

CONFLUX 3

A CONVENTION OF FANTASTIC WORLDS

9 - 12 JUNE 2006
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA
CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

GUESTS

Meet creators of the fantastic at Conflux 3!

Honoured Guests

(Featuring Via Communications Link):

Sir Arthur C. Clarke co-writer of 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

Ray Bradbury author of Fahrenheit 451

Lloyd Alexander author of the Chronicles of Prydain

International Editor Guest of Honour:

Ellen Datlow co-editor of the Year's Best Fantasy & Horror

Australian Guest of Honour:

Kate Forsyth bestselling author of the Witches of Eileanan

International Comics Special Guest:

Dan Abnett comics creator of Sinister Dexter and prolific comic writer

International Gaming Special Guests:

Steve Jackson founder of Steve Jackson Games

Andy Chambers games designer for Games Workshop, Blizzard

International Special Guests:

Joan D. Vinge best-selling & Hugo Award winning author

James Frenkel senior TOR editor & literary agent

Special Guest:

Sara Douglass international best-selling fantasy author

Invited Guest:

Jackie French best-selling author of over 100 books

Invited Comic Artist:

Jason Paulos comics creator of Hairbutt the Hippo

Invited Manga Guest:

Queenie Chan manga creator for TOKYOPOP

Exhibiting Guest Artists:

Nick Stathopoulos Greg Bridges Les Petersen, award winning science fiction cover illustrators

Just when you thought Conflux couldn't get any bigger, more exciting guests join the line-up. World-renowned children's fantasy author Lloyd Alexander will join the proceedings via communications link, and prolific comic writer and Black Library author Dan Abnett and games designer for Games Workshop, Mongoose and Blizzard Entertainment Andy Chambers have also come on board.

They join an amazing array of guests who will take part in some of the 100 sessions across four days, including panels, presentations, interviews and workshops. And there's some action in store for Conflux members.

Take part in weapons workshops with the team who trained Hayden Christensen, Ewan MacGregor and Ian McDiarmid in light sabre combat. The **Sydney Stage Combat School** have worked on productions such as Star Wars EP 2 & 3, Farscape and Troy, and now bring their talents to Conflux.

The most extreme team to grace the Australian airwaves, the **Double the Fist** team, will be eliminating weakness at Conflux—or rather they'll be letting you in on how they created, pitched and produced the AFI Award winning TV show.

Paul Wagner of the Stoccata School of Defence will demonstrate the finer points of hand-to-hand sword fighting. A renowned authority on historical swordmanship, Paul teaches swordplay both in Australia and overseas and now brings this expertise to Conflux.

And there's much more to look forward to, including the largest art show, film festival, and gaming stream to be held at an Australian science fiction convention. Find out more about Conflux events on page 4.

Want to be involved as a panellist, an exhibitor in the artist alley, volunteer, dealer, advertiser or sponsor? Email Trevor at chair@conflux.org.au.

Visit www.conflux.org.au for more details or register using the attached form on page 6



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Illustration by Shane Parker

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Sponsors **Profile - Honoured Guest Lloyd Alexander**



Like many authors, Lloyd Alexander has often advised aspiring writers to read as much as they can. Although his parents were not readers, he learned to read at the age of three and credits his aunt with his love of literature. He grew up reading Greek and Celtic myths and the tales of King Arthur.

"Shakespeare, Dickens, Mark Twain, and so many others were my dearest friends and greatest teachers," he said.

By the age of 15, Alexander had decided to further this love of the written word by becoming an author. Unfortunately he had no idea how to go about it.

Deciding that adventure was the best way to learn about writing after a brief and disappointing stint in college, Alexander joined the army at 19. It was 1943 and the U.S. had already entered World War II, so adventure was assured.

He was eventually stationed in Europe, ending up in Paris where, after the war, he attended university and met his future wife Janine. After getting married, he returned to America to write. "If I was to write anything worthwhile, I needed to be closer to my roots," he said.

There Alexander worked as a cartoonist, advertising writer, layout artist, and associate editor for a small magazine to earn a living before his first novel was finally published. This achievement had followed seven years of rejection.

He then discovered that writing for young people was where his talents lay.

"I first wrote for adults, but when I started writing for young people, it was the most creative and liberating experience of my life," he said. "I was able to express my own deepest feelings far more than I ever could when writing for adults."

Alexander prefers writing fantasy as he feels using imaginary worlds allows him to better express feelings about real people and relationships.

"The nature of fantasy allows happenings which reveal most clearly our own frailties and our own strengths."

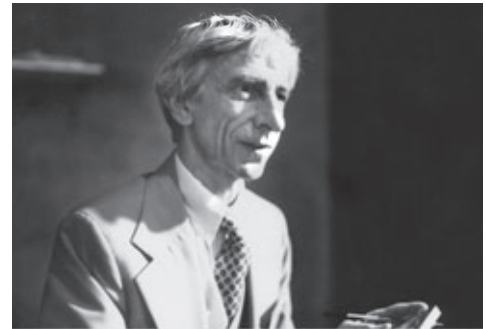


Photo: Charles N. Brown/Locus

"My concern is how we learn to be genuine human beings. I never have found out all I want to know about writing and realise I never will. All that writers can do is keep trying to say what is deepest in their hearts. If writers learn more from their books than do readers, perhaps I may have begun to learn."

Since finding his niche, Alexander has written more than 40 books for children and adults over the last 50 years, and has become one of America's most celebrated children's fantasy authors.

His Chronicles of Prydain, the tales of an Assistant Pig-Keeper, Taran, are the best known of his extensive body of work. Books in the Chronicles were inspired by Welsh mythology and the Mabinogion, and have won awards such as the prestigious Newbery Medal and the Newbery Honour. In 2003 Alexander was awarded a Life Achievement Award by the World Fantasy Convention.

His books have been translated into thirteen languages and sold millions of copies, and Disney made an animated feature film based on the first two volumes of the Chronicles of Prydain. Millions of readers consider Alexander's Prydain a limitless country of the imagination that, once entered in childhood, remains a refuge for life.

"I never became a world traveller, an explorer, an adventurer. But I did become a writer, which is pretty much the same thing."



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International Comics Special Guest: Dan Abnett

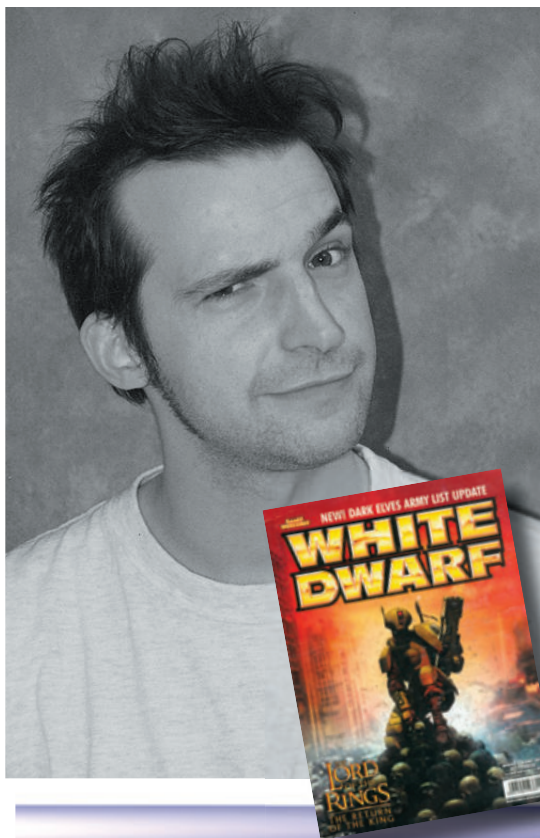
Dan Abnett is one of the most prolific creators in comics today with an impressive body of work that includes the Pulp Fiction-esque gun totting bounty hunters Sinister Dexter, the future warfare of The VCs and Durham Red - all published in 2000AD. He has also written acclaimed stories for Black Library, which have sold more than half a million copies, and DC Comics including his collaboration with Andy Lanning on the Legion and Superman titles. Other comics he has written for include X-Men, Batman, Star Trek and Doctor Who.

Abnett said writing comics was a natural career choice.

"At age eleven or twelve that's what I did. I wrote and drew my own comics. When, at the end of my college career, I didn't know what I wanted to do, comics was something to try. So I took the plunge."

He wrote to Marvel UK when, unknown to Abnett, they were advertising for editorial trainees, and found himself with position. Freelancing subsidised his earnings, and after an Action Force strip he wrote on spec was accepted, scriptwriting became his second job on weekends and evenings. Eventually, Abnett quit his day job to focus on writing.

Abnett believes he does his best work when under pressure - a possible reason that he has such a massive output.



International Gaming Special Guest: Andy Chambers

Andy Chambers began working in gaming last century and has been making the galaxy a more dangerous place ever since. He started out writing articles for Games Workshop's White Dwarf magazine, and went on to work on most of the company's games: Adeptus Titanicus, Space Marine, Warhammer, two editions of Warhammer 40,000, Necromunda, Gorkamorka, Titan Legions, Battlefleet Gothic, and articles and supplements too numerous to mention. Still contributing to White Dwarf magazine in between projects Chambers also became known for consistently defeating his old mentor Jervis Johnson in "Battle reports" regularly published in the magazine. Because no good deed goes unpunished, Andy was

then entrusted with running the Warhammer 40,000 games development team, recruiting and training a new generation of games developers to replace those now in cryo-tanks and adopting the suitably evil-overlord title of "40K Overfiend".

Since then he has founded Red Star Games, written a Black Library novel, produced the Starship Troopers miniatures game for Mongoose, developed miniatures rules for George RR Martin's Song of Ice and Fire novel series for Testor Corporation, and is currently working for Blizzard Entertainment.



Getting there, staying there

June is approaching fast and with it comes Conflux so if you haven't already, now's the time to book your accommodation and flights.

If you're travelling from interstate, you can try logging on to the Virgin Blue website www.virginblue.com.au from 12noon to 1pm (AEST) for their 'Happy Hour'. There you'll find a selection of discount fares only available by booking online.

Conflux members are eligible for substantial discounts on the regular room rates at Rydges Lakeside Canberra for the

convention. Members can pay only \$140 per room per night for two people, or \$130 per room per night for one person. Breakfast is included in the package. As well as being the official accommodation venue, Rydges Lakeside will also house the Hall of Game and a number of special events. To make it easy to get to the main venue at the Australian National Museum, which will host the panels, presentations, interviews and workshops across the four days of Conflux, a shuttle bus will make regular trips between venues.

Bookings can be made online at www.rydges.com/cwp/conflux3 or by calling Rydges Lakeside Canberra on 1300 857 922 and requesting the Conflux 3 rate. For any accommodation enquiries, contact Kaaron at hotel@conflux.org.au

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Special events

There's also a host of other exciting events and sessions that makes Conflux a convention out of the ordinary.

International Art Show – Call for Comic, Manga and Student Art in Particular

An astonishing collection of artwork from around the world, the show boasts \$6000 in art show prizes for science fiction, fantasy, horror, surreal, astronomical, comics, manga and related art. Entries are open until 28 April.

Fantastique Film Festival and Contest

The film festival features astonishing new science fiction, fantasy, horror and animation short films, from both Australian and international filmmakers.

Hall of Game

The Hall of Game will take place at Rydges Lakeside Canberra, and features official tournaments, demos and presentations. Play all day or take a break to visit the games panels at the National Museum. For more information on events and prizes, which will include the ACT Magic the Gathering Regional Titles (pre-register before 5pm Friday 9 June and receive a free booster on the day), contact Glenn Doyle on (02) 6248 7722 or at glenn@logicalchoice.com.au.

Pre-Convention Dinner

Get to know the guests and committee at the pre-convention dinner on Thursday June 8. RSVP to Kaaron at hotel@conflux.org.au

Medieval Feast

There's not much time left to get your tickets to the medieval feast on Saturday June 10. Places are limited so get in quick to secure your place at the table for this feast of medieval delights (book via membership form on page 6).

Masquerade Disco

Put on your best interstellar party costume and dance the night away at the masquerade disco. Prizes for the best costumes will be awarded to those who dare to dress for success, with the inaugural "Lady of the Lake" competition also being held.

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This list does not show members who have requested their names to be withheld

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Kylie Ahern	NSW	Tai'ssa Danilovich	VIC	Mike Kenneally	ACT	Alice Roberts	ACT
Pat Allan	VIC	Ellen Datlow	USA	Rick Kennett	VIC	John Robertson	WA
Craig Anderson	NSW	Rjurik Davidson	VIC	Richard Kerslake	NSW	Barbara Robson	ACT
Chris Andrews	ACT	Lynda Davies	QLD	Russell Kirkpatrick	NZ	Jane Routley	VIC
Joanne Armstrong	NSW	Dianne De Bellis	SA	Julia Knight	TAS	Kyle Rowling	NSW
James Atkinson	WA	Katrina de Vos	ACT	Michael Kraaz	ACT	April Rutkay	WA
Carissa Avenhouse	NSW	Kearin de Vos	ACT	Jonathon Kromka	TAS	John Samuel	ACT
Mark Barnes	NSW	Alexander de Vos	ACT	Alison Kubbos	NSW	Colleen Schultz	NSW
Chris Barnes	NSW	Rhonda de Vos	ACT	Frances la Fontaine	VIC	Nicola Scott	NSW
Stuart Barrow	ACT	Stephen Dedman	WA	Margie Levingston	WA	Kylie Seluka	ACT
Jules Bartlett	ACT	Emma Dobbs	ACT	Mark Loney	ACT	Justin Semmel	VIC
Alison Barton	VIC	Sara Douglass	TAS	Adrienne Losin	VIC	Petra Shaw	ACT
Susan Batho	NSW	Grace Dugan	QLD	Rosaleen Love	VIC	Lisa Simpson	ACT
Graeme Batho	NSW	Edna Dundas	ACT	LynC	VIC	Gerald Smith	NSW
Lee Battersby	WA	Barbara Edgar	ACT	Robby Maclaurin	NSW	Catriona Sparks	NSW
Jiri Baum	VIC	Eugenie Edquist	ACT	Karen Mandeville	NSW	Trevor Stafford	ACT
Doug Bayne	NSW	Kate Eltham	QLD	Karen Maric	NSW	Nick Stathopoulos	NSW
Zara Baxter	NSW	Paul Ewins	VIC	Lazar Maric	NSW	Erin Steele	ACT
Anita Bell	QLD	Peter Fagan	VIC	Michelle Marquardt	NSW	Monica Stephens	USA
Conor Bendle	ACT	Wei Fang	NSW	Rick Mavrick	WA	Robert Stephenson	SA
Michael Bennett	ACT	Russell Farr	WA	Maxine McArthur	ACT	Jason Stokes	ACT
Phillip Berrie	ACT	Matthew Farrer	NSW	Brett McBean	VIC	Kaaren Sutcliffe	NSW
Deborah Biancotti	NSW	Neville Fletcher	ACT	Ella McCay	ACT	Tiki Swain	VIC
Russell Blackford	VIC	Kate Forsyth	NSW	Clare McDonald	VIC	Aaron Syrls	NSW
Jenny Blackford	VIC	Jackie French	NSW	Robert McEwan	NSW	Matthew Tait	SA
Leigh Blackmore	NSW	James Frenkel	USA	Ian McHugh	ACT	Anna Tambour	NSW
Dayle Bower	ACT	Justine Gleeson	NSW	Andrew McKiernan	NSW	Greg Tannahill	ACT
Carmen Brain	ACT	Ray Gleeson	NSW	William McKinley	ACT	Ross Temple	NZ
Greg Bridges	NSW	Ric Gogerly	VIC	Dave Minutello	NSW	Kimberley Thomas	SA
Chris Broadribb	NSW	Laura Goodin	NSW	Rose Mitchell	VIC	Val Toh	ACT
Lawrie Brown	ACT	Malcolm Gordon	VIC	Anne Mok	NSW	Wayne Turner	NSW
Thomas Bull	VIC	Rose Gray	VIC	Andrew Moores	NSW	Conny Valentina	SA
Julia Burns	ACT	David Green	ACT	Lewis Morley	NSW	Annette Vincent	ACT
Michael Byrne	NSW	Deborah Green	NSW	Sharon Moseley	VIC	Jeremy Vine	ACT
Nicole Calabria	TAS	Lisa Green	WA	Rose Moxon	NSW	Joan D. Vinge	USA
Michael Calnan	NSW	David Grimshaw	ACT	Bryan Moses	NSW	Jane Virgo	ACT
Owen Cameron	ACT	Donna Hanson	NSW	Ken Moylan	ACT	David Walker	ACT
Trudi Canavan	VIC	Richard Harland	NSW	Wendy Munro	NSW	Tony Walters	NSW
Matthew Carter	NSW	Lea Henderson	NSW	Nicole Murphy	NSW	Karen Warnock	NSW
Michele Cashmore	QLD	Beric Henderson	NSW	Sarah Murray-White	NSW	Kaaron Warren	ACT
Angela Challis	WA	Andreea Heriseanu	NSW	Jason Nahrung	QLD	Liz Weir	ACT
Andy Chambers	UK	Karen Herkes	ACT	John Nemesh	NSW	Jo West-Moore	VIC
Queenie Chan	NSW	Joanne Herkes	ACT	Clive Newall	VIC	Lani White	SA
Alan Chick	ACT	Christopher Herkes	ACT	Estelle Newall	VIC	Jaunita Whitehead	WA
Daniel Chivers	VIC	Stuart Herring	ACT	Roger Newall	VIC	Wendy Wildermoth	NSW
Marian Chivers	VIC	Cameron Hill	ACT	Melinda Olive	NSW	Andrew Williams	WA
Eleanor Clarke	NSW	Margaret Hilliard	NSW	Sian O'Neale	VIC	Hannah Wilson	ACT
David Coe	NSW	David Hislop	NSW	Tara Ott	ACT	Richard Womack	NSW
Bruce Collins	ACT	Robert Hoge	QLD	Danny Oz	VIC	Rocky Wood	VIC
Lynn Collins	ACT	Robert Hood	NSW	Shane Parker	ACT	Christine Yates	NSW
Bill Congreve	NSW	Beverley Hope	VIC	Jason Paulos	NSW	Marty Young	NSW
Anneke Cox	ACT	Kandace Horton	WA	Les Petersen	ACT	Daniel Zachariou	NSW
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Patricia Crowther	ACT	Kathleen Jennings	QLD	Gillian Polack	ACT		
Shane Jiraiya Cummings	WA	Robin Johnson	TAS	Ray Polglaze	ACT		
Margi Curtis	NSW	Kristine Johnson	ACT	Allan Price	ACT		
Ryan Curtis	TAS	Jenny Kelly	WA	Marilyn Pride	NSW		
Wilson da Silva	NSW	Peter Kelly	WA	Jason Rand	NSW		



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Conflux 3 Medieval Feast tickets are \$40 per person. The feast will be held on Saturday 10 June, doors opening at 7:30 p.m. and serving at 8 p.m. Menu* includes roasted meats with sauces, spiced vegetables and salad, and a selection of fourteenth century side dishes and sweet dishes. *menu subject to change

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