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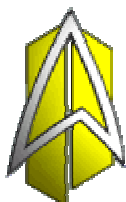
Volume 1, Issue 1

THE ELECTRONIC THUMB

Hammer & Tongs bring breath of fresh air to steak grill

Inside this Issue:

DBA Biography	2
Movie a Myth	2-3
Sci-Fi Expo	3
New Phantasm Movie?	3
Short Biography	4
HHGG The Movie	4
Space Information	5



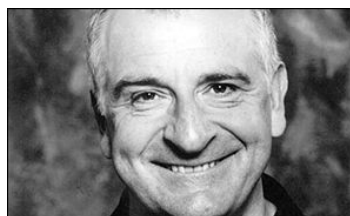
Special points of interest:

- Funny Drawings
- Upcoming Events
- Movie Rumors
- Space Station Information

June 18, 2003

We're pleased to confirm that British directorial duo Hammer & Tongs are set to make their feature-film debut with HHGG.

As the team responsible for compressing the evolution of human life into three minutes for Fatboy Slim's "Right Here, Right Now",



Douglas Adams

H&T are quite accustomed to doing impossible things before breakfast.

Robbie Stamp said today: "Having spent a lot of time with Nick [Goldsmith] and Garth

[Jennings] now and having spent many years working with Douglas, I am sure that he would have revelled in the lateral thinking and visual imagination that the new team brings to this project."

"I also think that he would have been very reassured by their sensitivity to the language, intelligence and humour in the books.

Hammer & Tongs bring breath of fresh air to steak grill (continued)

Above all I think that he would have been reassured by the simple fact that Nick and Garth are also die hard Mac fans."

Douglas likened the Hollywood process to "trying to grill a steak by having a succession of people coming into the room and breathing on it" - with a bit

of luck, Hammer & Tongs have brought coals.

<http://www.douglasadams.com/news/#20030703-0-n.dna>



Wish You Were Here - Headline press announce official DNA biography

UK publishers Headline have set 6th October as the release

date for Nick Webb's authorised biography of Douglas. The aptly named *Wish You Were Here* focuses more on the man than the work, and rather than attempting to write a laundry list, Nick says he has tried to discuss Doug-

las's ideas in a way he hopes is amusing as well as earnest.

"I knew Douglas and liked him a lot. Fortunately my affection survived the process of researching for the book - and that's not always the case as most grown-ups have done something pretty dodgy at some time in our lives." writes Nick.

"It is a bit presumptuous (as Boswell said of his bio of Dr. Johnson) to imagine that you can squeeze a life into a few hundred pages. *Wish You Were Here* has an unconventional structure for an unconventional bloke. I hope that it will give a flavour of the man, and be good company for an hour or two - like Douglas himself."

Wish You Were Here

"I knew
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lot

THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY launched Douglas Adams to instant superstardom when it came out in 1978, becoming a huge success as a novel, radio and TV series. Like all his best work it was funny, but seriously funny. helped inspire the techies of the IT

But Adams the comic writer who worked with Monty Python among others is only part of the story. He had a probing scientific mind, and was happy discussing ideas with the likes of Richard Dawkins or Steven Pinker. And his ideas in HITCHHIKER

Nick Webb, who knew him very well for many years, has created a wonderful portrait of a larger than life character who is still mourned by his millions of fans around the world.

<http://www.douglasadams.com/news/#20030620-0-n.dna>

Movie a Myth?

Sun, 17 Aug 2003

The movie has been 'in development' for more than 20 years now. No-one has ever been cast, no filming dates have ever been announced. It has never even reached the stage of PRE-production, let alone production! At the moment, there is a script (by Karey Kirkpatrick) and a directing/producing team (Nick

Goldsmith and Garth Jennings aka Hammer and Tongs) is attached. That's all. An enormous amount of rubbish has been written about this film project over the years, especially on the web. Do not believe ANYTHING you read about it unless it is (a) on my site, (b) on www.douglasadams.com, (c) in Variety, or (d) quoting an

official press release from Spyglass Pictures or Disney. To keep track of the project, I suggest you keep a close eye on my site and also join ZZ9 Plural Z Alpha for more detailed information in the club's quarterly mag. (If you contact ZZ9 they will tell you how they can accept payments from abroad.)

Movie a Myth (continued)

For what has happened with the film over the past two decades, I recommend my book *Hitchhiker: A Biography of Douglas Adams* - the American edition will be published in November. As for the current status - if everything suddenly fell into place tomorrow, it's conceivable that the movie might be out in summer 2005, but I wouldn't hold your breath. Personally, based on (a) my background as a film journalist and (b) my many HHGG contacts,

I still give it less than 50 per cent chance of ever being made.

Best,
MJ Simpson
<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/mjs2000/>



Franki Says, well it either is or isn't being made, make up your own mind.



I love to mess with their minds!

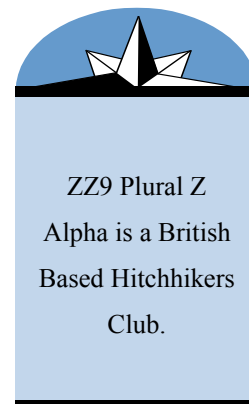


Dallas Comic Con

Special events in the Dallas area since 1996
When: October 25-26, 2003 Saturday 11am-6pm, Sunday 11noon - 4pm.
Where: Plano Convention Center 2000 E Spring Creek Parkway Plano, TX.
Get directions here, www.scifiexpo.com.
Check out our incredible comic artist and media guest lineup!
Many more guests to be announced in the weeks to come



Anthony Danials
C-3PO



Phantasm V: The Rumor Starts

PHANTASM'S END NEWS

((May 28, 2003 A.D.))

The Burbank Fangoria Convention happened last weekend, and Don Coscarelli was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award! Regarding **Phantasm's End**, Don told the crowds that the script is great, yet probably too epic to fully fund. But, he is definitely committed to making another **Phantasm** movie even if that means writing a more feasible **Phantasm V** on his own. One way or another, **Phantasm V** will happen!

((May 16, 2003 A.D.))

Reggie Bannister, Bruce Campbell, and Don Coscarelli have been added with Angus Scrimm to Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors convention, May 24-25 at the Burbank Airport Hilton. Bruce will be Saturday only, and Angus will be Sunday only, but this marks a get-together of all the **Phantasm's End** principals - and we can tell you that "tantalizing hints of a new **Phantasm**" will be main the subject. So be sure to attend, meet your heroes, get the latest news - and tell'em phantasmsend.com sent ya!

Also, this was in a recent LA Times article: *Campbell and Coscarelli began plotting a collaboration three years ago, when the director co-wrote (with Pulp Fiction Oscar-winner Roger Avey) the screenplay for Phantasm V, which had a juicy role in it for Campbell. "The idea was to sort of combine the Evil Dead and Phantasm franchises by bringing him in to fight the Tall Man. The fans of both series would go crazy for that," Coscarelli says. "But then you pitch it to executives and their eyes glaze over. Success in the genre is both a blessing and a curse. I'm always able to get funding for further Phantasm movies at a certain budget level, but it also marks you as a little too cultish in the eyes of the Hollywood big shots."*

Short Biography for Jay Roach

Spouse: Susanna Hoffs

Married: April 17, 1993 to Present—Two Children.

Trivia

Graduated from USC School of Cinema-Television (1986)

Signed to direct *The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy* feature movie, adapted from the novels by late sci-fi comedy author Douglas Adams.

Graduate of Stanford University

<http://us.imdb.com/name/nm0005366/>



Jay Roach

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
May or may not be Due out 2005

Plot Outline: Mere seconds before the Earth is to be demolished by an alien construction crew, journeyman Arthur Dent is swept off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher penning a new edition of "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy."

<http://us.imdb.com/title/tt0371724/>



<http://us.imdb.com/name/nm0005366/>

Hitchhiker Movie News

As has been known for a number of months, *Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy* is coming to the cinema. At the time of going to press, The

Digital Village and Douglas have just signed the deal with Disney subsidiary Hollywood Pictures, who will be the distributing studio. Douglas is currently putting the fin-

ishing touches to the first draft of the script, and Jay Roach (director of *Austin Powers - International Man Of Mystery*) is lined up to direct. Douglas will also be

Hitchhiker Movie News *continued....*

an executive producer, as will TDV's CEO, Robbie Stamp.

Work has already started at TDV creating a brand new *Hitchhiker* game for home computers and consoles, which is

currently being described as "an action-adventure game involving cricket, tea, petunias and very long lunches." Both the film and game are scheduled to appear in summer 2000.

<http://www.douglasadams.com/news/19980815-0-n.html>

Space Environment and Effects

The **Space Environment and Effects (SEE) Program** collects, develops, and disseminates the SEE-related technologies required to design, manufacture and operate more reliable, cost-effective spacecraft for the government and commercial sectors.

In partnership with industry, academia, and other government agencies, the **SEE Program** defines the space environments and advocates technology

development to accommodate or mitigate these harmful environments on spacecraft; hence the technology is transferred to spacecraft developers for incorporation in design.

<http://see.msfc.nasa.gov/>



Space one of the many frontiers

The International Space Station

The International Space Station is the largest and most complex international scientific project in history. And when it is complete just after the turn of the century, the station will represent a move of unprecedented scale off the home planet. Led by the United States, the International Space Station draws upon the scientific and technological resources of 16 nations: Canada, Japan, Russia,

11 nations of the European Space Agency and Brazil.

ratories.

More than four times as large as the Russian Mir space station, the completed International Space Station will have a mass of about 1,040,000 pounds. It will measure 356 feet across and 290 feet long, with almost an acre of solar panels to provide electrical power to six state-of-the-art labo-



More than four times as large as the Russian Mir space station,

U.S. Role and Contributions

The United States has the responsibility for developing and ultimately operating major elements and systems aboard the station. The U.S. elements include three connecting modules, or nodes; a laboratory module; truss segments; four solar arrays; a habitation module; three mating adapters; a cupola; .

an unpressurized logistics carrier and a centrifuge module. The various systems being developed by the U.S. include thermal control; life support; guidance, navigation and control; data handling; power systems; communications

and tracking; ground operations facilities and launch-site processing facilities.

http://www.shuttlepresskit.com/ISS_OVR/index.htm

The Electronic Thumb

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The Beginning

The Original Electronic Thumb was published during the early 1990's for a group of fans on Prodigy. It contained short stories and poems and drawings submitted by the group. Now that the Internet has burst apart at the seams and Hitchhikers has spread across the globe. I've decided to try to bring back my fanzine from my archives (in other words, I'm bored to tears)

I hope that many of you come across this new-zine and enjoy it, maybe even decide to contribute to it. But unlike the Original, there will be many other types of Science Fiction presented in here, as I understand that many people like many things.

The Electronic Thumb will be a fanzine for the people of the Internet and as much as I would like to copyright this "zine" I just don't have the money at this time. Please provide the source for any material you wish to re-produce from this "zine" And if you wish to provide material for this Fanzine, please provide the source that you either copied it from, or let us know if it is original material.

We are on the web:

www.fortunecity.com/tattooine/uhura/72/hitch.htm

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Franki Mouse greets you

The Electronic Thumb
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Franki Mouse
Newsletter Editor / Pro-
ducer

