

GE NEWS

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WOMEN TALK SCI FI



DONNA'S DISOULSTION



REVIEWS, RETOURS
AND
RETHINKINGS...

CONVENTIONS



ARE US!



D C Fontana



THE 30 STAGES OF BEING ADDICTED TO A TV SHOW!





DONNA'S DISOULSTION

For any of us that have an interest in (particularly) science fiction movies and television, we

have most likely heard the term re-boot. I have just been to see the new Terminator Genisys movie and my good friend sitting next to me was howling about the incongruities. I told him it was a reboot. However, Terminator Genisys (the fifth instalment in the Terminator movies) is a retcon. So for those that haven't heard the term before (I hadn't) here is a definition:

retcon - (in a film, television series, or other fictional work) a piece of new information that imposes a different interpretation

on previously described events, typically used to facilitate a dramatic plot shift or account for an inconsistency.

I guess I may have used the term reimagining.

reimagine - reinterpret (an event, work of art, etc.) imaginatively.

And just to get our terminology right I found a definition for reboot too...

reboot - Restart or revive (a process or sequence, especially a series of films or television programmes); give fresh impetus to.

So I thought I would do a bit of digging around to give you an idea of which is what at the cinemas at the moment and coming up...

So, *Terminator Genisys* is a retcon. I enjoyed it, (not just for Jai Courtney). I thought it was clever (perhaps a little confusing), lots of action and a bit of humour. *Humour in a Terminator movie – how can that be?* If you consider that Arnold Schwarzenegger is still a Terminator in this movie (he's 67 now, he was 37 in 1984 when the original Terminator movie was released) I think you'll get it. Those Game of Thrones fans lured by Emilia Clarke as Sarah Connor I think

will appreciate her performance. Dr Who fans who have seen that Matt Smith has a small part, may be disappointed he didn't get much screen time but apparently he will have more in the next one! 'Die Hard' Terminator fans, I should think, will not like it. Without spoiling it, there is one very FUNDAMENTAL difference in this story, which will have those fans screaming. I know because the one seated next to me was. I was still happy that I got to see it on the big

GE News 8th year in publication

REBOOTS, RETCONS

AND

REIMAGININGS

The Fantastic Four (Fant4stic) (August 6th) is a reboot of the film franchise. The team must learn to harness abilities gained from an alternate universe to save Earth from a former friend turned enemy.

The films were originally based on the Marvel Comics *The Fantastic Four* and there have been 4 animated series and this will be the fourth movie.

Mission Impossible – Rogue Nation (August 6th) Is the fifth instalment in the movie series. Well I had to mention this one because: a) Simon Pegg, b) Jeremy Renner and c) gadgets and gizmos. The movies starring Tom Cruise began in 1996 and were inspired by the television series which aired on the CBS network from September 1966 to March 1973. The series was reprised in 1988 for two seasons.

Man from U.N.C.L.E (August 13th) is a movie based on *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* an American television series broadcast on NBC from September 22, 1964, to January 15, 1968. It follows secret agents, played by Robert Vaughn and David McCallum, who work for a secret international espionage and law-enforcement agency called U.N.C.L.E. The series also spawned a spin off series, movies based on the episodes and comic books, novels and TV annuals. If you like the new movie there is plenty of original stuff to go back to.

And just for the record...

Star Trek is a 2009 American science fiction action film directed by J. J. Abrams, written by Roberto Orci and Alex Kurtzman is the **eleventh** film of the *Star Trek* film franchise and is also a reboot that features the main characters of the original *Star Trek*

television series, portrayed by a new cast and the first in the reboot series. This was followed by the next in the series – or for the new fans – the sequel – *Star Trek Into Darkness*. If you are confused you aren't alone.

Star Wars is an American epic space opera franchise centred on a film series created by George Lucas. The first film in the series, *Star Wars*, was released on May 25, 1977 by 20th Century Fox, and became a worldwide pop culture phenomenon. It was followed by two sequels, released in 1980 and 1983. A prequel trilogy of films were later released between 1999 and 2005.

So there we go. Aren't science-fiction and fantasy (and perhaps even action) movies, wonderful, entertaining and confusing.

DONNA'S DISCUSSION



REBOOTS, RETURNS AND REIMAGININGS

D.C. Fontana, is best known for her involvement in writing episodes for the original series of Star Trek including: 'Tomorrow is Yesterday', 'Friday's Child', 'Journey to Babel', 'This Side of Paradise', and 'The Enterprise Incident'. Fontana, who never had any formal training, started writing at the age of eleven because she had stories to tell.

D C Fontana



As an inveterate reader from an early age, she knew she just wanted to write novels. After her high school graduation she worked in New York City, as a junior secretary at Screen Gems, the TV arm of Columbia Pictures reading television scripts. It was there that she decided to move to Los Angeles and try her hand at writing scripts.

She started work at Revue Studios (now Universal) as a production secretary leading eventually to write scripts for shows such as, "The Tall Man" and "Frontier Circus" under the name of Dorothy C. Fontana. When 1/2 hr shows gave way to 1 hr shows and Westerns starting to fade she found, as a woman it was hard to sell action adventure scripts.

Fontana started using "D.C. Fontana", now she could get a spec script read without a pre-judgment based on gender. She was, at that time, one of just a handful of female freelance television writers in a very much male-dominated industry. It was when she started as a production secretary for Gene Roddenberry that she entered the world of Science Fiction writing, and made important contributions to its development in particular her first episode "Charlie X" a powerful story about difference and integration .



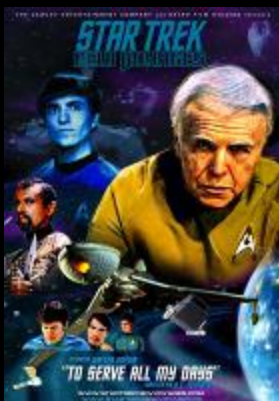
D.C. Fontana was one of the first women to break the glass ceiling and make the transition from "secretary" to "writer".

Star Trek: The Next Generation began production and Gene Roddenberry employed her as a story editor and consultant. She co-wrote the pilot, 'Encounter at Farpoint' with Roddenberry, earning a Hugo Award nomination, co-inventing the "LCARS" concept, and went on to write four other episodes of the season.



Fontana was also the first woman writer to work for any of "QM Productions" who produced shows such as The Fugitive and Barnaby Jones, and Quinn Martin (owner/producer) asked her to use her full name on the first of the Streets of San Francisco script she wrote. So, the script 'Badge of Honor', along with the first 6 scripts she wrote for Westerns are the only ones that say 'Written by Dorothy C. Fontana'.

Her other Science Fiction works include Buck Rogers in the 25th Century, Logan's Run (TV), Six Million Dollar Man, Babylon 5, Earth Final Conflict and the animated shows such as, He-Man and The Silver Surfer. There is a host of non-science fiction under her belt including Westerns, such as Bonanza and The High Chaparral, cop shows including The Streets of San Francisco, and dramas such as The Waltons and Dallas.



In 2006, Fontana wrote an episode for the internet-based fan-made Star Trek series Star Trek: New Voyages, called 'To Serve All My Days', which featured a guest appearance by Walter Koenig reprising his role as Pavel Chekov. She has also written many Star Trek gaming scripts including: Star Trek: Bridge Commander and Star Trek: Tactical Assault.

D.C. Fontana was a pioneer for women "dramatic" script writers in American television and has spent the last 50 years entertaining us in multiple genres.



THE 30 STAGES OF BEING ADDICTED TO A TV SHOW!

By Stacey
Part 1

1. Suddenly everyone is talking about how awesome a new show is.



2. You get strange looks from your friends when they realize you haven't seen it and they practically blackmail you to watch it.



3. It's on Netflix. So why not? What's the worst that will happen?



4. The first episode finishes and everything is good, it's not bad.



5. So you watch another.....



6. *And before you know it, five hours have gone by.*



GREAT SCOTT!!

7. *But you need to watch just one more before sleep.*



8. *Work and school drains your day. When all you want to do is watch the show. Why do I have responsibilities?*



9. *You start to anticipate what is going to come next, the anxiety eats at your soul.*



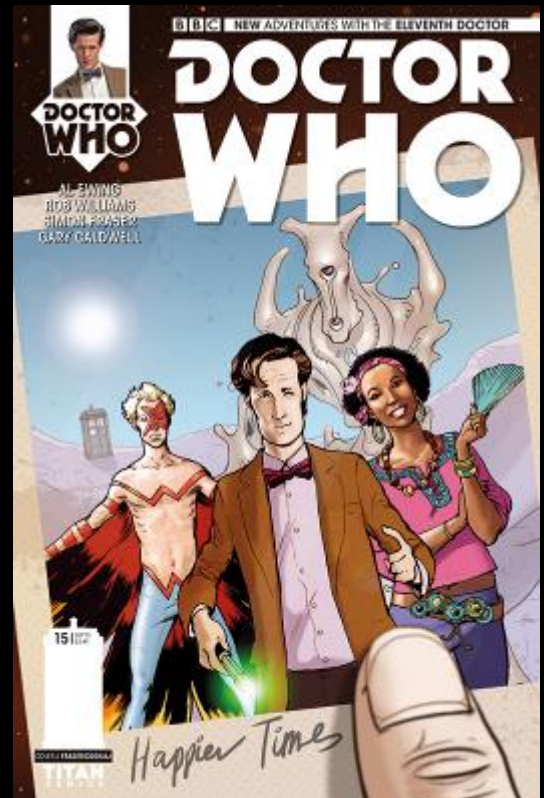
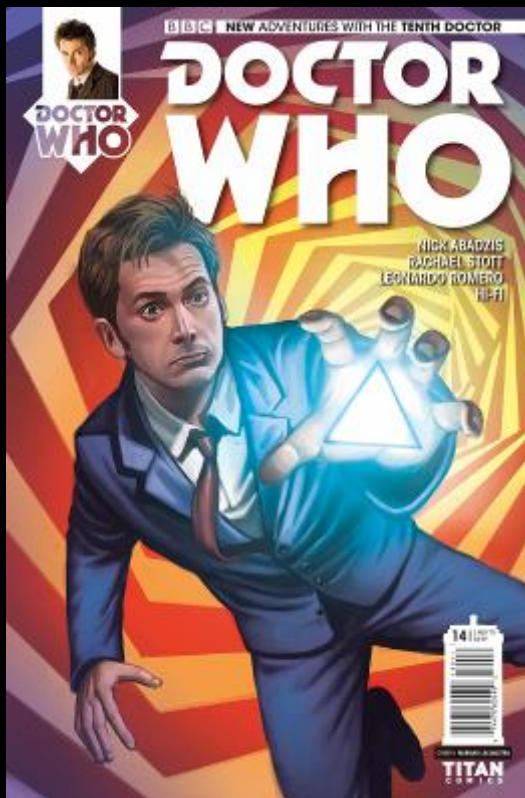
10. *You start to become emotionally attached to your favourite character.*



By Stacey
Part 1

**THE 30 STAGES OF BEING
ADDICTED TO A TV SHOW!**

NEW WHO FOR YOU





FIRST CONTACT CONVENTIONS

science fiction conventions

10th 2004 - 2014
Anniversary

First Contact Conventions www.firstcontactconventions.com.au brought Star Trek guests to our shores. Three guests in the flesh, but 14 characters from Star Trek! 'Oz Trek 11' guests included Nana Visitor (Kira Nerys) from DS9, Linda Park (Hoshi Sato) from Enterprise and Vaughn Armstrong who has played 12 different characters, and 8 different species in 4 of the Star Trek incarnations. His latest character being Star Trek Enterprise's a human Admiral Forrest.



The day, was filled with behind-the-scenes stories from all the guests. Linda and Nana telling stories of life on the set and attendees were then entertain with a musical interlude by Vaughn who in the past, decided one of the best ways to keep a crowd engaged was to play music. So, out came his ukulele and his songs about life in Star Trek. Vaughn is a member of the 'Enterprise Blues Band' made up of fellow Trek actors Richard Herd, Steve Rankin, and Casey Biggs.



CONVENTIONS ARE US!



There are always a lot of guests at Supanova www.supanova.com.au but Melbourne attendees were treated to a special trio, George Takei (Sulu), Nichelle Nichols (Uhura) and Walter Koenig (Chekov), from the 1966 Star Trek TV show and the 6 original series motion pictures. It is hard to believe that it is nearly 50 years since this iconic show appeared on our screens influencing scientific inventions and inspiring people around the world.

Other guests who were very popular with the crowds were Christopher Lloyd (Doc Brown – Back to the Future), James Marsters (Spike, Buffy the Vampire Slayer) and Dolph Lundgren (He-Man and Expendables). In fact it was very hard to see them swamped by fans lining up for their autographs.

One thing that was noticeable was the increase in Australian and British actors who in recent years have started to infiltrate the American film scene. Aussies guests included Georgina Haig (Elsa – Once Upon a Time), Bob Morley (Bellamy -The 100) and Aussie/ New Zealander Manu Bennett (Arrow). All of these actors have taken the plunge and ventured overseas but they still hold Australia dear and appreciate all that their fans do for them.





CONVENTIONS ARE US! OZ COMIC CON

There was something for everyone at Oz Comic Con www.ozcomiccon.com in Adelaide this year from 'silent discos', exhibitors and guests galore!

Billie Piper (Rose – Doctor Who) was a fan favourite and a good representation of Buffy: The Vampire Slayer with Emma Caulfield (Any), Amber Benson (Tara) and Sarah Hagan (Amanda) together for the first time in Adelaide.

Stargate and Star Trek fans didn't miss out with appearances by Marina Sirtis (Deanna Troi – Next Gen), Dominic Keating (Malcolm Reed – Enterprise) and Ben Browder (Colonel Mitchell – Stargate SG-1) and Michael Shanks (Daniel Jackson – Stargate SG-1).

The Walking Dead's Sonequa Martin-Green and Chad Coleman who played sister and brother characters Sasha and Tyreese Williams also attended giving attendees something from old, new and current genre shows.



For the first time a 'new' incarnation of the Doctor appeared in Adelaide. The Hub Productions www.thehubproductions.com brought the 11th Doctor, Matt Smith along with companion, Amy Pond (Karen Gillan) and wife, River Song (Alex Kingston).

The backdrop of the Pipe Organ in the Adelaide Town Hall was an impressive set for the actors as they answered questions about their time on Doctor Who, with all three still involved in the world of Sci Fi. Matt Smith was recently in the movie Terminator Genisys, playing an unexpected role. Karen of course is Nebula in the Guardians of the Galaxy and Alex plays Dinah Lance, mother of both the Black Canaries from Arrow.

No Doctor Who show would be complete without a few daleks and cybermen invading and we weren't disappointed. The Australian Dalek Builders Union www.facebook.com/groups/ausdalek entertained with the sounds of 'Exterminate' and 'Delete, Delete' throughout the day.

An added bonus was the appearance of Lily James (presently going out with Matt Smith) at the autograph session signing Cinderella and Downton Abbey photos.

Supernatural is a huge phenomenon and judging by the amount of people at The Hub Productions

www.thehubproductions.com event, the fans are not letting it die. This show running for 10 years doesn't seem to be running out of steam.

Whilst disappointing Jared Padalecki was unable to travel to Australia, it did not take away from the entertainment all the guests gave during their Q&As.

First on stage were Osric Chau (Kevin Tran) and Timothy Omundson (Cain). Timothy a natural comic, as you can see in Psych and Galavant, and Osric started out as a stuntman and we were treated to him showing off his backflipping!!

Matt Cohen (Young John Winchester) only appeared in two episodes, but you can tell that he loved working on the show and his repartee with Robert Speight Jr (The Trickster) was hilarious.



**CONVENTIONS
ARE
US!**

The two of them ran up and down the stairs giving an 'up close and personal' experience.

Mark Sheppard (Crowley) is the guest you 'love to hate'. Quick with a smart response and walking up and down the stairs so that those sitting at the back got a chance to have an up close experience.

Finally, it was Jensen, a lot of the fans excited they finally had a chance to see one of their favourite actors in person. A highlight was the explanation behind the 'Eye of the Tiger' shoot that they did and how it went longer than it was supposed to. Click here to view the entertaining clip. <http://tinyurl.com/njrjbg> If you're a Supernatural fan purchase the DVD of panels from this con. You will not be disappointed.





Each year the area for Sydney Supanova www.supanova.com.au just grows and grows. This year you certainly got your 10,000 steps walking from the exhibitors, to the signing area and the panels.

Fan favourite Nathan Fillion was popular and continues to show that 'Firefly' is something still very much relevant to its fandom and with his panel, it was standing room only, with him showing us his ability to tell a good story.

And who said that "The Brady Bunch" was way too far in the past for anyone to remember who they are? Not when Peter, Bobby and Cindy turn out for fans, 46 years from their debut Peter Christopher Knight (Peter), Mike Lookinland (Bobby), Susan Olsen (Cindy) came to share some of the stories from that legendary show!

So, from the "long time ago..." in terms of TV shows to the "what's on TV tonight", it was Elizabeth Henstridge (Jemma Simmons – Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D), Danielle Panabaker (Caitlin Snow, The Flash), and Kristin Bauer (Maleficent, Once Upon a Time and Pam, True Blood), Dean Haglund, (both old and new The X-files (as one of The Lone Gunmen)). Cast of the new Aussie Sci Fi movie, Red Billabong, and definitely not the last but the original Red and Black, Power Rangers Austin St John and Walter Jones respectively!



**CONVENTIONS
ARE
US!**





Podcast 104

A Hat Full of Fantasy - Terry Pratchett - A Tribute



Podcast 105

Once More With Feeling - Amber Benson



Podcast 106

Resistance is Futile - Manu Intiraymi



Podcast 107

New Ways for Old Who - Dan Hall - Austen Atkinson



Sci Fi Hearsay

*Rumour, Gossip, Tittle-Tattle, Scuttlebutt, Idle Talk,
Unfounded, Unconfirmed, Word of Mouth and more!!*

Could be a good year???? Check out the **NET** for new and cancelled shows!

Cancelled/ Ending

Babylon
Constantine
Forever
Resurrection
Ascension
Falling Skies
Perception
Lost Girl
Hemlock Grove
In the Flesh
Wayward Pines
The Returned
Haven
Continuum
Helix
Lost Girl
Hemlock Grove

Returning Genre Shows

12 Monkeys
American Horror
Story
Arrow
Bates Motel
Beauty and the
Beast
Bitten
Bones
Da Vinci's Demons
Daredevil
Defiance
Doctor Who
Dominion

Galavant
Game of Thrones
Gotham
Grimm
IZombie
Last Man on Earth
Agents of SHIELD
Marvel's Agent
Carter
Once Upon a Time
Orphan Black
Outlander

Penny Dreadful
Salem
Sleepy Hollow
Supernatural
Teen Wolf
The 100
The Flash
The Librarians
The Originals
The Vampire Diaries
The Walking Dead
Under the Dome
Z Nation

New Genre Shows 2015!

Beyond
Colony
Empire of the Dead
Falling Water
Fear The Walking Dead
Heroes Reborn
Hunters
Jessica Jones
Jonathon Strange & Mr
Norrell
Krypton
Legends of Tomorrow
Lucifer
Luke Cage
Lumen

Possibly, maybe, could be for 2015?

Montauk
Outcast
Preacher
Sense8
Shadow Hunters
South of Hell
Supergirl
The Containment
The Frankenstein Code
The Magicians
The Shannara Chronicles
The X-files
Town of the Living Dead

Geek Girl Problem

#9

When someone asks about a subject you love and you dive into a lengthy explanation!



MAD ZOMBIE
COLLECTABLES
Take 'em to the Grave

Women Talk Sci Fi Podcasts

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Interviews with actors from Star Trek, Eureka, I Dream of Jeannie, Stargate SG1 and Goofy and many more Click on the link above.

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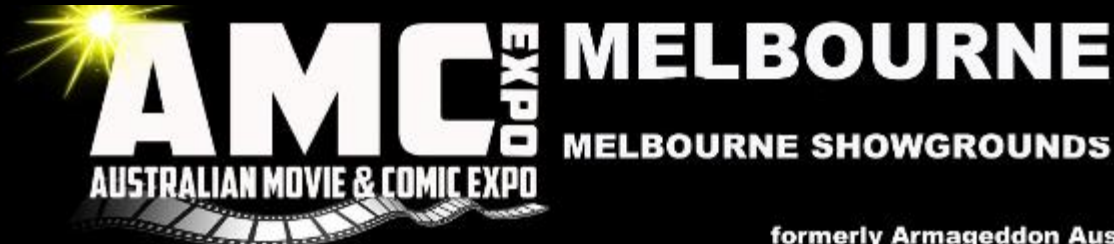
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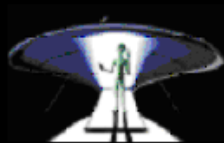


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GIFTS FOR THE GEEK

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