

Press Release Number 2009-4

AUSSIECON 4
68th World Science Fiction Convention
GPO Box 1212, Melbourne VIC 3001, AUSTRALIA
info@aussiecon4.org.au WWW.aussiecon4.org.au

For release: Thursday 1 October, 2009

Global Science Fiction Event Heads to Melbourne

After Anticipation, the recent World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon) held in Montreal, Canada, in August, the eyes of the global science fiction community now turn to Melbourne. Aussiecon 4, to be held 2-6 September 2010 at the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, will be the 68th Worldcon since 1939. The five-day event represents a rare opportunity for Australian science fiction, fantasy and horror aficionados to join with authors, editors, agents, and other members of the international and Australian science fiction community.

The five-day Aussiecon 4 event will comprise several concurrent streams of panel discussions on a wide range of speculative fiction topics -- including writing process and craft, explorations of popular culture, young adult fiction and themes, Guest Of Honour presentations, academic theory and many more. Other key attractions include one of the largest science fiction Art Shows for the year, a Dealers Room encompassing books, short story anthologies, magazines, comics, DVDs and collectables, and a glittering Masquerade.

Key drawcards at Aussiecon 4 will be official Guests of Honour Kim Stanley Robinson, multi-award winning author of the Mars trilogy (*Red Mars*, *Blue Mars* and *Green Mars*), as well as numerous other novels, and Shaun Tan, award-winning artist and writer whose works include the acclaimed wordless novel, *The Arrival*, and *The Rabbits*. A large number of international and Australian authors are also expected to attend.

According to Rose Mitchell, Co-Chair of the Aussiecon 4 organising committee, the premium field of authors, illustrators and other leading industry figures will be the largest ever assembled in Australia. "Worldcon is a truly amazing and unique phenomenon," Mitchell said. "It has all the features of an international writers or film festival, but celebrates a very specific genre -- science fiction, fantasy and horror.

"Worldcon comes to Australia just once in a decade, and brings together several thousand professionals and enthusiasts from around the world -- all of whom share a passion for science fiction, fantasy and horror. I can't recall another event here in Australia where one can have casual conversations with favourite authors and artists while simply wandering around the convention!"

One of the star events of every Worldcon is the presentation of the prestigious Hugo Awards for science fiction and fantasy achievements in fiction, film and fandom (and more). The 2010 Hugo Award winners will be determined by the votes of those who register to attend Aussiecon 4 early. Recent 2009 winners include Anticipation Guest of Honour Neil Gaiman for *The Graveyard Book* and Joss Whedon for *Doctor Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*.

Registrations for Aussiecon 4 are now available via the official web site at <http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/>.

-[ENDS]-

Aussiecon 4, the 68th World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon"), will place Australia at the centre of the science fiction and fantasy world. The convention will be held 2-6 September 2010 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Guests of Honour include award-winning author Kim Stanley Robinson, award-winning Melbourne artist Shaun Tan, and dedicated fan Robin Johnson.

The Worldcon annual convention brings together people, both professionals and fans, from all over the world who have an interest in the science fiction and fantasy genres. Although the emphasis of the convention is on the literary side, all other forms, such as film, television, and comics, are included. Programming includes panel discussions, lectures, science demonstrations, films, readings, and autographings.

Aussiecon 4 is so named because it is the fourth Worldcon to be held in Australia and all have been held in Melbourne. Previous conventions (1975, 1985, [1999](#)) were widely acclaimed. The convention is run entirely by volunteers. Most of the committee and staff are from Australia but some committee members participate from other parts of the world

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Aussiecon® 4 is convened under the auspices of the [Victorian Science Fiction Conventions Inc](#) (ABN 90 257 542 181) a not for profit association incorporated under the Victorian Associations Act, 1981. "World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", "Hugo Award", and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Press Release Number 2009-5

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For release: 24 October, 2009

Aussiecon 4 Invites Art Show and Dealers Room Bookings

Artists and dealers specialising in science fiction, fantasy and horror can now apply for space in the Art Show and Dealers Room respectively at Aussiecon 4, the 68th World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon), to be held in Melbourne, Australia, 2-6 September 2010.

The Art Show will showcase original artworks of a science fiction, fantasy, or fannish nature, with artists encouraged to display and sell both flat and 3D pieces. It is expected to be one of the largest science fiction art shows for the year internationally.

The hugely popular Dealers Room is open to all who trade in science fiction, fantasy and horror-related literature (books, magazines, anthologies), clothing, merchandise, jewelry, armour, artwork, and so on. Nearly all members of the convention will visit the Dealers Room at least once during their time at Aussiecon 4, so this is a prime opportunity.

Taking place at the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, the five-day Aussiecon 4 event will celebrate all aspects of international and Australian science fiction, fantasy and horror. Official Guests of Honour will be Kim Stanley Robinson, multi-award winning author, Shaun Tan, award-winning artist and writer, and active Australian fan, Robin Johnson. The convention is expected to draw thousands of attendees from both the Asia Pacific region and around the world.

Registration information for Aussiecon 4, as well as full details of how to apply for the Art Show and Dealers Room, can be found at the official web site at www.aussiecon4.org.au.

-[ENDS]-

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Press Release Number 2010-1

Aussiecon 4
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 1 January 2010

Nominations Open in Premier Science Fiction and Fantasy Literary Awards

The nominating period for the Hugo Awards commences today.

The Hugo Awards celebrate the best in the field of science fiction and fantasy.

Hugos are presented each year at the World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon) by the World Science Fiction Society.

The Hugo nomination process for works published or otherwise released in 2009 and individual achievement awards is open to current members of the World Science Fiction Society, which means supporting or attending members of the 2009 Worldcon (Anticipation) or the upcoming 2010 Worldcon (Aussiecon 4).

Nominations must be received by 13 March 2010. In order to participate, you must have purchased an Aussiecon 4 membership by 31 January 2010 or have been a member of the 2009 Worldcon, Anticipation.

According to Vincent Docherty, Hugo Awards Administrator, the best-known Hugo Award categories are Best Novel and Best Dramatic Presentation. "However, there are many other categories of Hugo Awards, including some for short fiction, for artists, and editors, and for activities by fans," says Docherty, "Winning an award as prestigious as the Hugo can mean the difference between an author having one or two works published and having the industry keen to get its hands on anything you create."

A shortlist of the five most popular works or achievements in each award category will be published in early April 2010, with the voting process open to Aussiecon 4 members until 31 July 2010.

The Hugo Awards Ceremony will be one of the highlights of Aussiecon 4, and will take place on the evening of Sunday 5 September 2010.

Aussiecon 4 will be held at the new Melbourne and Convention and Exhibition Centre from 2 to 6 September 2010. The convention will be a five-day event bringing together readers and fans and a premium field of authors, illustrators, publishers, scientists, and other leading genre figures.

"Worldcon is a truly amazing and unique phenomenon", says Perry Middlemiss, Co-Chair of Aussiecon 4. "It has all the features of an international writer's festival but celebrates a very specific genre: science fiction, fantasy, and horror."

-[ENDS]-

Australia is proud to host the 68th World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon"). Join us at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre 2 – 6 September 2010, for the opportunity to meet writers and artists, publishers and editors, and science fiction fans from around the world. The convention will also host the prestigious Hugo Awards Ceremony and an Art Show featuring award-winning artwork. Aussiecon 4 will place Australia at the centre of the science fiction and fantasy literature world.

Aussiecon 4 is the fourth Worldcon to be held in Australia. Our previous conventions (held in 1975, 1985, and 1999) have been widely acclaimed. Aussiecon 4 is shaping up to be the best yet!

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For more information about Aussiecon4, see our website at www.aussiecon4.org.au

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MEDIA RELEASE

Press Release Number 2010-2

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24 January 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Time to Gain Eligibility to Nominate Works For The Hugo Awards Ends Soon

The Hugo Awards celebrate the best in the field of science fiction and fantasy.

Hugos are presented each year at the World Science Fiction Convention (Worldcon).

The Hugo nomination process for works published or otherwise released in 2009 and individual achievement awards is open to supporting or attending members of the 2009 Worldcon (Anticipation) or the upcoming 2010 Worldcon (Aussiecon 4).

The nominating period for the Hugo Awards commenced 1 January 2010, and nominations must be received by 13 March 2010.

However, in order to be eligible to nominate, you must have purchased an Aussiecon 4 membership by **31 January 2010** or have been a member of the 2009 Worldcon, Anticipation.

A shortlist of the five most popular works or achievements in each award category will be published in early April 2010, with the voting process open to Aussiecon 4 members until 31 July 2010.

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Aussiecon 4 is the fourth Worldcon to be held in Australia. Our previous conventions (held in 1975, 1985, and 1999) have been widely acclaimed. Aussiecon 4 is shaping up to be the best yet!

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31 March 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUSSIECON 4 ANNOUNCES RECORD HUGO NOMINATION TURNOUT

Aussiecon 4, the 2010 World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon") taking place in Melbourne, Australia 2 - 6 September, received a record number of nominations for the 2010 Hugo Awards, science fiction's most prestigious and storied awards.

The convention received 864 nominating ballots, up from 799 nomination ballots received at Anticipation, the 2009 Worldcon in Montreal, Quebec, and 483 nomination ballots at Denvention, the 2008 Worldcon in Denver, Colorado. Nominations arrived from 20 countries on 6 continents.

"We are absolutely delighted to have such a record-breaking nomination year," said Perry Middlemiss, co-chair of Aussiecon 4. "It's been a wonderful year for science fiction and fantasy, and we worked hard to encourage fans from all over the world to tell us what they thought was the very best the field has to offer. The nomination turnout assures that the nominations this year will truly be world-class work. We can't wait to see fans from all over the globe here in Melbourne in September."

This year's Hugo Award nominations will be announced 22:00 BST, Easter Sunday 4 April, at Odyssey 2010, this year's Eastercon (British National Science Fiction Convention). Balloting for the Hugo Awards will commence thereafter and will conclude on 31 July at midnight, PST. The Hugo Awards themselves will be announced at the Hugo Awards Ceremony at Aussiecon 4 in Melbourne on Sunday, 5 September 2010.

The Hugo Awards are the premier award in the science fiction genre, honoring science fiction literature and media as well as the genre's fans. The first Hugos were awarded at the 1953 World Science Fiction Convention in Philadelphia (Philcon II), and have honored science fiction and fantasy notables such as Robert Heinlein, Issac Asimov, Robert Silverberg, Ursula K. Le Guin, J.K. Rowling, Neil Gaiman and many others.

Aussiecon 4 (<http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/>) is the 2010 World Science Fiction Convention ("Worldcon"), the yearly gathering of the World Science Fiction Society (WSFS), an organization dedicated to the promotion of the science fiction and fantasy genres. The first Worldcon opened in 1939, in New York City, and has been held annually except during World War II. Aussiecon 4 is the 68th Worldcon and the fourth held in Australia. The convention will be held 2-6 September 2010 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. Guests of Honour for Aussiecon 4 include award-winning author Kim Stanley Robinson, award-winning Melbourne artist Shaun Tan, and dedicated fan Robin Johnson.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please contact Vincent Docherty at hugoadmin@aussiecon4.org.au.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4 April 2010

HUGO NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

Aussiecon 4 is pleased to announce the 2010 Hugo nominees.

2010 HUGO NOMINATIONS

864 Total Ballots Cast

Press Release Number 2010-5

Aussiecon 4
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Press Release #5, 13 April 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aussiecon 4 Membership Rate Increase

Aussiecon 4 today announced that attending rates will increase on 1 May. The following membership rates will hold from 1 May 2010 until 31 July 2010:

Currency	Adult Attending	Supporting	Convert Supporting to Attending	Child Attending (born 2/9/1994- 2/9/2004)
AUD	310	70	250	50
USD	280	50	235	32
GBP	190	25	170	25.50
Euro	215	35	185	22.50
CAD	290	50	215	40
Yen	26,200	4,900	22,200	2,950

All membership applications received by mail on or before 30 April 2010, and all electronic transactions time-stamped prior to 00:00 1 May 2010 will be honoured at the previous rate levels. Memberships may be purchased with cash, PayPal, cheques in AUD and USD, Visa, and MasterCard. All credit card charges will be processed in Australian dollars.

For more detailed information on Aussiecon 4 memberships, go to <http://www.aussiecon4.org.au/index.php?page=27>

There will be no change to the current rates for Child and Supporting Memberships.

All Child members must be accompanied by an Attending Member. Children aged 5 and under as of 2 September 2010 may attend for free. Childcare fees are not included with the Child membership.

Pre-con registration closes on 31 July 2010. Rates will be higher at the door. Single day rates will also be available at the door.

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