



MARSCON 2006

Things That Go Bump In the Night...



Dear Artist:

MarsCon 2006 would like to invite you to display your artwork in our art show. This year our annual hotel relocation has brought us back to the Holiday Inn Select in Bloomington, Minnesota, where we were in 2003. Display space is given on a first-come, first-served basis. We are very grateful this year to be located right next to the main stage!

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

- ❖ Art Show Programming
- ❖ Art Show Guidelines;
- ❖ Display Art & Print Shop Control Sheets (printed back to back)
- ❖ 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. We are again pleased to be holding an Artists' Reception, due to its successful introduction last year. 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
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Kristy Effinger
Art Show Co-Director
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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
	11:00A-7:00P	Walk-In Artist Check In
	9:00P-10:30P	Artists' Reception
Saturday	10:00A-5:00P	Open For Public Viewing
	10:00A-12:00P	Print Shop Open
	5:00P	Walk-In Artist Check In
	5:00P-6:00P	Space Permitting
	6:00P-8:00P	Bidding Closes
Sunday	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 MarsCon Artists' Reception

9:00 p.m. Friday, March 3

In an effort to bring more people into the Art Show, we are continuing our new tradition of an Artists' Reception, that is based on an elegant tradition in art galleries and other convention art shows around the country. We are inviting all artists and fans of the Art Show to 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, Beth Hansen, will also be attending this event. To accommodate Dean Haglund's Improv Show, which begins at 8:00, we are scheduling our Artists' Reception after that at 9:00.

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 2006 Artist Guest of Honor: Beth Hansen

Beth Hansen, painter of faery and myth, is emerging as one of today's premier visionary artists. Working out of her studio in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Beth's work is increasingly sought out by collectors of fantastic art from all over the world.

Born on June 17th 1966, Beth showed an early interest in art which was encouraged by her mother, who was an avid hobby painter, and at the age of seven she began painting in oils with her mother's guidance. This early education as an oil painter was interrupted due to the passing of her mother in 1975. Beth continued to draw and occasionally paint throughout her childhood and teen years, the ease and portability of graphite pencil and sketchbook making that her favorite media for many years. Subjects often included animals and portraits, but when she started reading fantasy literature, dragons and hobbits started appearing in her sketchbook.

Color called to her, though, and she began the long and arduous path of teaching herself oil painting. In the autumn of 2000 Beth studied Flemish/Dutch oil painting techniques in still life and portraiture in the studio of Jeff Hurinenko in St. Paul, Minnesota, which helped fine-tune her already award winning skills as a painter. Beth blends realism with romance in her oil paintings. Working in layers to achieve luminous skin tones and glowing light effects, she creates magical works inspired by faery lore and mythology. Beth's visionary work has been featured in Seventh House Publishing's "Season's of the Witch" calendars in 2003 and 2004, and she has done numerous illustrations for *Tales of the Unanticipated*, a speculative fiction small press publication.

ARTIST STATEMENT: "Nothing inspires me more than time spent in nature. Feeling the wind in my hair and listening to the leaves rustling in the trees makes me long for my walking stick, and off I go on another journey of wonder and delight. There, I commune with the spirits of nature, great and small. When I get back to my studio, the themes that present themselves in my work are those of transformation and ethereal boundaries. Otherworldly characters such as faeries, mermaids, fauns, gods, goddesses and dryads cross over into our world, opening up new possibilities of thought and influence. I find additional insights from my studies of mythology and faery lore, and they find their way into my paintings enriching each with story." We are very honored to to have this talented artist join us for MarsCon 2006!

