Spiral Galaxy—April Faires

Galaxy—Michael Carroll

Active Galaxy—Ron Miller

Galaxies - Reid Silvern

Dark Matter in Galaxy Cluster—Eileen McKeon Butt

Andromeda's Heart—Deneb Arici
From the Editor

Here we are at the start of another year and things are looking up for space artists. With the Martian book and movie being a huge success and Scott Kelly and Mikhail Kornienko spending a year in space, the public seems to be paying attention again.

For us, our members have had quite an exciting year. Our Kudos section is full, and I do believe there are a lot of items missed! Please send me a note when you have achieved something wonderful with your artwork. I would love to share it with everyone in the Pulsar.

I am fresh back from the latest IAAA Workshop and highly recommend getting to one! We develop a camaraderie online, but being together in person and being able to share art and talk in depth with each other about what we do cements relationships that really let you know that this is a group of artists full of support for each other. The last one I attended was in 2008, so I was overdue. Both times have left me charged with inspiration for painting and creativity. Being so close to the publishing date of this issue, we decided to wait until the next issue for a full report of IAAA Biosphere 2 Workshop. It will be worth the wait.

Until next time, clear skies!

Erika McGinnis, Pulsar Editor, Pulsar-editor@iaaa.org

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Cover Art: Futures—David A. Hardy. In about 3 billion years’ time our Milky Way galaxy will collide with M31 — the Andromeda Galaxy. The stars will pass each other without colliding, but the galaxies will be distorted out of shape. They are seen from an inhabited planet whose city plan seems to have been influenced by the sky.
Kudos for members of IAAA

Jon Ramer—Our president was recently elected a “Fellow” of the IAAA by our Board of Directors. Congratulations, Jon!

Dan Durda—the Carl Sagan Medal!

From the American Astronomical Society, Division of Planetary Sciences:

Carl Sagan Medal for outstanding communication by an active planetary scientist to the general public: Dr. Dan Durda (Southwest Research Institute) has consistently communicated with the public about the wonders of exploring new worlds via the written word, the spoken word, and visual artistry. Dan writes for popular astronomy magazines such as Sky & Telescope and Mercury and authors columns, articles, and blogs for the public. As a natural extension of his compelling writing, Dan is sought as a planetary science spokesperson, both for lectures and on TV. His science addresses impacts and impact processes at many scales; thus he has become a requested media commentator on catastrophic asteroid impacts. The artistic dimension of Durda's public outreach, however, sets him in a class apart. His art derives from a healthy dose of scientific knowledge, though, as Dan says, "I'm not afraid to loosen the reins at times." His paintings and digital art present scientifically grounded depictions of solar-system objects as well as alien worlds. Dr. Durda is currently a planetary scientist at the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, Colorado. He earned his bachelor's degree in astronomy from the University of Michigan in 1987 and his master's and doctoral degrees in astronomy from the University of Florida in 1989 and 1993, respectively.

David A. Hardy—Ordway Award for Sustained Excellence in Spaceflight History

This award is named in memory of Frederick I. Ordway III (1927-2014), human spaceflight advocate and chronicler of the history of rocketry and space travel. The award will be presented on an occasional basis by the AAS and recognizes exceptional, sustained efforts to inform and educate on astronautical history through one or more media, including (1) writing, editing, or publication of a book series (as opposed to a single title), (2) preparation and presentation of exhibits; or (3) production for distribution through film, television, art, or other non-print media. More can be found at: http://www.astronautical.org/awards/ordway

Michelle Rouch—awarded the 2014 Outreach award with the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics!

Patrick Rawlings—a great write up in Gizmodo featuring his artwork: http://gizmodo.com/this-artists-cheerful-renderings-of-space-exploration-l-1737345688

David A. Hardy—also another great write up in the Guardian! You can see that article here: http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2015/nov/02/space-artist-pluto-nasa-david-a-hardy-arthur-c-clarke


Erika McGinnis—artwork accepted into the Spacewalk 50 online exhibition: http://spacewalk50.tumblr.com/post/119370785361/cathedral-by-erika-mcginis-this-is-an-acrylic
Welcome New Members!

Jonathan Margetts UK artist

I am a semi-professional artist since 2009, aged 59, and have been painting watercolours and pastels since 1982. I am self taught and have specialized in aviation art, pet portraits and abstract art inspired by images of microscopy. I have a degree in applied science. I have started to be very interested in space and astronomical art working in pastels as a new dimension to my art. I therefore have joined your organization to gain greater knowledge, information, and contacts to develop a higher skill in this area of art. My aim is to have a public exhibition of my space art in the future.”

Amber Hemsath, USA

My name is Amber Hemsath & I'm looking to join as a Journeyman member. I have been interested in space art for many years but didn't know much about the area of this art form till 2012 where I was able to meet some of your members at the Planetfest in 2012.

As a child I would see this art on & in the books my father had as well as on space/sci-fi related programs we would watch together. At the time I wasn't sure how the images came about but now as I try & build my ability to paint these types of images, I better understand.

Here is a portfolio of some of my work relating to space, if not in some way. Even though I have limited time to do some work, I do plan to have more. I just hope I can learn from your wonderful members in time to make them more grand.

> http://shadowwalker.ink/space-related-work
> http://shadowwalkerink.tumblr.com/image/45903346927

Trond Abrahamsen, Norway

I'm Trond, and as the newest artist member I would like to introduce myself. I've been a fan of a number of you guys for as long as I can remember and I'm thrilled and humbled to be accepted as a part of your group.

I'm forty years old, living in Norway, programmer by education but illustrator by heart. I originally intended to end up in computer games, but somehow landed the perfect job at Andoya Space Center 16 years ago as a Multimedia Developer: part programmer and part illustrator / photographer. Perfect in that I get to exercise both halves of my brain and take part in the Norwegian space program. I program web sites (php, python, javascript, mysql, wordpress, etc) and do PR-related stuff such as posters, symposium exhibitions, brochures, videos, animations etc.

I'm often called upon to visualize upcoming missions, and I love to contribute.

http://www.romsenter.no/Aktuelt/Bilder-og-video/Andoeya-Rakettskytefelt/ICI-4
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Tucson Kids Club Builds STEM Connections

Elishka Jepson & Michelle Rouch

Despite the vast research in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), little effort is being focused on an artistic angle to approach kids with a vehicle to draw their attention to aviation and aerospace sciences. Children are creative by nature. Children are born scientists and by catching them early, we can focus their energy to harvest their instinctive nature to create.

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Tucson Section established Kids Club in 2004; since then, the section has built a challenging, yet fun program for 4th-6th graders. Each month during the school year, the Tucson Section partners with local engineers, scientists and other experts to offer hands-on seminars, covering a variety of STEM plus Art topics, creating STEAM. The Arizona/NASA Space Grant has been a tremendous partner in providing space for the sessions at the University of Arizona, as well as session materials. During the past year, Kids Club has offered sessions including aviation, optics, planetary science, rocketry, and systems engineering. Finding local partners in academia and industry for each event helps keep the activities fresh and interesting to students, and simplifies the execution and planning for the section.

In addition to local STEAM partners participating, Kids Club is a great outlet for showcasing aerospace related subjects section members are passionate about. One popular annual event is the Engineering/Art session mimicking a real-life experience in conjunction with a competitive art project to develop, design, execute a unique rendition of the 4 forces of flight, and orate their final design in order to win. Tucson Section member Michelle Rouch uses art as tool to simulate mini-engineering acquisition program. Another session that captivates the student’s attention year after year is rocket building. The session leader, Steve Lubliner, is a Tucson engineer that knows how to communicate at a kid’s level the complexity of rocketry. There is nothing more exciting than seeing a rocket you created launch high into the air! If the kids can conceive it, they can build it.

AIAA Kids Club gives these kids the tools that they thirst for in learning. The Kids Club concept can be applied to any section. A good starting point would be to build a partnership with local clubs, who have similar objectives in creating a strong technical community. By working together, the goal of bringing STEAM to students can be achieved faster than by working alone.

On Jackie Burns’ 5 minutes of fame on the BBC Essex Radio Show:

“I must admit I think I broke a few speed limits in order to drive home from a medical appointment in time so that I could watch the launch live. And I was tweeting away with other enthusiasts and professionals throughout the launch and for a while afterwards...when BBC Essex Radio tweeted me to ask if it would be OK for them to interview me live. Well, I was still in hyper mode so I said yes.

They phoned me back immediately and off I went. You know what it's like when enthusiasm gushes forth...motor mouth springs to mind. I've only just found the recording on their website and, thankfully, it wasn't too bad. I gushed forth about space, art, and science in full measure without making a part of myself. Then the interviewer wrapped it all up by completely mangling the full title of the IAAA and cut me off air. Sigh...” - Jackie
Exploring the Solar System through Art

By Michelle Rouch

University of Arizona’s third annual 2015 The Art of Planetary Science (TAPS) welcomed nearly 250 works of art of all media from 118 artists and scientists. The grand opening celebrated the beauty of science and technology, transforming the Kuiper Space Science Building into a 3 tier Art Museum for the weekend. The displayed artwork came from local artists who were inspired by aerospace technology, science, and astronomy along with scientists who created artwork from their research. The Lunar and Planetarium Laboratory continue to push the boundaries by creating an opportunity for scientists to consider their research as art and artists to interpret the same theme in creating their artwork.

TAPS breaks down the barriers by combining an open competition for artists and scientists of all levels and types to explore our solar system through art. The event is open to the public to experience how the science department collaborated with the School of Art, Art & Visual Culture Department, Culture and Art Education by hosting live art activities. Art students, John Preston Strand and Mercé Mueller asked the guests to help them bridge the gap between art and science with their interactive art where guests are asked to color one square and affix the square to its coordinated number. The activity involved the guests to help create an artistic rendition of the equation from the theory of elasticity and flexure. The artwork is a mathematical equation with the Plate Flexure, illustrating how the tectonic plates of the Earth and other planets are not infinitely strong.

The People’s Choice Award went to Jamie Molaro’s “Stress, on the rocks.” Her artwork was a book copy of Molaro’s recently defended PhD thesis, a research focusing on weathering rocks on the Moon due to the daily heating and cooling of its surface. The carved areas of the artwork depicted cratered landscape continuously modified by thermal weathering process. Molaro adds, “Each day, thermal stresses form that can, over time, break down rocks into dust.” The wooden box was handcrafted by Ricki Weaver from RickisWood Works on Etsy. Jamie Molaro recently received her PhD in Planetary Science and is the founder of The Art of Planetary Science exhibition. She is passionate in cultivating science literacy and appreciation of the societies.

Geoffrey Notkin, host of Meteorite Men on the Science Channel, noted “It’s overwhelming because there is so much to see. It is wonderful to see a real variety and innovative art both inspired by and for inspiring people interested in space, science, and exploration.” Another guest offered, “The show offers great diversity of medium subject matter.”

The UA Museum of Art offered a special exhibit of world renowned space artist Robert McCall, best known for aerospace and fantasy illustrations and murals. For over sixty years Robert McCall has been a visionary illustrator of mankind’s journey through history and the cosmos. His optimism is weaved throughout his paintings.
Exploring the Solar System through Art  (continued from p. 7)

University One month before TAPS, the university held a Bennuval, a Space, Art & Music Festival in Tucson to commemorate the one year anniversary before the launch of OSIRIS-REx, a UA-led NASA mission. The Lead Principal Investigator, Dante Lauretta created an evening to experience a multi-dimension art entertainment with space music, space dance, and space art.

Tucson-Chapter of the IAAA, co-chairs Simon Kregar and Michelle Rouch, would like to thank Timothy Swindle, Department Head and the TAPS organizers: Jamie Molaro, Sarah Peacock, James Keane, and Hannah Tanquary for their tireless effort in harmonizing the arts with science.

APEX Telescope Large Area Survey of the Galaxy

Tucson-Chapter of IAAA and TAPS Organizers

Featured Artist

Corrine Cowan

Those of you on Listserve will know me from my frequent comments! I am a relatively new member of IAAA, having joined only a few years ago. My home is Grande Prairie, Alberta. My initial interest with all things Space related began in 1980 following a visit to the Johnson Space Center in Houston. At the time I was painting in oils and my subject matter was primarily still life and florals. After acquiring a telescope some years later and learning more about the cosmos I was drawn to space art. The reference material was inexhaustible and I became very interested in what I found. By then I had switched from oils to watercolors.

The first image I tried replicating was the Rosette Nebula, most likely because of my attachment to florals. Then I moved on to galaxies, other nebulae, and my own creations.

My first solo exhibition of sorts was a display at the Edmonton International Airport. It was up for 9 months. These were among my first Space paintings and were done in watercolors. Some were my versions of telescopic images; others were imagined comets, galaxies etc....

Following that, the Grande Prairie Regional Airport featured my work in their Holding Area for one year. Those pieces were changed out and the second display has been up for over eighteen months. These will be replaced with new acrylics in 2016.

Space art fits well in an airport environment and it seems people appreciate having something to view while waiting for flights. Airports do not handle selling of the work, but the displays have helped to promote awareness and given me a bit more recognition.
Featured artist, Corrine Cowan (continued from p. 9)

Following that, the Grande Prairie Regional Airport featured my work in their Holding Area for one year. Those pieces were changed out and the second display has been up for over eighteen months. These will be replaced with new acrylics in 2016. I have been working in acrylics now for about seven years. After reading through Chris Hadfield’s photo book You Are Here, and then seeing Rick Sternbach’s Listserve post on “Aerial America”, I decided to use the acrylic pouring method to produce images that might resemble parts of the earth from Space. These paintings are small, (4"x4"x.5") on wood. Twenty are fixed inside a box frame with Velcro tabs. They will be in the 2015 Christmas show and sale at a local gallery.

The most satisfying aspect of Space art I find, is the freedom to create without the need to conform to a given image. Though my early works were imitations of NASA photos, I now enjoy creating from my imagination. Pouring acrylics however, eludes imagination because often the outcome is a total surprise. I did try to move the paint in some 4x4's so that they might loosely resemble landscapes. The others I hope, might represent the title, “Earth, Sea and Sky”.

Gravitational Waves Detected by LIGO

Astronomers have directly detected elusive gravitational waves, 100 years after the existence of these spacetime ripples was first proposed by Albert Einstein in his theory of general relativity. Scientists with the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) announced the find in a news conference today (Feb. 11 - See more at: http://www.space.com/31894-gravitational-waves-ligo-search-complete-coverage.html#sthash.ExtrVAUz.dpuf
"Visions of Space" Exhibition in UK
Collected from the listserv

We had a great time last night, lovely to see Dave, Jackie, Malcolm and all. Dave's lecture was a whole hour and I could see the amount of effort he put into creating a digital slide show. Dave talked almost non stop and I thought he 'must' be gasping for a cool lager! There were plenty of captions on the slides to keep me glued on and to be able to follow the lecture. There was even a 4 minutes of digital art demonstration which I thought was a nice touch. Dave really did put all into it and I have nothing but admiration of him. The exhibition itself is in a fantastic place, right next to a cathedral. Lovely to see art from those over the other side of the pond in one room, so for me it was great to see all these familiar names and their art.

I thought we British artists did ourselves proud exhibiting together upstairs, wide variety of art etc.

- Richard Bizely

The exhibition is nearly upon us, and I've just arrived in Wincanton in Somerset (home of all things Discworld), where I'm being hosted by some friends for the duration of the exhibition.

We're having a Private View on Friday 6th November, where Dave Hardy will be giving an illustrated talk, with members of the British Interplanetary Society, space enthusiasts and local dignitaries enjoying the artwork.

- Jackie Burns

My talk was very well received last night, after which nearly 100 people were able to see our art and some even sold! From the BIS ex-president Alistair Scott and Steve Salmon came down.

Richard Bizley, Jackie Burns, Bob Parkinson, new member Jonathan Margetts and myself all 'circulated', and a good time was had by all.

-Dave A. Hardy

For more pictures from the exhibit, go to: http://www.bizleyart.com/gallery/other-subjects/astronomy-and-space-art-exhibition-wells-somerset-375#
Larry Peter Ortiz, died unexpectedly in his home in Tillamook on October 14, 2015 at the age of 68. Larry was born in Omaha, Nebraska on September 15, 1948 to Lois and Lou Ortiz and was the eldest of three children.

Larry graduated from Clairemont High School and San Diego City College in San Diego and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in 1970 having served in Vietnam and receiving two bronze service stars. A consummate artist and musician Larry began his creative career as founding member in two San Diego bands and creating artwork for a number of album covers for various artists. Larry spent the majority of his professional creative career in the television and film industry as a visual effects designer. He designed and created sets, scenery and models for many major motion pictures and television shows working for DreamQuest (a division of Disney and the second largest visual effects company in the world), Vision Scenery and his own production company B.O.T.V. (Buccaneers of the Void).

Larry is described by close creative colleagues as passionate and strong with boundless energy, talented, brilliant and ready to take on even the most difficult project. Larry was an explorer, always willing to work in uncharted territory. He was energized by inventing and creating things that had longevity—things that would amaze people. Along with his many talents, he was a skilled bass player, singer, songwriter and actor.

An original member of the International Association of Astronomical Artists, Larry was a prolific painter focusing on imagery of space, galaxies, planets and life beyond Earth. His earlier works showed his keen interest in ancient civilizations, specifically Egypt. His artwork has been shown in galleries and graces book covers, album covers and hangs on the walls of many collectors.

In 2012, Larry left Southern California and moved to Tillamook County with his long-time companion Tina Gregos to be near his siblings. He worked locally on many sign projects with his brother Lonnie

Frederick C. Durant III (1916-2015)

Frederick C. Durant, III, the former Assistant Director for Astronautics of the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum and one of the world’s foremost authorities of spaceflight and rocketry, died on 21 October 2015 in Mount Dora, Florida, at age 98.

Mr. Durant received a B.S. Degree in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University in 1939 as he had become drawn to chemistry as a boy after being given a gift of a chemistry set that allowed him to create experiments with various concoctions which invariably ended with a loud bang or in his words “whizzing”. At the same time, he developed a life-long love of magic: he maintained his membership in the Society of American Magicians throughout his life. Fresh out of university, he worked as a chemical engineer with the E.I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co., at Pennsgrove, New Jersey from 1939 through 1941.

In May of 1941, Mr. Durant left DuPont to enlist in the U.S. Navy as a naval aviation cadet. He served until 1946 as a naval aviator, flight instructor, and test pilot, flying about 30 different types of aircraft from Piper Cubs and PBYs to the B-26. A peptic ulcer prevented him from seeing combat overseas.

Fallen Stars - In Memoriam
He later retired from the Navy as a Commander in the Naval Reserve. He recounted that his "love of aviation" began at age ten when he became engrossed in the media coverage of Charles Lindbergh's solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. Mr. Durant's interest in aviation intensified after he personally saw Charles Lindbergh pass by his home while on parade in Philadelphia late in October 1927.

In 1947, Mr. Durant began his long and very distinguished career in the rocket and missile field as a rocket engineer with the Bell Aircraft Corp. in Buffalo, N.Y. He then served as the Director of Engineering at the Naval Rocket Test Station at Dover, New Jersey, from 1948 to 1951. Additionally, he became an enthusiast and ardent promoter of space flight. In 1953, he became the President of the American Rocket Society (ARS), now known as the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and as early as 1951, spearheaded the organization and growth of the nascent International Astronautical Federation (IAF). From 1953 through 1955, Mr. Durant served as the IAF's second President. During the late 1940s through the later 1950s, he became a Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society, the German Society for Aviation and Space Flight (DGLR), the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences, and innumerable US and international astronomical societies, some of which he personally assisted in organizing.

From 1954 to 1955, Durant played a key role in the organization of Project Orbiter, headed by Wernher von Braun, which was a joint U.S. Navy-Army project for launching a minimum weight satellite. The first U.S. satellite, the Army's Explorer 1, launched in January 1958, was a direct outgrowth of the Orbiter concept.

In the words of Randy Liebermann, Fred Durant's biographer "In the 1950s decade, Fred Durant was known of by anyone and everyone who was even remotely involved in the growing rocket and missile business. Durant, with his superb pedigree, sterling military credentials, and seasoned social skills was the pre-Sputnik era linchpin of the rocket and missile field. With a telephone call, he could bring together top brass or captains of industry and he often did so at the dinner parties that he and his wife Carolyn (who went by Pip) often threw in their home. Fred and Pip worked as team and had a dramatic impact on moving the spaceflight movement forward".

In 1965, Mr. Durant joined the staff of the Smithsonian Institution as an Assistant Director of the National Air and Space Museum. Over the course of the next 15 years, he greatly built up the space and rocketry collections at the Museum, including the creation of its space art collections. Part of Mr. Durant's multi-faceted legacy is that his collecting efforts on behalf of the Smithsonian left that institution with a plethora of artifacts that are now considered among the finest of their type in the world.

Mr. Durant retired from the Museum in 1980 but continued to be active in the field of astronautics, serving in the 1980s, for example, as an historian and consultant with INTELSAT to establish their archives.

For a number of years, Mr. Durant had also authored the "Rockets and Guided Missiles" and "Space Exploration" in the Encyclopedia Britannica entries as well as many other articles and academic papers on space flight, all the while he lectured as a leading authority on rocket and space flight history. His wide international circle of lifelong friends and colleagues in these fields included such world notables as the late Wernher von Braun, Sir Arthur C. Clarke and Frederick I. Ordway, III.

In retirement, Mr. Durant represented the interests of several space artists and his roster included such internationally renowned names as Chesley Bonestell, the Czech astronomical artist Ludek Pesek and the Russian space artist Andrei Sokolov.

Editors' note: While Frederick C. Durant was not an IAAA member per se, he did receive the Lucian Rudaux award and was obviously a huge part of the lives of many of our members and a big supporter of what we do. I only thought it fitting that the rest of the membership get to know who this man was and what an incredible life he led.
Lonely planet: landscape on a planet in a system ejected from two colliding galaxies during an rare, 2-star encounter.—William Hartmann
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Galaxies—Aldo Spadoni

Jetting Galaxies—Samuel Dietz, Oil on board
A note from our President

Hi Gang!

Time for more IAAA news! Since our last issue we've had a couple of big events in the IAAA. We've rolled out our new web site and had an amazing workshop. The website still has the same great look as it used to, just updated to a 21st century feel. We've started filling it with all sorts of new resources and content for members too. Check it out at "www.iaaa.org" and be sure to take a look at the Resources and Pulsar tabs. The workshop was at the Biosphere 2 facility in Tucson, AZ, there will be a full report in the NEXT issue of the Pulsar. I won't go into much detail here so as not to steal the thunder from that report, but I will say that as an attendee it was a fantastic event. So interesting to be in so many different environments, yet still be inside the entire time! From diving in an ocean to climbing a mountain in a rain forest to spelunking in secret caves in a desert, this place was fun! I want to take this opportunity to give a big thank you to Simon Kregar and Michelle Rouch for their excellent hosting of an excellent workshop. Lastly from me, this year is an election year for the IAAA leadership. We'll be filling all seats on the Board and the President's position. An organization such as the IAAA is only as good at the volunteers that help run it. We are always in need of new perspectives and voices on the Board, so please consider if you'd like to help mold your organization into something better than it is today. Board member responsibilities are quite relaxed too. If you have any questions on what is required or would like to nominate yourself or someone else to be on the Board, feel free to contact me or any Board member under the "Contact" tab on the website. Thanks & see you next time!

Jon

Islands of Stars - Richard Bizley (A free floating planet wanders nearby a globular cluster beyond a galaxy—Medium: Acrylics)

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