-evil conflict.. Finally we discover that they are a new, artificial humanity created by superior beings, the Eternals.
142. *A kráter árnyéka (The Shadow of the Crater)*, 1992. Letta Borg, is old (75 years), and has become a grandmother. But the cosmic child pirates are coming... This is part of the Dorg Saga.
162. *Terek könyve (The Book of Spaces)*, 1994. The only non-traditional science fiction book by Nemere. It is written in the form of an encyclopædia of the planet Arten. The book can be read in every direction, every entry is a beginning or an end it itself. The book was also released as a diskette.
176. *A téridő istenei (The Gods of Space Time)*, 1996. It is really not a new book, but a compilation three books put together: nos. 103, 117, 122.
262. *Borzalom (Horror)*, 2000. A small strange object comes to Earth from space. But every person, who comes into possession of this object is later found murdered. Why?
285. *Atlantiszról jöttem (I come from Atlantis)*, 2000. The old civilisation of Atlantis departed Earth along time ago to go to another dimension. Left behind are some agents from Atlantis to ensure that evidence of the civilisation is completely destroyed. But one of these agents is captured. A commando team from Atlantis is sent to save him...

Footnote. Is it Nemere István or István Nemere? Western participants to the *2nd International Week* might not be familiar with the Hungarian convention for denoting one's family name before one's given (or Christian) name. This is the reverse of the common practice in western countries such as England, France and Germany.

Danut Ungureanu on an Open Curve



Silviu Genescu profiles one of Romania's leading SF writers and the host-country guest for the 2nd International Week of Science and SF

In early 1981, it was a trickle - a first short story, "*Vis de familie*" *Family Dream*, published in the monthly national science magazine, *Science & Technology*. This was Danut Ungureanu's literary debut but it was soon followed by a deluge: artwork, scripts for radio and TV shows, a collection of SF stories and even a novel. All confirmed that Romania had a new prolific author on the scene, and the Bucharest SF Society Solaris had a new star in its membership.

Danut Ungureanu, was born in 1958 in Calafat, Dolj County, southern Romania. He graduated the Faculty of Energetics Industry in Bucharest. But before long he was assigned to his post, as an engineer to a hydroelectric facility at Rovinari. (At that time, during the 'mighty' years of the Communist regime, everyone had a job, whether they wanted it or not.) In 1981, he began attending the meetings at the Bucharest SF Club, Solaris, hosted in Bucharest's Students' House. His initial shyness as a society member was very soon replaced by his eagerness to play a more active role in fandom. Shortly he proved to be one of the most gifted authors within this local fandom and in 1981 he was awarded a national prize for a story at the Science Fiction National Convention (RomCon) that took place in Iasi (in eastern Romania). In addition to being a writer he has also contributed to Romania's SF community in other ways as a leading figure and organiser. Between 1982-1983 he has led the destiny of the Solaris SF Society as its chair. Overall he has written over 50 short stories, many of them published in fanzines and Romanian magazines carrying science fiction in the mid 1980s.

As indicated above, Danut is not just recognised as a writer. In 1982 he was awarded the First Prize for graphics at that year's *RomCon*. But he has won other awards for writing too. At Romania's 1984 national convention he won the first prize for a story, so confirming his place among the elite of Romania's contemporary science fiction authors. His star shone brightly in Romania's celestial sphere of SF and having been credited with such distinct merits he had no difficulty in getting published in annual anthologies, almanacs, fanzines, and magazines. Furthermore, there was no question of him not being the engine of the Solaris SF Society. In fact,

Danut Ungureanu on an Open Curve

throughout the 1980s he has won at least 15 national awards. Indeed he became a serious obstacle to those others within Romania's SF community striving for such distinction. However, his mellow nature helped him to avoid clashes and conflicts with his peers. He was a charming winner and a pleasant fan.

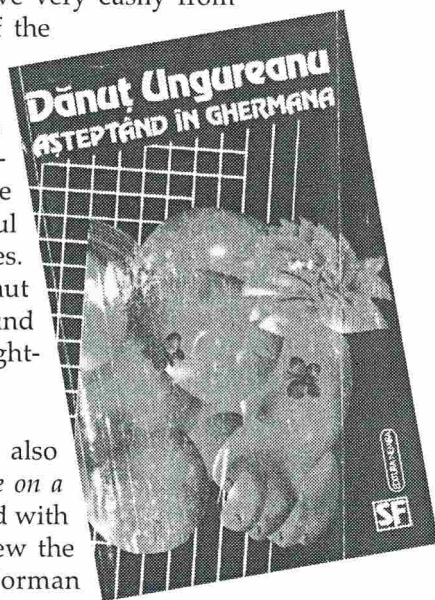
Then the 1990s came with their thunderous changes (the fall of the communist regime). There were no more restrictions imposed on Romanian authors, no more censorship and the new-born publishing houses that flourished after December 1989's bloody uprising were eager to publish Romanian authors. The sky was the limit! In 1992 Danut Ungureanu was awarded the Encouragement Award for young authors from the European Science Fiction Association at that year's *Eurocon*. That year was also when Danut began his career as a journalist working for the daily newspaper "Tineretul Liber" (*Free Youth*), and from 1994 to 1997 he was its deputy Editor-in-Chief. Like many authors in Romanian fandom, Danut chose to build a career in the mass-media. To this end he has certainly succeeded, as he is currently working as deputy editor-in-chief for the national daily "Curentul" (*Daily Newspaper*).

But perhaps it was back in 1993 that he arguably made one of the biggest splashes of his SF writing career. He then published his first collection of science fiction stories, "Marilyn Monroe pe o curba inchisa" *Marilyn Monroe on a Closed Curve* - from Adevarul Publishing House in Bucharest. It was a selection of his best stories and, if there was already no doubt, it confirmed his status as one of the most promising writers of his generation, the "damned" authors of the eighties ('Damned' because, despite communism falling elsewhere, this pre-revolution generation of Romanian authors were still subject to censorship.)). A few months later, the then new rising star of the publishing houses in Romania, Nemira, published his novel "Asteptand Ghermana" (*Waiting in Ghermana*). This novel was awarded in the same year with the Popularity Award and in 1994 he has won the First Prize at the special section of



Danut Ungureanu on an Open Curve

National Awards of RomCon. *Waiting in Ghermana* is a disturbing novel about a dark and oppressive world that could evolve very easily from our's today if we are not careful. Some of the novels depictions can be identified with those in our present society: big rock music concerts, sex and everyday violence as means of lifting social tensions. Artificial idols created by the mass-media, the absorption of the rights to decide by an Orwellian all-powerful entity, deep hidden within the social structures. That's the cautionary tale written by Danut Ungureanu in a moment when everyone around him wanted to forget a past (communist) nightmare. But you can't ignore the future.

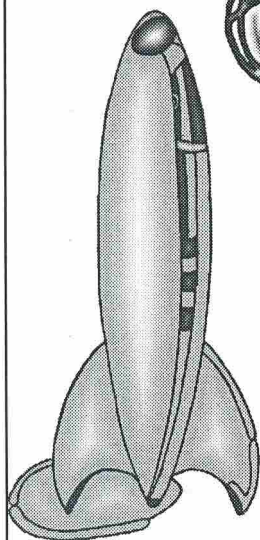


Of course as an accomplished artist, Danut also designed the covers of both *Marilyn Monroe on a Closed Curve* and *Waiting in Ghermana*. Indeed with regards to other book covers he notably drew the jacket for the Romanian edition of Norman Spinrad's *Bug Jack Baron*.

In 1997, Danut Ungureanu was a member of the writing team scripting the radio series "Piata Rotunda" (The Round Square) produced by the BBC World Service and the European Union. The series came third place at the International Radio Series Festival competition in New York.

Danut has written several action adventure novels using a pen name, but we will skate over this secret bibliography as he does not particularly want us to discuss this, so we will merely note it for completeness' sake. Unfortunately, in recent years with regards science fiction, Danut has slowed down a bit. His career as a Deputy Editor-in-Chief and editorialist eats into of his time but his desire to be with us at this *2nd International Week of Science and Science Fiction* is a welcome sign. Anyway, not even Danut can ignore future's call.

Silviu Genescu is a member of the H. G. Wells Society, Timisoara and is one of Timisoara's own SF writers broadly contemporary with Danut. Any professional rivalry will be purely amicable though the Week's organisers are reserving space in Timisoara's park in the event of duelling, and Roberto will take bets.



INTER ACTION

The 63rd World Science Fiction Convention
4-8 August 2005
Glasgow, United Kingdom

Guests

Greg Pickersgill Christopher Priest Robert Sheckley
Lars-Olov Strandberg Jane Yolen

The Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre
Moat House Hotel City Inn

Hundreds of Authors, Artists, Editors

Thousands of Fans

Art Show, Dealer Room, Exhibits

All in Scotland's Biggest City

Membership Type:	Supporting	Attending	Child (7-15 in August 2005)	Infant (0-6 in August 2005)
Membership Rate:	\$45	\$115	\$50	Free

(Rates valid until 21st April 2003.)

For further information contact: **Interaction**, PO Box 58009, Louisville KY 40268-0009

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memberships@interaction.worldcon.org.uk

Other Contact Details and Information

<http://www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk>

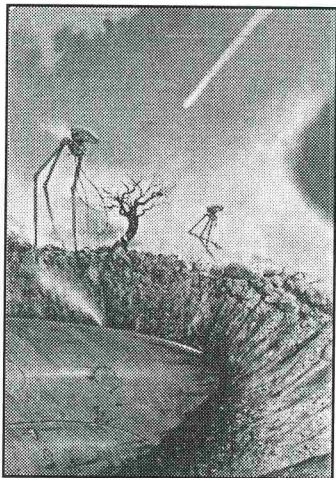
"World Science Fiction Convention" and "Worldcon" are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Vince Docherty

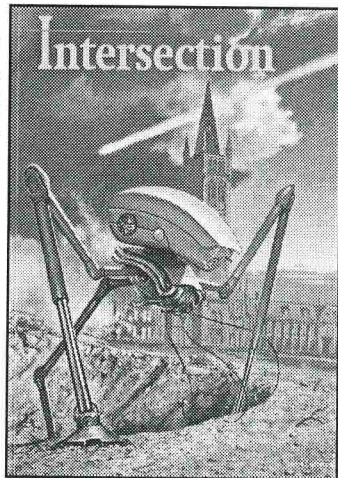
The science fiction fan and World-leading SF convention organiser, Vince is profiled by Jonathan Cowie

Vince Docherty's first convention was appropriately also Scotland's (*Faircon '78*). This was appropriate for a number of reasons. Not *least* of these was because *Faircon '78* was Scotland's first science fiction convention and not *most* because it was my own first Scottish convention (no coincidence there). At the time Vince was just 16 years old and, to be truthful, I do not remember whether we met even (the convention was that good) though at that event there were barely a couple of hundred people (which was then on the small side of medium for a non-national SF convention). However Vince must have had a brilliant time because he regularly attended many conventions since then. Indeed in only a little over half a decade later Vince Chaired the Committee of the SF convention *Invention* (1983). Since then he has not looked back and now takes running World SF Conventions of a few thousand fans in his stride.

The 1995 Worldcon in Glasgow was largely down to him, though he will modestly refer to the scores of people who helped put. But do not be deceived by such modesty. British fandom, like fandom everywhere has a diverse range of characters. Getting the best out of each, and getting them to work coherently together is no mean feat. The fact that Vince does it so well is not just a testimony to his leadership skills but also because he is what, we British biologists technically call, a jolly fine fellow. Indeed he is such an easy-going chap he probably will over-look any short-comings the small gathering that is so grandly called the *International Week of SF*. He probably will not complain if something small goes wrong or worse... if his glass is empty. So my advice to you is to ensure the man has a beer and that you spend some time with him.



All right, so you have decided to chat to Vince. What sort of common ground are you likely to share? Well, if you attended Glasgow in 1995 you could find out how he thought that event went from the con-runner perspective. (And if you did not attend that event there will be showing a TV docu-



Vince Docherty

mentary about the Worldcon during the Week.) Alternatively you could take a radical step and discuss science fiction! Vince loves hard SF, science fiction with a reasonably solid scientific basis underpinning the plot, especially if it has something to do with space. (Indeed Vince in his youth was a bit of an amateur astronomer.) His favourite authors are many, but they include: Greg Egan, Ian M. Banks, Ken MacCloud, Stephen Baxter and Alistair Reynolds. He also enjoys TV science fiction for relaxation, including *Babylon 5* and *Farscape*. I will not reveal more so that you have things to find out for yourself. But I can assure you that Vince makes for an ideal fan guest. Have a nice one Vince.

Jonathan Cowie is active within the UK and European SF community. First as a student SF society officer in the late 1970s, then as a convention organiser in the 1980s, he has been involved with scores of SF projects. He currently edits the e-zine *www.concatenation.org*. His family originates in Vince's home country of Scotland and he regularly attended the early Scottish conventions. Jonathan works representing UK biologists (hence the 'biologist' reference in this profile).

The Science Fact and Fiction Concatenation
is pleased to be one of the sponsors for the
2nd International Week of Science Fact and Fiction

We hope you have a memorable time and wish it
every success.

www.concatenation.org

Quarterly news from the SF community and of forthcoming books, films and TV series. There are also SF book and exotic science fact book reviews, articles, convention reviews, an annual SF video/DVD rental top ten, forthcoming convention and film diary, and whimsey from Gaia. Established in 1987 (1987-97 in print and from 1997 on the internet) *Concatenation* is the winner of two National and three European SF awards.



Our toastmaster for the Week is introduced by Jonathan Cowie

Who is Roberto Quaglia? Many of you will know for he is no stranger to Eurocons or for that matter Romania, or even Timisoara. But, though there is little I can add to his 1999 introduction for the *1st International Week*, if you have never come across the man then read on.... One answer to who he is might be to say that he is a professional SF writer and Italy's number one fan on the international SF. However such a perception is perhaps a little glib. He is a man with his eyes open, though the record as to whether he was born this way back in 1962 is unclear. He enjoys new experiences (providing there is not too

much discomfort). He has a sophisticated sense of wit and a love of life and the ladies.

As for his SF writing, Roberto himself has said that he "is the most unknown SF writer in the World". This is of course sheer self-grandisement. We reported back in 1999 that Roberto is merely the 32,054th most *unknown* SF author in the World as thousands who attend the Eurocons, and not forgetting the tens of thousands of *Delos* readers (*Delos* being Italy's leading internet SF magazine) know of him. In addition to his fame in Italy, Roberto is very well known as a writer in Romania (his *Bread, Butter and Paradoxine* was launched at the last *International Week*). However we can now reveal that due to the publication of this work, and more recently other books in Italy, he is only the 1,054th most unknown author. What's more, by some unfathomable quantum coincidence it turns out that this year he is also the World's 1,054th most *known* author. What will the coming years bring?

So what has Roberto written? Those attending past Eurocons in the United Kingdom will be well aware of his play *Somebody Up There Is Lusting After Me* as well as his short story *God Inc*, as these have been circulated as Eurocon supplements. But Roberto writes fact too. His 1999 viewpoint article on 'cloning' was the most accessed internet article of all by Italians on the subject, while the *Delos* internet magazine with which he has been associated has gone from strength to strength. Indeed *Delos* won the 1997 Eurocon Award for 'Best Fanzine'.

So what is Roberto doing being a Toastmaster? Well the idea of a Toastmaster really comes from American SF conventions. They help ensure that the major events during the convention are properly introduced. It is Roberto's elegant turn of phrase combined with Italy's historic connection with Romania that makes him ideal for the role of Toastmaster. That and the fact he did the job so well at the 1999 *International Week of Science and SF*. So when the time comes raise your glasses.

Jonathan Cowie regularly attends European SF conventions as does Roberto.

Programme notes

Talks

Internet Exotica by Dan Heidel. There is so much on the internet that one does not know where to start, and besides how do you dig out those interesting science and SF nuggets if you do not know they exist in the first place? Dan Heidel has taken the leg work out of this exercise for us and copied the results to video. Astronomy and space, science fiction erotica, and film trails are all fair game for Dan. Dan is a Spanish Dane currently living in the UK and working with (surprise) computers. With three national allegiances, Dan is an ideal programme participant for the *International Week of Science and SF*.

Travels in Space and Mind by Jonathan Cowie. This slide show covers artists' impressions used by NASA, ESA as well as the SF industry to illustrate what used to be thought as well as current perceptions of space travel. In short these travels never happened except in the minds of scientists and artists. Jonathan is a Scot living in England. For the past 15 years he worked for the Institute of Biology, in recent years representing UK biologists to politicians and policy makers. This year he left the Institute to run the Nutrition Society. He has also been active in the UK and European SF community since 1977 and edits the on-line 'Science Fact and Fiction Concatenation' www.concatenation.org

Beyond Earth an astronomical slide show. This will be presented in the event of a programme item being cancelled.

Quiz

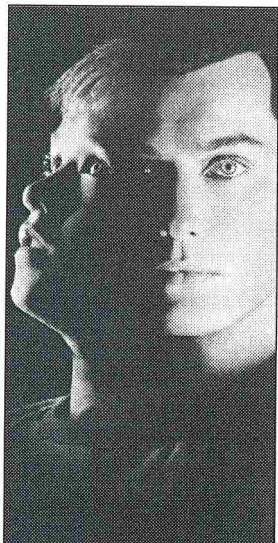
Timisoara and Scotland versus the Rest of the World Grand TV SF Quiz. So between reading and films you lighten things watching TV SF. But are you really an expert? Can you recognise theme music? How about the opening credits to the TV show minus the title? What if we complicated matters by mixing the two? It is not as easy as you think. How many of 40 shows can you correctly disentangle the opening credits (less title) from the incorrect theme music? Scotland and Timisoara take on the Rest of the World, indeed the entire universe in what could well be the ultimate TV science fiction quiz.

This programme item has been provided by the League of the Non-Aligned London SF group. **Timisoara and Scottish fans please sit on the right hand side of the hall (facing the front) and those from the Rest of the World sit on the left side nearer the door.** (The remaining 6 billion will have to wait outside.) To the winning team there will be a Grand Prize of complete and total control over the entire cosmos for one whole nanosecond. (Better decide quick as a team what you will do with this.)

Programme notes

Films

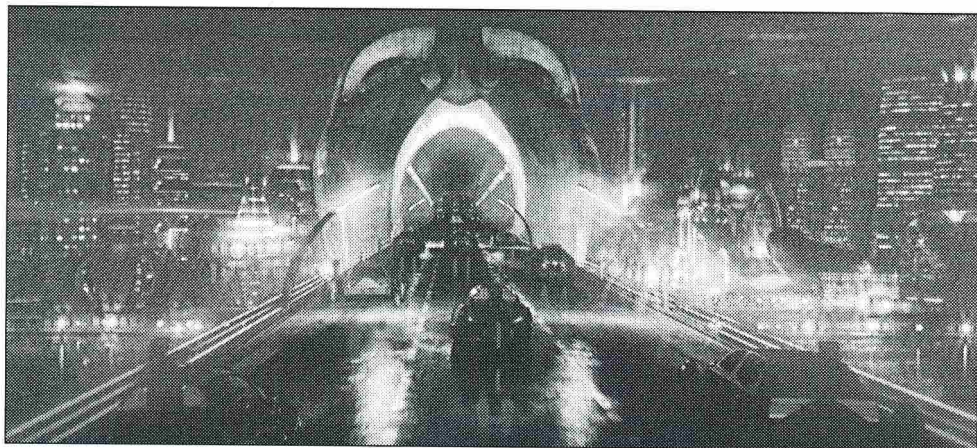
- When attending the film sessions the Romanian translators will sit on the far left (as you face the screen) so as not to distract those listening to the English. Consequently please leave the right hand of the hall to English speakers. Thank you for your co-operation which is truly appreciated -



A.I. Artificial Intelligence (2002) is directed by Steven (Close Encounters and Jurassic Park) Spielberg and based on a screen story by one Ian Watson who by sheer coincidence is in Timisoara for the *International Week*. It explores the fine line between humans and robots we might create if we attempt to manufacture life-like androids. David (Haley Joel Osment) is a young robotic boy and the first ever to be programmed with human emotions. As an experiment he is used as a temporary substitute for a couple who have had their own son cryo-



genically frozen until a cure can be found for his terminal illness. This last happens sooner than anyone thought and so David becomes surplus to requirements. The film follows David's journey and that of the sexual robot Gigolo Joe (Jude Law) as they try to find their place in society.



Programme notes

Minority Report (2002) is also directed by Steven Spielberg and based on a short story by the fantastic Philip K. Dick (who happens to be north American). For six years Washington DC has been murder free thanks to astounding technology which identifies killers *before* they commit their crimes! But when the chief of the pre-crime unit (Tom Cruise) is himself accused of a murder he has yet to commit, he just has 36 hours to find out who set him up or he will fall victim to the perfect system he helped set up.

The Time Machine (2002) is based on the brilliant H.G. Wells (who is British) and is directed by his great grandson Simon Wells and based on a screenplay by John Logan. Scientist Alexander Hartdegen (Guy *Memento* Pearce) is determined to prove that time travel is possible. His determination is further fired by a personal tragedy which he now wishes to prevent by changing the past. Testing the machine he is hurled 800,000 years into the future.... You all know the story so we won't spoil it by telling you that the butler did it. Oooops! But would H.G. have approved of this treatment of his classic story? You decide.

Ultraviolet (1999) is an 8 part TV drama providing a modern treatment of vampires. It moves the vampire concept from its traditional roots in pure fantasy (vampires are mythical creatures with spiritual/magical powers) more towards SF in that in *Ultraviolet* vampires have a more rational basis and certainly a more pragmatic view of the future. However the vampires in *Ultraviolet* still cannot be seen in mirrors (nor can they be picked up by TV cameras), so though the series is not pure science fiction it can be classified as science fantasy. Set in modern London, the premise is simple. Vampires have been with us throughout history but for obvious reasons do not publicise the fact. Nonetheless a secret agency funded by the Vatican knows of them and hunts them down. Only now, at the turn of the millennium, there is added urgency. Up to now vampires have been content with picking off the weak, the homeless and so forth. However modern humanity is contaminating itself with pesticides, radiation and other technological hazards. Consequently the vampires are not so content to let us run free to pollute. They are planning something, but what? One thing is known, our free range days may soon be over. Directed by Joe Aherne and starring Jack Davenport, Susannah Harker and Philip Quast.

Shorts. During the course of the Week we have some additional video material to fit in if time permits. This includes *Bye, bye American Pie* Jedi style, *You're the One That I Want* - Star Trek Style, and a *Star Wars & South Park* spoof.

- When attending the film sessions the Romanian translators will sit on the far left (as you face the screen) so as not to distract those listening to the English. Consequently please leave the right hand of the hall to English speakers. Thank you for your co-operation which is truly appreciated -

Support gratefully received

The H.G. Wells SF Society (Timisoara) and members of the organising committee are most grateful for all the support received for the *2nd International Week of Science and Science Fiction*. Many, many kind folk have helped us in numerous of ways and even those only helping in small ways are truly appreciated. You have our thanks, and no doubt the thanks of all the participants of the *International Week*. However perhaps specific mention should be given to those who have really gone out of their way to ensure that this week is something special. Forgive us if we have inadvertently left anyone out, but these generous souls include:

Our guests who have generously given of their time and considerable resources to bring themselves to Timisoara. **Ian Watson, Nemere István, Vince Docherty, Danut Ungureanu and Roberto Quaglia**, you are SF personalities of great heart.

Orizont, the Timisoara branch of the Romanian Writers Association and especially **Professor Cornel Ungureanu** (no relation to Danut) for the programme venue. This is repeat support from the *1st International Week* for which means we hope we are doing something right.

Jonathan Cowie for his assistance in linking in with the Western European and North American science fiction communities, general convention-running know-how and for catalysis.

The Science Fact and Fiction Concatenation www.concatenation.org for English publicity in cyberspace, and for Romanian publicity www.geocities.com/lumivirtuale, www.sfera.go.ro, www.imagikon.go.ro and www.proscris.port5.com

Tim Atkinson, Tony Bailey, David Baseley, Jonathan Cowie, Dan Heidel, Paul Howard, Corinne Svoboda and Pete Tyers for much help (involving a fair amount of their time) with programme contributions.

Kaba Gabor and the **Hungarian community of Jimbolia** for the visitors-to-Timisoara day.

Alan Boakes and Jonathan Cowie of the *Science Fact and Fiction Concatenation* team (www.concatenation.org) and various members of the **Anglo-Romanian Science Fact and Fiction Cultural Exchange team** for the sponsored meals for Eastern European visitors to Timisoara during the Week.

Fantasy and Science Fiction for copies of their magazine for the programme pack.

The **Welsh Science Fiction Association** for financial sponsorship of the welcome reception.

Sergiu Somesan for additional financial sponsorship.

Support gratefully received

Judit Trethon for information on, and other help with, Nemere István.

Tony Bailey (and Prontaprint, Barbican, London) for the production and design of this programme book.

Bill Parry and **Tony Clark** for the programme book's front cover.

Brian Ameringen (of Porcupine Books, www.porcupine.demon.co.uk), **Erik Arthur** (of the Fantasy Centre, Holloway Road, London) and **Andy Sawyer** (of the SF Foundation library at Liverpool University) for securing copies of Ian Watson books for committee members and many of the English-speaking Eastern European participants.

Brian Ameringen, **Steve Green**, members of the *Interaction* (Worldcon 2005) organising Committee, **Alain le Bussy** (Belgium), **Radi Radev** (Bulgaria), *Locus* (the US magazine), *SFX* (the UK magazine), *Fans Across the World* and a number of others for assistance with publicity in the west. Also **Nemeth Attila** (Hungary) for a promotional article in Hungary's science fiction magazine.

Many of the members of the **Helion SF** (Timisoara), **Bucharest SF** community, **North West Kent SF Society** (the **Phoenicians**), the **City Illiterates** (London), the **League of the Non-Aligned** (London), **Budapest SF** community (Hungary) and the *Festival of Fantastic Films* (UK) for moral support, encouragement and a dash of motivation.

Many of the above supporters are not able to be with us in Timisoara for the *2nd International Week*, this in itself speaks volumes as to the these good folk's altruism. However we are assured that these absent friends will be with us in spirit, and our best wishes go to them for their own SF projects.



Porcupine Books

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Registered delegates as of 15th March 2003 in order of registration of attendance/support

Both Timisoaran delegates and Eastern Europeans 1 - 52 have a free ticket to the end-of-week banquet
Non-Timisoaran Eastern European delegates 1 - 36 are guaranteed two free suppers Tuesday and Thursday
Non-Timisoaran delegates (including western visitors) 1 - 36 are guaranteed space on the visitors tourist trip
(Registrants 1 - 36 greatly helped us allocate resources by registering before 1st January 2003
and so get the greatest allocation of resources.)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Danut Ungureanu (Guest) | 28. Simona Hupov |
| 2. Nemere István (Guest) | 29. Dorin Davideanu |
| 3. Ian Watson (Guest) | 30. Dan Heidel |
| 4. Vince Docherty (Guest) | 31. Simona Popovici Donici |
| 5. Roberto Quaglia (Guest) | 32. Mihai Corneliu Donici |
| 6. Koncz Cristian (Committee) | 33. Jonathan Jones |
| 7. Silviu Genescu (Committee) | 34. Sharon Lewis |
| 8. Antuza Genescu (Committee) | 35. Peter Redfarn |
| 9. Mandics Gyorgy (Committee) | 36. George Dobrescu |
| 10. Liviu Pirvan (Committee) | 37. Trethon Judith |
| 11. Traian Badulescu (Committee) | 38. Dr Sardi Margit |
| 12. Cornel Ungureanu (Sponsor) | 39. Németh Attila |
| 13. Jonathan Cowie | 40. Viorel Marineasa |
| 14. Alan Boakes | 41. Marcel Luca |
| 15. Ovidiu Petcu | 42. Lucian Ionica |
| 16. Claudia Serceniuc | 43. Florin Leodor Danila |
| 17. Dragos Fofirca | 44. Laurian Knobloch, |
| 18. Vlad Popescu | 45. Adrian Bancu |
| 19. Eugen Stancu | 46. Adrian Musca |
| 20. Raul Genescu | 47. Cornel Secu |
| 21. Pavel Gheo Radu | 48. Constantin Pavel |
| 22. Alina Radu | 49. Remus Simian |
| 23. Cotizo Draia | 50. Viorel Vasadi |
| 24. György Györfi-Deák | 51. Armand Sperlea |
| 25. Laurentiu Demetrovici | 52. Anca Deaconescu |
| 26. Constantin Cozmiuc | 53. Pascal Docommun |
| 27. Darius Hupov | |
-

Timetable

2nd Week of Science & Science Fiction

See the 'Read Me' booklet for refinements and further details

Monday May 19th

Time	Item	Location
Depending on guests arrival	Arrival of guests, pick-up from the airport; on guests change money, hotel check in etc.	Timisoara International Airport
18.00	Launch of the <i>International Week</i> with the President of the Timisoara Branch of the Romanian Writers' Association	Orizont
20.00	Adjourn to local hostelry - sponsored by the Welsh Science Fiction Association	Local hostelry

Tuesday May 20th - Orientation Day

Time	Item	Location
10.00	Coffee and fanzine interviews of Guests	Hotel
12.00	Choice of 3 Timisoara tours	All over the city
15.00	Afternoon break	
17.00	<i>Ultraviolet</i> - 3 episodes of the modern 'vampire' series. Our free range days are over	Orizont

Wednesday May 21st - Publication Launch Day

Time	Item	Location
10.00	Coffee and fanzine interviews of Guests	Hotel
12.00	„Caduouri de Craciun” (Christmas Presents) book launch by Sergiu Somesan, and <i>Anticipatia</i> SF magazine launch session . (There will also be a re-launch of Sergiu's <i>“Carte de magie” (A Book of Magic)</i>)	To be arranged - See the 'Read Me' booklet
14.00	Free afternoon Your chance to do your own thing by yourself or with members of the convention	Anywhere you want
17.00	<i>Ultraviolet</i> - 3 episodes	Orizont
20.00	Pizza evening - sponsored by the <i>Science Fact & Fiction Concatenation</i>	At a local cafe. See the 'Read Me' booklet

Timetable

Thursday May 22nd - Hungarian Day

Time	Item	Location
	JIMBOLIA DAY <i>for Timisoara visitors only</i>	Jimbolia
10.00	Visitors-to-Timisoara Depart for Jimbolia	
11.00	Tour of Jimbolia and Cultural Museum	Jimbolia
12.00	Istvan Nemere's presentation to Hungarian community and SF visitors-to-Timisoara	Jimbolia
13.30	Lunch - sponsored by the Jimbolian Hungarian community	Jimbolia
15.30	Return to Timisoara to re-join Timisoaran SF community	
17.00	Internet Exotica video demonstration by Dan Heidel surfing the internet for science & SF exotica. (<i>for all participants, both visitors & locals</i>)	Orizont
18.00	<i>The Gogs</i> and <i>Ultraviolet</i> - 2 episodes	Orizont
20.00	Dinner - sponsorship for visiting Eastern Europeans and Guests by Alan Boakes (Concatenation webmaster)	Local hostelry

Friday May 23rd

Time	Item	Location
10.00	Coffee and fan interviews of Guests (last chance for group chats and interviews with the Guests)	Hotel
11.00	Group photograph of the <i>International Week</i> participants - bring your camera	On the lawn by Bega floral clock next to the Continental Hotel
12.00	Choice of three Tours of Timisoara	All over the city
15.00	Afternoon break	
17.00	Travels in space and mind - slide show exploring technical images of future space travel past and present by Jonathan Cowie	Orizont

Timetable

Friday May 23rd - (continued)

18.00	Film - <i>Minority Report</i> (2002) - based on the Philip K. Dick short story	Orizont
21.45	Free evening (to save energy for the convention tomorrow)	Your choice

Saturday May 24th - H. G. Wells Day

Time	Item	Location
10.00	Film:- <i>The Time Machine</i> (2001) - loosely based on the H.G Wells novel	Orizont
12.00	HG Wells' Ghost of Honour	Orizont
13.00	Afternoon break	
14.00	Film: - <i>AI</i>	Orizont
16.00	Ian Watson's - Guest speech	Orizont
17.00	The broadcast that panicked America - Orson Welles' <i>War of the Worlds</i>	Orizont
18.00	Istvan Nemere's - Guest speech	Orizont
19.00	Timisoara and Scotland vs The Rest of the World TV SF quiz	Orizont
20.00	Drinks reception - sponsored by <i>Concatenation</i> editor Jonathan Cowie	At a local hostelry

Sunday May 25th - Working-up-an-appetite day

Time	Item	Location
10.00	See your 'Read Me' booklet in your programme pack	Spare programme space
11.00	SF Video shorts from the Internet	Orizont
12.00	Danut Ungureanu's - Guest speech	Orizont
13.00	Mid-day lunch break (your chance to grab a coffee and witness a post-revolution phenomena as the elderly generation of the city gather in the main square to chat (this used to be illegal))	
14.00	TV documentary of the 1996 Worldcon	Orizont

Timetable

Sunday May 25th - Working-up-an-appetite day - (continued)

15.00	Running the World - Vince Docherty's Guest speech	Orizont
16.00	The Grand SF Interview of all the Guests by Roberto Quaglia	Orizont
17.00	Break to prepare for the evening	Orizont
19.30	Assemble for pre-prandials	
20.00	BANQUET With Orizont's Cornel Ungureanu	See the Read Me booklet
21.30	End of Banquet and Week speeches	
23.00	Dead dogging - so you are as dead as a dog, but there is that last opportunity to chat with old and new friends	

Monday May 26th

14.00	Western Guests and fans depart	Timisoara Airport 14.30 - 15.30
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'THEY'RE HERE, IT'S THE....'

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OF THE

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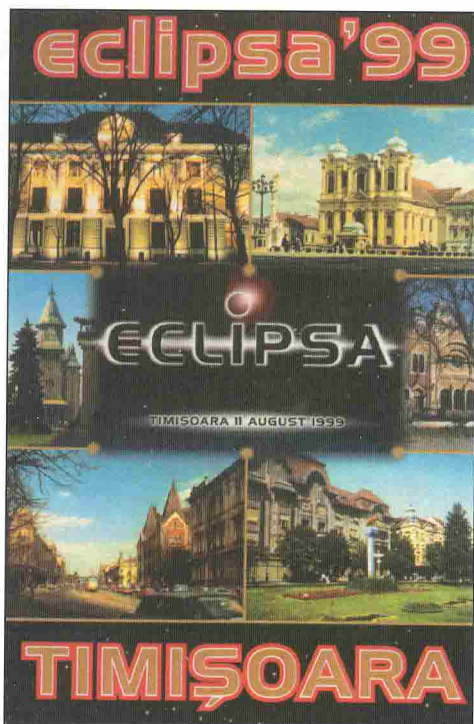
WE MEET EVERY 2ND AND 4TH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

WHEN: 6:00PM WHERE: HORSESHOE INN, MELIOR STREET, LONDON

DIRECTION: ONLY 5 MIN WALK FROM LONDON BRIDGE STATION

WARNING! NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THE CLINICALLY SANE!

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Timișoara și eclipsa în dimensiuni astronomice
Timisoara and the eclipse providing an
astronomical dimension



De la stânga la dreapta: Matt Freestone, Simona Hupov, Jim Walker, Darius Hupov și Peter Mabey
Left to right: Matt Freestone, Simona Hupov, Jim Walker, Darius Hupov, and Peter Mabey



Pregătirea pentru un punct din program
Settling down for a programme item



E tutun, pe bune! Simona și Darius Hupov, Jonathan Cowie
(Concatenation editor), Matthew Freestone
(primul webmaster al Concatenation) și Liviu Pirvan
It's tobacco, honest! Simona and Darius Hupov, Jonathan
Cowie (Concatenation editor), Matthew Freestone
(Concatenation's first webmaster) and Liviu Pirvan

The 1st International Week 1999

Primei Săptămâni
Internaționale din 1999



La un pahar de vin, în așteptarea eclipsei
Time for a glass of wine
while waiting for the eclipse



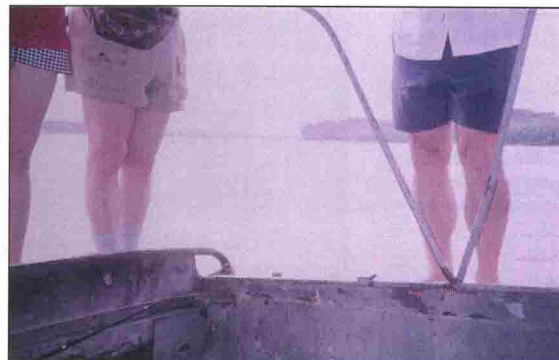
Roberto Quaglia, Robert Sheckley și Jonathan Cowie pun lucrurile la punct.
Antuza Genescu îl privește gânditoare.
**Roberto Quaglia, Robert Sheckley and Jonathan Cowie making a point!
Antuza Genescu looks on.**



Antuza Genescu (membră a comitetului de organizare) și Premiul Eurocon din 1997, care a călătorit doi ani de la Dublin (gazda Eurocon-ului din 1997) la Timișoara, când i-a fost înmănat în cadrul Primei Săptămâni Internaționale.
Antuza Genescu (Committee member) and her 1997 Eurocon Award which took two years to travel from Dublin (host of the '97 Eurocon) to Timisoara and so presented to her at the 1st International Week.



Insula Atlantykron, locul de desfășurare al Eurocon-ului în 2001.
The Atlantykron island, site of the 2001 Eurocon.



Renumitele picioare care au câștigat premiul Hugo?
Renumite picioare de body guard?
Famous Hugo winning legs? Famous body guard legs?

Atlantykron The 2001 Eurocon

Atlantykron — Eurocon
2001



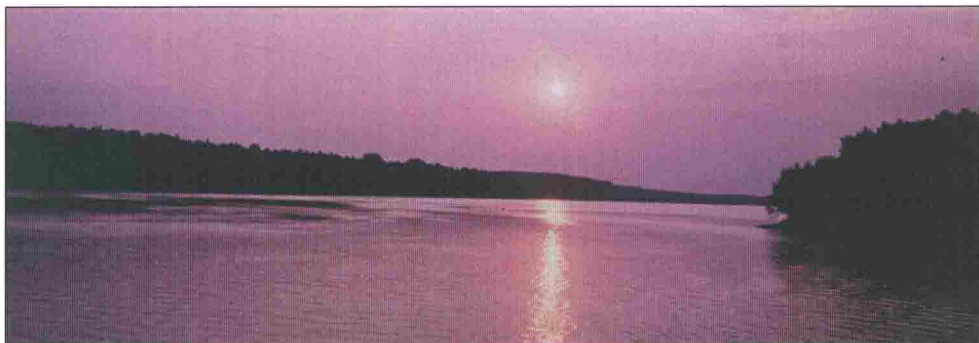
Banchetul oferit de occidentali pentru traducători și ghizi
The westerners' dinner for translators and guides



Tânăr creator de machete
Young model maker



Jonathan Cowie (invitat special) și Norman Spinrad (invitat de onoare) la o discuție din program
Jonathan Cowie (Special Guest) and Norman Spinrad (Guest of Honour) on a panel



Apus de soare pe Dunăre / Sunset over the Danube

Anglo-Romanian 2000 millennium visit to Britain

Vizita anglo-română în
Marea Britanie în ultimul
an al mileniului al 2-lea

Mandics Gyorgy, Jonathan
Cowie și Antuza Genescu
la BBC World Service
(Londra), înainte de vizita
la secțiile române și
maghiare.

**Mandics Gyorgy,
Jonathan Cowie and
Antuza Genescu at the
BBC World Service
(London) prior to meet-
ing the Romanian and
Hungarian Units.**



Mandics Gyorgy, Hazel și Matt Freestone, Jonathan Cowie, Tony Chester și
Antuza Genescu în fața Domului Mileniului.

**Mandics Gyorgy, Hazel and Matt Freestone, Jonathan Cowie, Tony Chester and
Antuza Genescu outside the Millennium Dome.**