

BSFA AWARDS

Wittily compered by Ian Watson & Donna Scott, joking about other organizations using the initials BSFA, but getting back to business, here are the results:-

Best non-fiction presented by Mike Carey, won by Nick Lowe for the 'Mutant Popcorn' film review column in *Interzone*.

Best artwork presented by Liz Williams, won by Stephan Martinière for the cover of *Desolation Road* – accepted by Jim Burns on his behalf.

Best short fiction presented by Alastair Reynolds, won by Ian Watson & Roberto Quaglia for 'The Beloved Time of Their Lives'. (photo right)

Best novel presented by Iain M. Banks, won by China Miéville for *The City & The City* – accepted by Julie Crisp on his behalf – China had prepared an acceptance speech in advance, mentioning being “stuck in a time paradox, feeling grateful and honoured.”

UNTRANSLATED EUROPEAN SF

There will be an on-line adjunct to the *Untranslated European SF novels* panel, with suggestions of SF classics from a dozen European fans and writers from half a dozen European countries that as yet have not been translated into English. See www.concatenation.org towards the end of April.

TO ACT OR NOT TO ACT

The acting workshop for non-actors was fantastic, attended by a small amount of people, but right for the room it was in (41). Ruby, the acting tutor, rocked! Alex, a happy participant commented upon leaving: “This was the best thing I did all weekend!”

MY ONLY COAT

Missing: Long black hooded microfiber raincoat, left in the Radisson (Ladies, Main Programming, Newbury, Internet room?) Friday night. The hood & cuffs are lined in beige, long beige knit gloves & house keys in right pocket, metal kazoo, mini-chocolate Easter Eggs also in a pocket. This is the only coat I brought on this trip & needed. Please return to Ops, or the filk tables in the right rear of the Dealers' Room, Radisson Concierge or room 529 next door at the Marriott. *Kathy Sands*



Photo: Bo Hansen

FUSION FASHION

Fusion Power and the Joint European Torus, a seminar on where the development of Fusion Power currently stands, half-filled Commonwealth with fusion enthusiasts. Anthony Webster talked about the new bigger, badder, faster, hotter, colder ITER reactor that is under construction at the moment, with an estimated startup of 2018. ITER is an almost full-sized development reactor, which will allow development of the materials and experience necessary for commercial applications of power generation. Anthony waxed lyrical about lots of cool facts like using the Lithium metal inside the reactor to generate the Tritium needed for the reaction with Deuterium, using the neutron emitted from the formation of Helium. For those not in the know: Helium is the end product of the fusion reaction, so that's pretty much what we were wanting from the ITER; oh, and lots of heat, which gets turned into lots of power. Yay, ITER!

Ilana

BOOK SWAP

If anyone received a copy of *Temeraire* by Naomi Novik in their goodie bag and would be willing to exchange it for a copy of either *Tau Zero* by Poul Anderson or *Ringworld* by Larry Niven, please come to Ops. *Thanks, Kat*

COME AND SEE

Brian Ameringen of Porcupine Books is pleased to announce that he has (finally) put all the books he brought to the Convention on display in the Dealers' Room...

WORLD HORROR CON - BRIGHTON

The choice of a Victorian hotel was inspired and really gave an atmosphere to the event. There was a clear focus on literary horror and the twin-track programme was well attended.

Neil Gaiman made a surprise visit, and did a Q&A session as well a signing session, but there was ample time and opportunity to chat with him and the dozens of other authors, who were all very pleasant and approachable. The event attracts a heavy professional element and there was a pitching session on the Thursday, which seemed very popular. The signing session allowed many people to interact with authors, and James Herbert proved hugely popular, although Maura McHugh's *Women in Horror* panel was crammed, and there were more women in attendance than men.

Overall, there were many new fans, aspiring writers and professionals who, with the various parties, launches and free bars, contributed to making a really fun and exciting weekend.



MYSTERIOUS OBJECT WITH SHIFTING DIMENSIONS IDENTIFIED

The strange rectangular object sighted in the rear entrance lobby has been identified as 'The dimensional parameters' for the *Beyond Cyberdrome 3D* event (3pm Monday). We think they mean 'The pitch'.

Robots capable of negotiating all 3 dimensions welcome.

ITEMS FOUND

If any of the following items belong to you, please go to Ops to reclaim them (possibly demonstrating ownership through the medium of interpretive dance).

- Coat with **return train ticket to Wolverhampton** in pocket.
- Oyster card from West Norwood.
- Blue dinosaur.
- Dolphin.
- Camera containing photos of car park (!?)

IN A GRAND FENWICKY WAY

Rumour around the convention is that a group of fans from The Hague, the Netherlands, have taken up the gauntlet that London 2014 has thrown down this weekend, when they announced they were as yet unopposed. This group has been rumoured to have stated that the city of Madurodam will be running against them for a Worldcon bid for 2014. Madurodam is known to be a rather small but compact place, which packs an awful lot of Dutch national cultural sites (including the Queen's palace and the Parliament building) as well as excellent transportation and hotel accommodation. In fact, this reporter was told it also sports a real live airport on site, which has the only Concorde still in service in the world.

The odd thing is that the whole site is at 1/25th scale, but the organisers (relatively small people themselves, we have heard) have a marvellous solution to this problem. They will shrink each member of the convention to 1/25th of normal size, using their patent pending Shrink-O-matic ray. We are assured they will have the patent pending Expand-O-matic in-service by the start of the convention. Reportedly, for an extra fee (all donations to WSFS) they are willing to selectively overcompensate certain features upon request of the convention member, upon resizing before leaving the convention. This sounds almost too good to be true! Where can I sign up?