

MARSCON EPISODE VII

GALACTIC PIRATES AND MERCENARIES

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Dear Artist:

MarsCon Episode VII would like to invite you to display your artwork in our art show. Following our MarsCon tradition, we get to try out a new venue again this year, at the Airport Marriott Hotel in Bloomington, Minnesota. Display space is given on a first-come, first-served basis.

Enclosed is some material on the convention in general and the art show in particular:

- ❖ Art Show Programming
- ❖ Art Show Guidelines;
- ❖ Display Art Control Sheet; and
- ❖ One sheet of four Bid Sheets.

Interested in volunteering? How about just getting discounted fees? Any artist who helps set up the room gets discounted fees. Doesn't matter if you help set up five panels or 50.

As for the day-to-day action, we don't need much. Kristy Effinger and I will be in the room the majority of the time, along with our intrepid staff, but even intrepid staff needs a break to peruse the dealer's room, right? You can even choose what you want to do. If you just want to work the claim check—great! Comfortable with sales? Fabulous! Want to play security and talk art while making sure nobody touches anything? That's good too. The art show is supposed to be fun and we're doing our darnedest to keep it that way.

Please read the enclosed material carefully. There is one major change from last year—we'll be holding an Artists' Reception instead of the Art Show Tour. If you still have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the phone numbers or e-mail below.

Until the next encounter,

Nora Levenson
 Art Show Director
 763.525.8639
 artshow05@marscon.org

Kristy Effinger
 Art Show Co-Director
 651.633.7263
 artshow05@marscon.org

ART SHOW SCHEDULE		
(*TENTATIVE TIMES)		
Thursday	6:30P-10:30P	Art Show Set Up
Friday	11:00A-3:00P	More Art Show Set up
	3:00P-7:00P	Open For Public Viewing
Saturday	11:00A-7:00P	Walk-In Artist Check In
	8:00P-9:30P	Artists' Reception
	10:00A-5:00P	Open For Public Viewing
	10:00A-12:00P	Print Shop Open
Sunday	5:00P	Walk-In Artist Check In
	5:00P-6:00P	Space Permitting
	6:00P-8:00P	Bidding Closes
	9:00A-1:00P	Art Pick up - Art Auction Prep
	1:00P-5:00P	Art Auction
	6:00P	Art Checkout
		Misc. Pack and Take Down
		Art Show Room Surrendered

THE MARS CON ARTISTS' RECEPTION

8:00 p.m. Friday, March 4

In an effort to bring more people into the Art Show, we are adapting a new idea that is based on an elegant tradition in art galleries and other convention art shows around the country. This year we are inviting all artists and fans of the Art Show to an Artists' Reception. Please join us for some wine, cheese and crackers, and spend a lovely, relaxed evening with all the resident local artists who contribute to our Art Show and also attend MarsCon. Our Artist Guest of Honor and the Featured Guest Artist will also be attending this event. We hope one of our Actor Guests of Honor, Richard Herd, will grace us with his presence, as he will also be showing his artwork in our Art Show.

The reception effectively takes the place of the Art Show Tour. Artists and art lovers alike will have a time to look over the artwork in the art show and just talk about it and do some casual critiquing. It will be a wonderful opportunity for fans of science-fiction/fantasy art to meet some of the artists, and possibly for the artists to meet their most loyal patrons. Did we mention there will be wine?

For those of you who mail in your artwork, Kristy would still like to have biographical information on hand so she can answer any questions about a particular artist as they come up. So we are still requesting that you send information about yourself, your artwork, your technique and inspiration, etc., when you send us your artwork. Also, please rest assured that we will be very careful to contain the wine, cheese and crackers in a certain area so there will be no unfortunate accidents with anyone's artwork being spilled on.

OUR 2005 ARTIST GUEST OF HONOR: TODD COSS

Todd Coss grew up in Georgia and has been drawing "ever since I can remember—no, really." He developed his drawing skills during high school, and enlisted in the Navy, serving during Operation Desert Storm as a photographer. Many of Todd's slide images can be found in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. He attended the Art Institute of Atlanta majoring in illustration and computer animation. Among his comic influences are Don Wetzel, Dave Stevens, Steve Rude, and John Byrne. Recently Todd and his collaborators at Studio Creations won Best Animation in the Star Wars Fan Film competition for the parody "Trooper Clerks". Todd is also an active costumer, constructing such outfits as Darth Maul, D'argo, Londo Mollari, Harvey Birdman, and The Fifth Element's Mangalores. Todd's current projects include interior art for role-playing books for Imagine Games and Hero Games and developing an original graphic novel series. Todd just recently moved to the Twin Cities and "fell into our laps" when he volunteered to contribute artwork for our badges, publications and T-shirt. We were all so impressed by his amazing diverse talent and flamboyant comic-book style that we had to invite him to be our Artist Guest of Honor.



OUR FEATURED GUEST ARTIST: RON ROSS

Ron Ross was born March 11, 1935 in Mitchell, South Dakota. He graduated from Mitchell High School in 1953 and from Dakota Wesleyan University in 1957 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and a minor in radio, speech, and drama. MarsCon is honoring Ron this year as a local Twin Cities teacher and artist who has worked for 50 years as a free-lance cartoonist. During his long and distinguished career, he has drawn over 5,000 cartoons and seen them published in a wide-ranging list of prominent national magazines and journals, including National Enquirer, Saturday Evening Post, and Harvard Business Review, among several others. While his focus hasn't usually been in the science-fiction/fantasy genre, he has done several fun and whimsical pieces that are sure to entertain our fans.

Todd and Ron will be doing a panel together on cartooning and caricature art. Todd will be showing his award winning fan flick "Trooper Clerks". They both will be at our Artist's Reception, and will show their artwork in our Art Show.