

GE NEWS

WOMEN TALK SCI FI



INSIDE THIS ISSUE



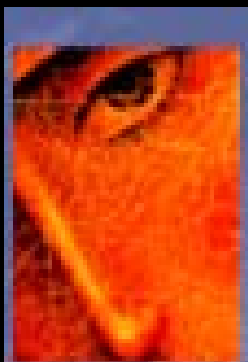
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Karl Urban - A Trekkie's Trekkie Interview



GE News: Did you seek out the part?

Karl Urban: Yeah well I met JJ and was happy to just be a part of it and it was based on that meeting that he decided they would like to see me for the character of McCoy that I was thrilled about and even more thrilled when I landed the job.

GE News: Star Trek is such an iconic show, were you scared about being part of such an American Pop icon?

Karl Urban: No, I wasn't scared at all, I actually felt in some ways relieved because being a fan of it there were certain things I wanted to see in the movie and if I was going to the movie I'd want to see some semblance of continuity between the character and characters that I knew and loved. So it was great to bare that responsibility and try and invigorate and bring something fresh and new to it.

GE News: How was the Sydney Premiere of Star Trek for you?

Karl Urban: That was a fantastic night, really special and wonderful to watch the film for the first time at that venue with such a great crowd. It was very special.

GE News: What sort of research did you do to play the character of Bones?

Karl Urban: I have to admit for me I have been a long time fan. I watched the show as a boy I didn't necessarily have to go back and watch every single episode. I just drew the character from my indelible impression of what Bones was so wonderfully portrayed by DeForrest Kelly. And I had seen a few episodes as my son is in to the original series and I bought him the DVD Box set and that was before I found out they were making a new series so it was just a case of embracing the wonderful writing by Robert and Alex and following JJ's lead and follow the rest of the cast.



GE News: What has been the fans reaction around the world about your portrayal of Bones?

Karl Urban: A wonderful relief I feel very grateful a) for making it the success it has become and now we are in a position to enjoy these characters and explore this universe and I am very very grateful and I am really looking forward to the journey ahead.

GE News: Any hints on what the next storyline will be?

Karl Urban: I really don't know anything, I could speculate and guess, the thing is we have 40 years of Star Trek canon to cherry pick from and how cool would it be to see the original Khan story, how they met or any number of successful and popular episodes. It's in capable hands of JJ, Rick and I am really excited to see what they come up with.

GE News: So what is your favourite episode of the original series?

Karl Urban: The Tholian Web, I like that and Amok Time, they would be my favourite two.

GE News: There is a rumour that you were approached to take on the role of 007, is that true?

Karl Urban: Before they cast Daniel Craig I did take a couple of meetings on that but unfortunately I was unable to go to the final screen test as I was working on a film at the time but I think Daniel Craig does a phenomenal job, they have done an excellent, excellent job of rebooting that franchise and I am really looking forward to seeing the next one.

GE News: How does it feel to be part of so many major blockbusters like Lord of the Rings, Bourne Supremacy and now Star Trek?

Karl Urban: Surreal. When you stack them up like that it's like wow. I feel very blessed to have been in some really great films and on a personal level to have worked with some phenomenally talented people, they elevate my game and that is my dream and desire is to continue to work with people like that.

Check out our podcast interview with Karl at www.womentalkscifi.com

[Website www.genews-ezine.com](http://www.genews-ezine.com)



Karl Urban as Dr Leonard "Bones" McCoy



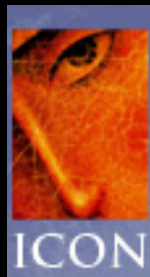
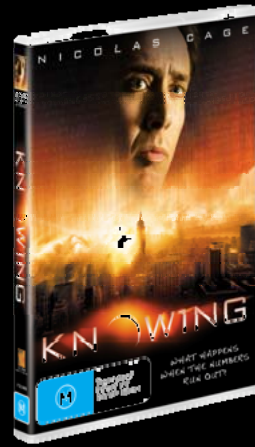
Karl Urban at Supanova Sydney!

If you missed him that last time he was in Australia you can catch him at Supanova Melbourne & Brisbane April 2010

www.supanova.com.au



GE News 3rd year in publication



Push

Knowing

Push & Knowing available NOW on DVD

The action packed sci-fi thriller involves a group of young American ex-pats with telekinetic and clairvoyant abilities, hiding from a clandestine U.S. government agency. They must utilize their different talents and band together for a final job enabling them to escape the agency forever.

Are there people with these gifts?

Check out the Doco on the DVD!

Professor John Koestler (Nicolas Cage) discovers that the time capsule his son's class uncovers contains a coded message that has predicted with pinpoint accuracy the dates, death toll and co-ordinates of every major disaster for the past 50 years. His increasingly desperate quest involves the reluctant help of Diana Wayland (Rose Byrne) as they embark on a heart-pounding race against time to work out what happens when the numbers run out...

Hint check out IMDB

Website www.genews-ezine.com

GE News 3rd year in publication

Push & Knowing Competition

As this is such a wonderful prize we decided to make the competition really hard NOT!

Send an e-mail to competition@genews-ezine.com and tell us who are the male and female leads of both movies.

5 Double Prize Packs to be won!
First 5 correct answers will win the prize!

NB These are Region 4 DVDs and you will require a multi-region DVD player to play the DVDs.
We will send to any location.

[Thanks to Icon Film Distribution Australia](#)

The Hub Productions presents...



Saturday the 6th March in Sydney & Sunday the 7th March in Melbourne



Sunday the 11th April in Adelaide



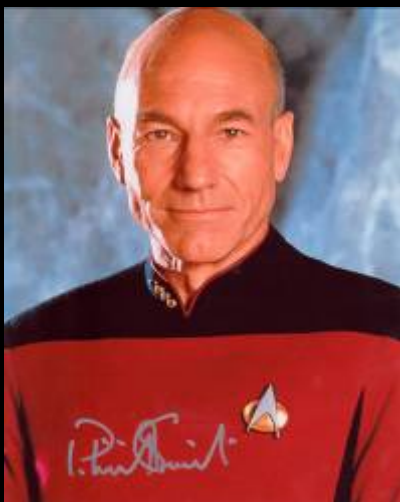
Brisbane April 9-11 & Melbourne 16-18 2010

He said "Make it so!" And We did!

The year 2010 is an amazing year for convention attendees and if you check out page 10 you will see why. But, the first con for the year was one for the Trekkie in us all! First Contact Conventions brought the venerable, Sir Patrick Stewart to Australia. Of course we just had to be there!

So off we went to Melbourne, thank goodness for early morning and late night flights. Sharing a taxi bus with our friends from the UFP Fan Club, Adelaide. Arriving at the convention we registered and quickly sat down for the official welcome and he walked on stage! Captain Jean-Luc Picard, the Captain with the beautiful voice. Every word spoken in that articulate and mesmerising accent. It was a welcome back to Australia for Sir Patrick who spent some time in his youth in Melbourne working in theatre.

He was here starring in 3 productions with Vivien Leigh (Scarlet O'Hara) as part of a world tour in 1961 appearing at Her Majesty's Theatre. He had a wonderful time with no responsibilities, earning (at the time) an amazing £28 per week!



The first thing that we got to do that day was to have our photo taken with Patrick, so the start of the day was with and up close and personal experience with Captain Picard himself.

With a little time between this and his talk and signing session in the afternoon, we set off for an early lunch at what is quickly becoming a regular haunt at the café at the State Library of Melbourne, One day we will get to see the books, even ones not in the Sci Fi section LOL!

With a hearty meal we talked to some of the dealers there, Jason and Darren our friends from Gifts for the Geek and Andrew Nathan from Flaming Star Collectibles, who has rare autographs from many classic Sci Fi shows. (look out for a future article about his fantastic collection.)

It was time for us to sit down and enjoy Patrick on stage. He talked about his recent decision to go back to the stage, one of his latest productions was with another Sci Fi genre star, David Tennant in a modern version of Hamlet.

Patrick had us totally enthralled for over an hour telling us stories from his youth, time with Star Trek and what he is doing now and more funny anecdotes from his time in Australia. We then had to line up and get our autographs, with a little time to have a chat with him before the end of the day.

In all a fantastic time and we must thank convention organiser Scott Liston from First Contact Conventions for the opportunity to meet a Star Trek icon. What a great start to what will be a wonderful year for Sci Fi conventions in Australia.

Scott will be bringing out guests from Dr Who, Star Trek: Enterprise and The Next Generation. So check out page 10 and hit the link to his website for more information.



Our friend Darren from Gifts for the Geek and yes he is a Fanboy!



Sir Patrick telling us tales!

Eugenia and the Captain that started it all!

There is something special when you meet the Captain of one of Starfleet's ships, and I didn't realise until Patrick Stewart walked on stage just how much it touched me to finally meet the Captain of the Enterprise D and E.

Just as a certain actor becomes 'your' Doctor Who depending on when you start to watch and understand what is going on so is it with Starship Captains. Now friends of mine will know that out of all the Captains Janeway is my favourite but Picard was my first, and it was at this Con that I realised just how wonderful it was to finally meet the actor who introduced me to life on the Enterprise in the Star Trek universe.

I missed out on seeing the original series of Star Trek when it was on TV. There was no such thing as DVD or VHS episodes out in the 80s of the Original series. I had read about Kirk, Spock and McCoy but it was Jean Luc Picard, Riker and the Next Gen crew that introduced me to the world of Gene Roddenberry.

So was I disappointed that the man did not live up to the icon? No! He greeted us with warmth and laughter. I could have sat and listened to him for longer than the hour he was on stage. Patrick Stewart has had such an interesting range of experiences and roles on TV and movies that there just wasn't enough time to talk about everything.

Eugenia Stopyra

JAMES CAMERON'S AVATAR

Eugenia Stopyra

Hats off to James Cameron he has done it again. In the 80s it was Aliens, in the 90s Terminator and Titanic and in the naughties it's Avatar. The blue aliens of Pandora have introduced to movie goers 3D technology that has changed the way we will be viewing movies in the not so distant future.

I loved it. I loved it so much I saw it twice, and so far I haven't met anyone that hasn't enjoyed this movie. The story is simple, an Indigenous culture that are intrinsically attached to the land have their planet destroyed by a multi-national company mining for minerals and profit. However, it is not the story that is important to this movie, it is the visual beauty of this film that makes you want to go again. I felt as if I was walking around in someone's imagination and it was fantastic.

Gold star to Aussie Sam Worthington for a fine performance, I am looking forward to seeing him in Clash of the Titans. Triple gold star to James Cameron for not letting go of his dream and having the patience to wait until the technology was available so people could see it the way he wanted it viewed. If you haven't seen this movie then do yourself a favour and go and see what all the hype is about. It's worth the price of admission even if you feel that you need to spend it twice!



Gerri Donaldson

I don't go to the cinema that often, generally waiting to see the movie on DVD as I collect them anyway! In saying that I do go to the big Blockbusters such as Star Trek etc.

But I had to see Avatar, just to see the new technology as I heard that the story was just OK. So I dragged my husband Jim along (who is into sports and not sci fi, boo hoo!) to see what it was all about. Anyway it had Sigourney Weaver in it and she is always good value! Yes the story was OK, like lots of other "Bad Company v Good Natives" kind of plot. But it was amazing to watch and so much so that I wanted to see it again! Even Jim did too! I have never been to a movie twice in just over a week before, but I had to see it again.

The spectacular was fantastic, the colours amazing and you felt like you were there not just watching it on the screen. This is not your "hit you in the face" 3D movie but you see it like you would as if you were in the room! I feel, I believe like those cinema goers who saw the first colour movie all those years ago. I would like to see this movie "in the round" type cinema. I have heard that release dates are now being put back to be transformed into 3D from this new technology. So catch it now if you can it really is worth the extra price of the ticket!



**Check out our Women Talk Sci Fi Podcast on Avatar
and hear when we thought!**

www.womentalkscifi.com





The Shuttle has Landed or has it?

The machines in NASA's shuttle program are about 30 years old now and soon will be retired. So if they go what will replace them and will we be any closer in going out to space? The following are some of the machines that may take the place of these wonderful machines.

Cygnus

Who's Building It: Orbital Sciences Corporation
 Key Features: Commercial cargo vehicle, developed by successful space contractor company
 Powerplant: Hydrazine thrusters, launched aboard Taurus II rocket
 Capability: Low Earth orbit for Space Station resupply
 Payload to Orbit: Payload mass of 2,000kg in 18 cubic meters of space
 System It Replaces: Space shuttle cargo transfer to ISS
 Due Date: Demonstration flight 2010, in service until 2016

Cygnus is even less glamorous than SpaceX's Dragon, since it's essentially an uncrewed rocket-truck. It's designed to haul cargo up to the ISS--it's a simple "space tug". It's part of the same NASA contract as the Dragon, and will be built as a commercial vehicle.



Orion

Orion's much less "glamorous" than the amazing X33, which was originally slated to fill the same duties. But it develops on key ideas from the Apollo era, and so it should be a relatively simple and reliable vehicle. Mated to different rocket-powered Service Modules, Orion will go to the ISS, or the Moon and perhaps even Mars.

Prospective Piloted transport system
 Who's Building It: Russian Space Agency
 Key Features: Replacement for Soyuz transport, which is now over 50 years old.
 Powerplant: Second stage, two RD-0124 engines, currently used by Soyuz 2. Launch rocket is still undecided
 Capability: Low Earth orbit for ISS re-crewing, resupply Later--Lunar missions, possibly Mars
 Payload to Orbit: Six crew plus 500kg of payload to ISS
 Uncrewed--2000kg to orbit, 500kg back to Earth
 System It Replaces: Soyuz
 Due Date: Not determined. Preliminary development scheduled to end



Kliper

This little space plane was at one stage going to be the PPTS, and there was going to be significant European technical input, to rival to the Orion program--which is a US-only project. Kliper's design and mission evolved, the EU dropped out, and the project's central funding was cancelled. But depending on where you look, there are hints that Energia may be developing on key concepts from the Kliper program, and it may yet evolve into a future privately-developed space plane.

Who's Building It: Lockheed Martin, makers of the SR-71 Blackbird
 Key Features: All-glass cockpit derived from Boeing 787, auto-docking, advanced computers
 Powerplant: Service Module--Aerojet AJ10 based on Delta 2 Rocket
 Capability: Initially--Low Earth Orbit for Space Station rendezvous. Later--Moon, Near Earth Objects, Mars
 Capacity: Four or Six astronauts, plus cargo
 System It Replaces: Space Shuttle to ISS, Apollo Command Module for Lunar missions
 Due Date: 2012 unmanned to Earth Orbit, 2014 manned, 2019 Moon mission.



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GIFTS FOR THE GEEK

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