

ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Web Surfin' Sites to check out :

- <http://www.fantascienza.net/users/femino/SPACEART/ARTISTS1.html>
- <http://www.badastronomy.com/bad/tv/foxapollo.html>
- http://www.sover.net/~geoffk/eder_transport_list.txt
- <http://www.jplnet.com/indexe.html>
- <http://somethingawful.com/nointelligence/>
- <http://www.contour2002.org/>
- <http://www.al.com/news/huntsville/?Jun2001/4-e29026.html>
- <http://www.imaging-resource.com/IMCOMP/COMPS01.HTM>
- <http://www.howstuffworks.com/alien-physiology.htm>
- <http://www.howstuffworks.com/category.htm?cat=Space>
- <http://www.howstuffworks.com/space-tourism.htm>
- <http://www.howstuffworks.com/>
- <http://www.goma.demon.co.uk/moon/eyesight.html>
- <http://space.jpl.nasa.gov>

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Book of the Month:


"The Dream of Spaceflight: Essays on the Near Edge of Infinity" by Wyn Wachhorst and Buzz Aldrin (foreword), Basic Books, ISBN 0465090575

The Board is pleased to announce that the IAAA web page has been significantly reworked and now includes an art gallery and pages for the IAAA Traveling World Show. Check it out at "www.iaaa.org"

For those IAAA members that attend conventions, the Board is putting the final touches on free flyers to hand out to interested people, with a brief history of the IAAA, what we stand for, and how to join. Contact Gary Harwood to obtain some for the convention you attend.



Jun / Jul 01

The Official Newsletter of the

International Association of
Astronomical Artists

Northward - HOOOOO!



Across the Martian Pole By David A. Hardy, FIAA
Dave actually *Painted* this acrylic image for the Mars 2111 Society, depicting an exploration party setting out on a snowmobile trip across the Martian polar region in the year 2111.

Editor: Jon Ramer

IAAA Website: <http://www.iaaa.org>

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From the Editor-

Hi Gang! What's that bright red light in the sky? Why – it's MARS of course! And just to prove it, check out the art and "special something" in this issue. In case you're thinking your Pulsar is a bit "short," you're not missing a page – the "special something" added too much weight and put the mailing over an ounce. Cutting a page saved us \$40 in postage.... If you're thinking about participating in an art show or two, then this is your issue! 'Till next time...

Jon!

Is There Life on Mars?

**By Robin
Hart**

Robin digitally depicts a friendly meeting between a human astronaut and a native Martian.



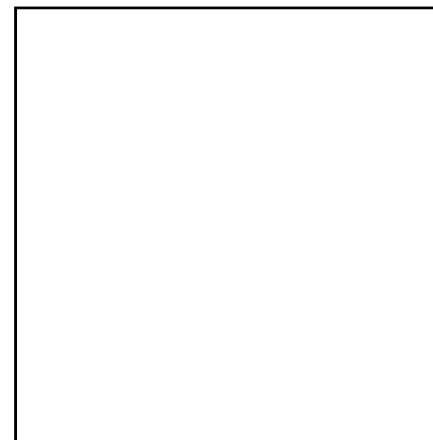
Astronomical Feature of the Month :

-- MARTIAN --
-- SOIL --

From Joel Hagen

The combination of science and imagination can yield amazing results. A perfect example is the special treat in this month's issue of the Pulsar. Pasted below is a sample of soil that simulates Martian soil very closely. Called "JSC Mars-1", the simulant is a natural material made from volcanic ash. It approximates the reflectance spectrum, mineralogy, chemical composition, grain size, density, porosity, and magnetic properties of the oxidized soils of Mars. For now, JSC Mars-1 offers people an opportunity to physically "get in touch" with the exploration of Mars. And it feels really interesting too!

Weathering of glassy volcanic ash and cinder cones on Mauna Kea volcano, Hawaii, has produced material that simulates Martian soil quite closely. JSC Mars-1 was obtained from the ash of Pu'u Nene, a volcanic cone some 6000 feet up on Mauna Kea's south flank. Overlying soil was first removed then the altered ash was hand-collected to prevent contamination. The excavated ash was then partially dried on site and passed through <1mm stainless-steel sieves. After moving to a warehouse, it was further dried with solar and propane heaters and again passed through 1mm sieves. Finally, it was packaged in contamination-proof buckets for storage and shipment. The main difference between JCS Mars-1 and



A sample of "Martian" soil...

true Martian soil is the abundance of water in JSC Mars-1. Spectral analysis of Martian soil shows it is extremely dry. The graph to the left shows the spectrographic comparison between LSC Mars-1 and Martian soil. For you mineralogists out there, JCS Mars-1 is a mix of volcanic ash particles with alteration rinds of various thicknesses and particles consisting entirely of altered ash. The ash is composed of finely crystallized and glassy particles of a volcanic rock known as "hawaiite."

The sample on this page was obtained by Joel Hagen, fixed to posterboard, then trimmed and glued in place. Samples are available free (except for postage) in limited quantities for investigators and educators from "Officer of the Curator, NASA, Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX, 77058, USA."

ART TIPS

Here's a tip about rolling paints from Lynn Perkins.

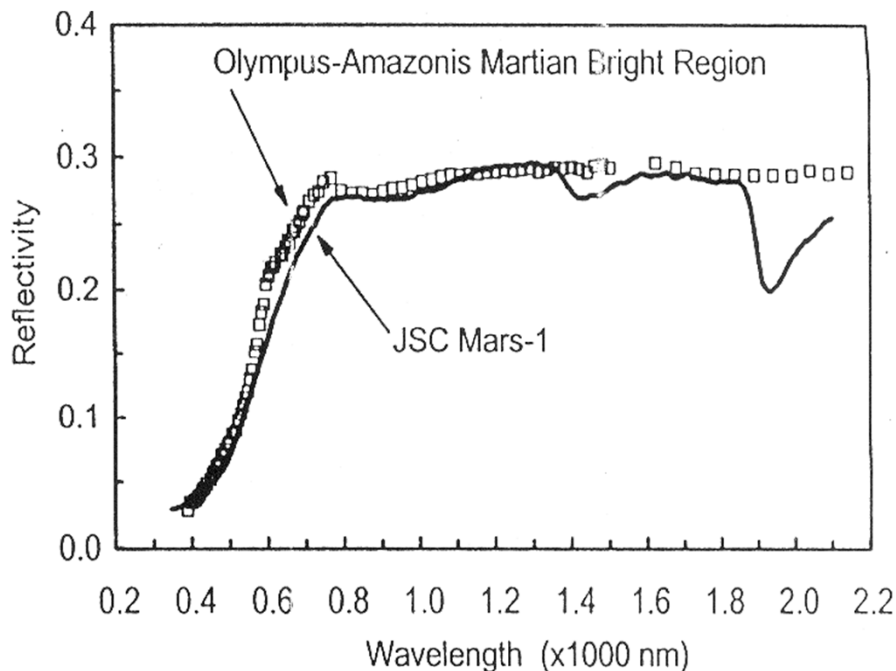
It's not much of a tip, but I've been having fun with it - I

repainted my studio and I had some small trim rollers left over, about four inches long. I've been doing big astronomicals and didn't care for the look of the brushstrokes in the background, so I picked up one of the trim rollers and rolled it through my Mars Black/Pthalo Blue clumps on my palette (it's a flat glass palette), and rolled it onto the canvas. If you work it back and forth you can get a texture just like the studio walls, really flat, very tiny variations, looks great with toothbrush spatter stars on top. Some experimenting got me a speckled effect by running the roller through half-dry.

CALL FOR ART #4... "Space Expo 2001"

Space Expo 2001 will be at the Pasadena Convention Center in Pasadena, CA (the same venue were the Planetfests are held). The show will run August 31 through Labor Day September 3, 2001. The show producers are very enthusiastic about having a major space art show as part of the expo as well as science fiction and future oriented art. Both traditional and digital works as well as sculpture will be accepted. Being on a holiday weekend, this should be a good opportunity for us to expose space art to the general public as well as the aerospace industry.

Anyone interested in exhibiting their works can contact Bob Kline with the quantity and size of each painting or sculpture along with a description of the piece so captions can be printed up for each piece. Bob Kline can be contacted at (714) 429-7980 work, (949) 916-2719 home or email designdynamc@earthlink.net.



Profile: Charlie Martin My name is Charlie Martin, and I've just recently joined IAAA after having hung out with Anil Rao, Dan Durda, Michael Carroll. Anyway, I'm personally not all that unusual, just your ordinary 45 year old, 6'3" 275 pound Buddhist Cherokee Indian computer scientist and logician, but I've been fascinated by space art since I was about 5 (I think that's when the Colliers/Bonestell/von Braun stuff came out and Disney did their own TV version) and doing it myself since I was about 8.

I'm particularly interested in my own art in heavily constructed perspectives, and lots of hardware, although I've also got some pastel paintings of Martian surfaces and Jupiter and Saturn from any place I could think of in my own past. I also write SF, with possibly the world's largest collection of "almosts" from Writers of the Future (two more and I understand I get a valuable set of steak knives.)

My favorite artists are probably Goya, Dalí, Escher (like every other computer scientist in the world, I think), Hokusai and Hiroshige -- and I'm generally a fan of ukiyo-e and sumie -- Man Ray for photography and Gaudi and Frank Lloyd Wright in architecture.

Unfortunately, I've also got about a 20 year art hiatus in my past, so I've got a lot of technique to catch up. I hope y'all won't mind occasional possible naive questions.....

CALL FOR ART # I... *NIGHTVISIONS*

The Flagstaff Dark Skies Coalition, in collaboration with Flagstaff Cultural Partners, is proud to announce an exhibition as part of the Autumn 2001 Celebration of the Night to be held at the Coconino Center for the Arts in Flagstaff, Arizona, USA, from 5 October through 10 November 2001.

As part of the Celebration, this major and innovative exhibition will explore the general theme of the mystery, beauty and inspiration of the night, the night sky, and the stars. The exhibition will include fine art in many media and from all ages, including poetry. Astronomical images, including images from the Hubble Heritage Project, will also be on display.

NightVisions will open with a presentation, "Truth and Beauty - Images from the Hubble Space Telescope," by Dr. Keith Noll of the Space Telescope Science Institute.

Entries can include images based on astronomical or spacecraft data, or any other item including but not limited to modified/processed images, derived imagery based on or inspired by scientific data, or poetry. The emphasis is on the natural experience and beauty of the night and stars rather than spacecraft or technology. Images should be accompanied by a brief description or explanation.

For submission guidelines, calendar, and other important information, please see the Flagstaff Dark Skies Coalition website or contact:

http://www.infomagic.net/fdsc/Celebration2001/call_for_entries.htm

Christian B. Luginbuhl, US Naval Observatory Flagstaff Station
PO Box 1149, Flagstaff AZ 86002-1149
phone: 928-779-5132, e-mail: cbl@nofs.navy.mil

CALL FOR ART #2...

Air Force Art Program

US Air Force Space Command officials are seeking qualified artists who want to enhance their portfolios by painting or sculpting works that may be displayed in military buildings throughout the world.

Most art in the Air Force is acquired through the Air Force Art Program. The program pays for artists enrolled in one of the Societies of Illustrators around the United States to travel to Air Force Bases and look for appropriate art subjects. Once there, the artist takes photographs and, after returning home, creates various art works from those photographs. The art is then turned over to the Air Force at a major art show hosted by senior Air Force leaders.

Since the start of the program more than 50 years ago, nearly 8,000 pieces have been registered; however, less than 100 of those feature space and missile themes, according to Scott Wirz, AFSPC history office museum and art program manager.

Because there is so little space and missile art, the Air Force Art Program has tripled the number of artists' trips to AFSPC units this year.

Besides supporting increased art visits by Air Force Art Program members, the AFSPC historian's office is also searching for artists interested in donating art to the command. Such paintings may be added to the Air Force Art collection and displayed anywhere from the Secretary of the Air Force's office in the Pentagon to a wing command section hallway anywhere in the world.

While artists are not compensated monetarily for their artwork, they do keep the intellectual copyright of the original piece, according to Wirz.

For more information, please call the AFSPC historian's office at (719) 554-3081 or e-mail Scott Wirz at "richard.wirz@peterson.af.mil".

CALL FOR ART #3...

Astronomical Art Fair, COSI Museum, Toledo, OH, August 25 & 26, 2001

The COSI Museum in Toledo, Ohio, is organizing a first time event to supplement their new summer exhibit, SPACEtacular. They want to exhibit all kinds of space related art work. This show will not be juried, but all pieces will need to be approved (preview jpeg okay). Art work should be professionally mounted and it is highly suggested that it be protectively enclosed due to the large number of children that visit the science museum. Participating artists will be given a 8'x8' wall space to cover. All of the pieces will be insured while in the display. If the artist wishes to sell their art during the show, he/she will need to pay for the shipment. If the artist is willing to just display his/her pieces, COSI will pay for shipping.

Unfortunately, COSI does not have a budget for leasing any artwork. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Christina Treiber at

4 (419) 244-2674 x120 as soon as possible.



HOW THE HECK DID HE DO THAT!?!

In honor of the year, I've located a great source with the secrets of how Stanley Kubrick filmed his masterpiece, "2001: A Space Odyssey." If you've ever wondered how some of those incredible shots were made, each issue this year will detail a little of the magic behind the camera.

How did Dave manage to climb down a ladder while Frank was sitting calmly above his head?

"Calmly" is probably not a good way to describe how Frank must have been feeling at the time! He had the tough part. All Dave had to do was appear out of the hatch and climb normally down the ladder to the bottom - the angle at which the camera was set made it look as though it was a semi-sideways movement. Once on the "floor", the centrifuge was set in motion and Dave had an easy stroll until Frank came round to meet him. And what of Frank? Before Dave appeared, Frank had literally been strapped to the set and rotated with the centrifuge until he was suspended upside down thirty-odd feet in the air, hanging on like grim death while looking totally relaxed and unconcerned!

Kudos Korner

- First off, my apologies to Joy Day for forgetting this great kudos last month, Joy's beautiful piece "Radiant Panorama" was selected by the Space Foundation as their "theme" piece for their 2001 symposium, it was on airport banners, signs, in every publication they produced and even on gigantic billboards across the country. I do believe that Joy now holds the IAA record for the largest space art print! Well done Joy!
- For inspiration look no further than Mark Garlick's newest illustrated article in July's Astronomy, which features six pages of well-written prose on microquasars and poetically lovely illustrations to accompany the text. The final illustration on page 39 looks like it should have angels floating above it, admiring the jets of charged particles. Simply gorgeous!
- Ever on the roll, Mark Garlick also has an article, accompanied by a painting, in the June Scientific American, suggesting a method for customizing Earth's orbit as the sun warms
- Dan Durda made CNN's May 17 web page with a paper on asteroid impacts
- Kim Poor wrote a great web-article debunking the recent FOX TV "Moon landing hoax" special
- Don Dixon and Lynette Cook have illustrations in the August "Sky & Telescope." Don's is in the computing section piece on modeling cosmological expansion. Lynette's is a (too) small version of the landscape showing a planet being swallowed by HD 82943