



Kelly Freas' futuristic engraving of an electronic spy butterfly peering into a dungeon is one of the many science fiction and fantasy illustrations currently being ex-

hibited in the MSC art gallery. The Freas' engraving originally appeared on the cover of Analog magazine.

Photo by Tim Sager

Cepheids exhibit illustrations

Illustrations that have appeared in Playboy, The National Lampoon and Analog magazines highlight a two-week exhibit of science fiction art in the MSC's gallery.

The exhibit, assembled by Cepheid Variable, is being shown in conjunction with AggieCon, Cepheid's annual science fiction convention. Most of the exhibit's major contributing artists will be guests at the convention and will judge the convention's amateur art contest this Saturday.

Many of the illustrations come from the Sketch Pad, a professional

graphics and design business in Arlington, Tex. Sketch Pad works have appeared in Playboy, True, Esquire, Time, Look, Redbook and many other publications.

Don Ivan Punchatz, owner of the Sketch Pad, is also the creator of "Light at the End of the Universe," a painting in which an American astronaut confronts a frozen Tyrannosaurus rex orbiting the earth. The painting is a cover illustration for a science fiction paperback.

Mike Presley, another Sketch Pad artist, is represented by "You've Got to Believe Me," a National Lampoon

painting featuring a smiling American mom holding an apple pie while standing in a typical American living room on her green crab-like legs.

Doug Potter, a well-known illustrator of science fiction magazines, also contributed several works to the exhibit, including pieces by Kelly Freas, George Metzger and David

Elliott. Potter is the art director of a screen printing plant which produces designs on t-shirts.

The exhibit will be open to the public from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. daily through April 2. AggieCon's amateur art contest will be displayed this weekend at AggieCon on the 3rd floor of the Rudder Tower.



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Sci-fi festival to begin

AggieCon, Cepheid Variable's annual science fiction convention, gets underway at 2 p.m. Friday in the MSC's Rudder Theater and Convention Center.

This year's convention—AggieCon VII—will feature eight full-length science fiction films, a dealer's room where books, comics, posters, paintings, photographs and other science fiction artifacts will be sold and a model display and slide show. Panel discussions will be held on science fiction fan magazine production and mythological creatures in science fiction. "Star Trek" episodes and bloopers and NASA and CBS documentary films will be shown.

An authors' reception and autograph party will be held Friday night in honor of the convention's chief guest, Anne McCaffrey, an expatriate American writer who lives in Ireland.

McCaffrey has won both the Hugo and Nebula awards, science fiction's equivalents of the Oscar and the Emmy, and is the author of the "Dragonriders of Pern" series, "The Ship who Sang," "To Ride Pegasus," and "Decision at Doona."

McCaffrey will speak at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Rudder Theater on "The Whys and Wherefores of the Dragon Series." Friday night "Fantastic Planet," "The Mephisto Waltz," "The Day the Earth Stood Still" and "The Wizard of Oz" will be shown.

"Rollerball," "ZPG," "THX 1138" and "The Seven Faces of Dr. Lao" will be shown Saturday night. All movies will be in the Rudder Auditorium.

Several "Star Trek" episodes will be shown in the MSC ballroom before the movies. "Star Trek" bloopers, a collection of scenes in which actors or props did not perform according to plan, will be shown.

An amateur art contest will be displayed on the 3rd floor of the Rudder Tower. Judging will be Saturday and cash prizes will be awarded Saturday before the movies begin.

Several Texas neopros, authors who have sold only a few minor works, will also be guests of the convention. Lisa Tuttle, Howard Waldrop, Joe Pumilia, Bruce Sterling and Steve Utley will give readings of their works Saturday in the Rudder Theater.

Advance tickets for the convention will be on sale Wednesday and Thursday in the MSC box office at \$1 per day or \$2 for the entire convention. Tickets at the door will cost \$1.50 per day or \$3 for the entire convention. Registration begins at noon Friday.

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