

## Music of the Heavens: *Star Wars* in Concert

John Williams' stirring music for *Star Wars* took center stage at the Verizon Center on July 17th with the show *Star Wars in Concert*. Although tickets were expensive, we sprung for seats on the lower level—to be closer to the action and to enjoy the concert without our noses bleeding. If you've been in the upper levels of the Verizon Center, you know what I mean.

The show started in the lobby. Several costumes and props from all six movies were on display around the lobby. The Darth Vader

costume, animatronic Yoda, and Han Solo in carbonite were the most popular displays. Many of the fans came in costume, including a lot of children.

Several of the costumes were almost professional level, such as the two in Man-

dalian armor that were sitting next to us. They were actually posing for pictures with fans, even though they were fans themselves. You could also get your picture with Darth Vader and some Storm Troopers, but we could do that at Shore Leave.

Instead of being recorded, this show was done by a live orchestra. Scenes from the movies played on a screen mounted behind them. When not showing clips from the movies, shots of the orchestra from a boom camera showed on the screen. To our surprise, the narrator of the show was none other than Anthony "C3PO" Daniels! He's looking very well-preserved, and still robot-thin. The show told the story of episodes 1-3 (the Anakin part) first.

Each of the main characters had his or her own segment, including the Droids. The Jar Jar section was mercifully short. After the intermission, the show continued on to the familiar Luke/Leia parts of the story. And yes, they used clips from the remastered "Greedo shoots first" versions. I noticed scatted boos when THAT scene was shown during the rousing "Cantina Band"

*Continued on page 6*



### IN THIS ISSUE:

Art Credits	3
Captain's Log	2
Club Members	
Insert front	
Coming Events	6
Directions to Meeting	
Insert front	
Meeting Minutes	
Insert back	
Reflections	4
Review	1
Science Trek	3
Star Trek Books	5

## Dive into our August Meeting

The next monthly meeting of the U.S.S. Chesapeake Star Trek and Science Fiction Club will be held on Saturday, August 21, at the home of the parental units of First Officer Abbygail P. Lindstrom, in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

We'll start the splashing about 3:00 p.m., then start the stuffing around 5:00 p.m. Our club meeting will start no later

than 7:00 p.m.

During this month's meeting, we'll talk about what fellow club members have been up to and catch up on the latest sci-fi television shows and feature films. For directions to this month's meeting, get the latest insert. ■

# CAPTAIN'S LOG: 'A Voice for the Voiceless'

*Continued from last month...*

Antus then orders all *Enterprise* crew members to hand over their weapons and communicators. If Chekov is found guilty of the crime, the chancellor says, the Russian crewman will be executed, and the starship will be destroyed.

Kirk and Spock remain in the retention facility until Graff Solas, a man claiming he's with the VOV, releases them and tells them evidence to prove their innocence is on the third floor. But before they

can reach their destination, the trio is confronted by Metak and a group of Klingons.

Metak states that he and the Klingons killed the

queen, who was secretly the head of the VOV. "And now, we will kill you as well."

During the ensuing shootout, Solas is hit, and Kirk and Spock split up to avoid capture. The captain and his first officer rendezvous at the security terminal, and the science officer immediately begins searching for evidence of their innocence.

Chancellor Antus finds the Federation officers just before Metak arrives and charges that Kirk and Spock received help from the VOV. He then notes that the VOV member's body is in section 32C, which he states is more than enough evidence to prove their guilt.

Surprisingly, Spock agrees with Metak that the footage in that area is "quite compelling," which leads Kirk to ask just which side his first officer is on, "exactly."

But when Spock replays the recording from that section, it clearly shows Metak admitting he and his allies killed the queen, "and now, we will kill you as well."

"You and your big mouth," K'Pfol snarls. "Now they will never give us the dilithium we require," he grumbles before having himself and his fellow Klingons beamed back to their ship.

While Metak asks for mercy, Antus says he will show his wrath instead. He commands the planetary defense system

to focus on the Battle Cruiser.

Just then, Scotty and Sulu are finishing another round of

their practice exer-

cise, but at the end of their simulation, the Klingon ship is destroyed before their very surprised eyes. Scotty's reaction is priceless: "Mister Sulu! Look at what you've done!"

Later, Kirk, Spock, McCoy and Antus take in the beauty of the cothlemons, and the science officer states that with her telepathic abilities, the queen could communicate with the creatures while others couldn't. "She truly was a voice for the voiceless."

"And thanks to the crew of the *Enterprise*, her death was not in vain," Antus concludes.

Good thing you can't see my jellyfish Clint Eastwood hat. It's all gooey and sticky. Yuk.



Opening shot for the above titled Episode of *Star Trek: The Machinima Series*

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Check out our club website: [www.usschesapeake.org](http://www.usschesapeake.org)

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# SCIENCE *TREK*: The Discovered Country

You know what's coming, don't you? For those lucky few you don't, it's the next installment of our continuing series called "Science by Season" where we explore (originally) the science in each season of *Star Trek*. This month we reach a landmark: the eleventh SxS column on *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*, the last of *Classic Trek*.

With Shakespeare-quoting Klingons, an exploding moon, and those ubiquitous gaseous anomalies, our intrepid *Enterprise* crew literally signed this film as their farewell. As usual, we'll explore some of the scientific and technological aspects of the film.

## Praxis goes Boom

Where else is their to start? If you've seen (and remember) the movie, you know the story. The moon blows up because of "inadequate safety precautions," taking the Klingon's primary energy production facility with it as well as destroying the planet's ozone layer. Nothing like a Cold War + environmental movement metaphor to get the blood flowing. Here's what bothers me: You ever see one of those Discovery channel specials on Earth's moon and the key role it plays not only in the tides, but also in keeping the planet steady as it spins around the sun? All I'm saying is that I think the immediate damage would have been much more severe—like making the Klingon homeworld practically uninhabitable—given the shock wave that Sulu's *Exzelsior* barely escaped.

## Magnetic Boots

Knock the artificial gravity out of commission, then march around the ship in magnetic boots. That, my friends, is science fiction in its classic glory. I am surprised that Klingon battle school did not include classes in zero-g combat.

## Purple Blood

Yes, the producers allegedly made the blood pepto-bismal colored to avoid an

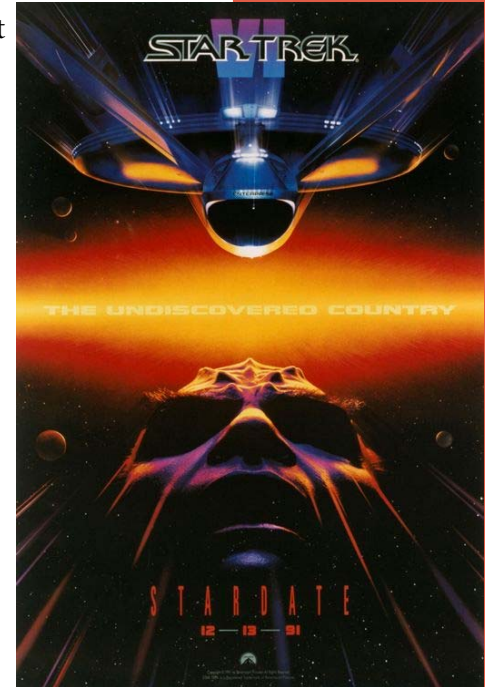
"R" rating, but what's the in-universe explanation? There must be some for continuity's sake. This one is your home work assignment. Go research and come back with 5—7 page paper (single spaced, one-sided, and no Wikipedia in the references section).

## Shapeshifting

Martia was not the first shapeshifter in the *Trek* universe, nor the last, but she had four good bodies...err, shapes to shift into: Iman, escapee from *Planet of the Apes*, the young blond refuge from a Disney film, and the indomitable J. T. Kirk. Of course, the lesson she forgot is never trust your Klinton jailers.

## Mindboarding

Spock forcibly mindmelds with Valeris to get information. Vulcan Torture, 23rd century style, pure and simple. What's the future version of Guantanamo? Oh wait, that's Rura Penthe. At least Cuba is warmer. ■



*To be continued*

Web Notes:

[http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0102975/0,28804,2004390\\_2004395\\_2004483,00.html](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0102975/0,28804,2004390_2004395_2004483,00.html)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star\\_Trek\\_VI:\\_The\\_Undiscovered\\_Country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Trek_VI:_The_Undiscovered_Country)

[http://memory-alpha.org/wiki/Star\\_Trek\\_VI:\\_The\\_Undiscovered\\_Country](http://memory-alpha.org/wiki/Star_Trek_VI:_The_Undiscovered_Country)

Second Officer Phil Margolies

I don't remember this scene

## ART CREDITS:

desktopstarships.com 6  
impawards.com 3

lifeisaroad.com 4  
Shore-leave.com

Insert - back  
Starwarsinconcert.com 1

Mermaidpoolparty.com  
Insert - front  
Youtube.com 2,5

# REFLECTIONS: Waiting to Exhale

After a summer of anticipation. After a season of speculation and conjecture. After four months dangling precariously on the edge of our seat, its hour had come 'round at last. *Andromeda's* highly anticipated second season is finally underway.

After witnessing one to the most harrowing season ending cliffhangers in television history.... Yes, that's what I said. television history. The envisage for this episode was immense, it ranked up there with "Who shot J.R.?" On the same level as *Next Generation's* "Best of Both Worlds." It was equally looking forward as any of the *Deep Space Nine* season openers. This one had the fans buzzing.

When I think back on the excitement of that season opener, I can't help but remember the folks who questioned the very existence of the show at first. Those who dismissed it as a cheap excuse to profit from Roddenberry's name; those notions vanished once this show aired, although some of that would return later this season (We're getting to that, patience.), these were the same people who were waiting all summer with baited breath for the second season opener.

## *The Widening Gyre – Robert Hewitt Wolfe*

Dylan and Rommie make their way to the Magog Worldship to save T'yr and Harper. While back on a critically damaged *Andromeda*, Beka prepares to fire a Nova bomb into the sun of...the Worldship.

We open with the *Andromeda* severely crippled. It's a dead, lifeless hulk drifting aimlessly in space above the Magog Worldship. a group of Magog-filled planets linked together around an artificially created sun. Magog technology has obviously been nudged along by the Magog god, the Spirit of the Abyss. The Spirit of the Abyss seems to be of the

same origin as Trance Gemini, an evil version of Trance, but I'm getting ahead of myself.

Rommie was impaled with a heavy metal rod and left for dead by the Magog. Dylan, Beka and Trance fell victim to an explosion on the bridge, thanks to gunfire from the Magog. T'yr and Harper, when last seen, appeared to be eaten by the Magog. It's safe to say that the Magog are not your ideal dinner guests.

Meanwhile, on the Worldship, Rev Bem, that's his "food name", his full "food name" is Reverend Bemhelium Far Traveler, who's given name is Red Plague and is having a crisis of faith. He has killed and tasted Magog flesh and is starting to remember how much he likes it.

His resolve is growing weaker by the minute, thanks to some encouragement from the Magog Bloodmist. Bloodmist is equally as intelligent as Rev Bem and has found his savior not in the Divine, but in the Spirit of the Abyss. Rev is being seriously tempted to the dark side.

Trance manages to fix Dylan and Beka since we've seen her do the impossible before, Dylan uses the Maru to board the Worldship. He and Rommie use the immune system nanobots secretly planted in each crew member, to find T'yr and Harper. We find out that Dylan still has a Nova Bomb, also withheld from the crew, He gives Beka orders to launch the bomb into the Magog sun in three hours, hoping that would be time enough to find T'yr and Harper and get the heck out of there. When T'yr finds out about the Nova Bomb, he'll cry real tears.

Meanwhile, on the Worldship, we discover good news and bad news. The



What do you mean, not that 'dark side'? Do I still get a free cookie?

*Continued on page 6*



## CAPTAIN'S LOG: 'A Voice for the Voiceless' [concluded]

**The Good:** This is the first fan production I've seen that uses the uniforms from *Star Trek XI*. Nevertheless, the episode also made good use of background music from original *Trek*.

'Voice' also does a nice job of carrying a message to its viewers about animal rights and abuse by putting a contemporary theme in *Star Trek* terms. Well done!

**The Bad:** Because Phillips uses animation found in *Star Trek Online*, every once in a while, we have a huge view of an empty room, or members of the crew standing quite far apart. In addition, no one's lips moved when talking. Still, it's pretty obvious who was speaking because

that person's head would move a bit to draw our eyes to that individual.

**The Ugly:** While it's still an excellent first effort, "Voice" made it obvious that the episode was based on a gaming program when someone fired their weapons, and when someone was hit, the character was surrounded by a blue electric charge, which made me think they were "losing points" instead of battling enemies.

If you'd like to watch "A Voice for the Voiceless," point your browser [here](#), and while you're there, you might also want to look at the first act of Phillips' next *Trek* project: "Return to Gothos."

<http://www.youtube.com/user/pcolapatt>

Captain Randy Hall

## BOOK REVIEW: *Seven Deadly Sins*, 'Freedom Angst'

"Freedom's Angst" takes place in the "Mirror Universe" at the time of the Deep Space Nine Season One episode, "The Emissary". As the previous anthology stories focused on the sins of Pride, Greed, Envy and Wrath, this tale focuses on Lust. Given that this is happening within the context of the Mirror Universe, the first thought that crossed my mind was "Ah, another story about the Intendant and ALL of her various lusts!" As it turns out, the Intendant is not the only one indulging in lust. The alternate Benjamin Sisko has some of his own as well!

In addition to the obvious lust for women other than his wife, Jennifer, he also lusts after the freedom that is beyond his grasp, the power to be his own boss instead of being someone's tool to execute debtors who owe latinum to the Cardassians, and to answer to no one. Unfortunately, in the confines of the

Cardassian-Klingon-Bajoran Alliance, that freedom does not exist. He also realizes, belatedly, that the Intendant is not the only one lusting after him as his best friend, a Trill male, makes a pass at him and threatens blackmail unless he submits to his desires! Sorry, buddy, but Ben just does not swing that way!

All of this out-of-control lust eventually has its consequences and Ben Sisko finds that he can never have what he truly wants. He is the Intendant's sex slave whenever she demands it and knows that dire penalties will result if his "performance" does not meet HER Narcissistic standards! He has been given his own ship and crew but at what cost to himself besides his marriage? His self-respect to be sure! ■

Pat McCoy, *Xenobiologist and Xenopsychologist*



Sneaky Animated Characters



Let's see...the Klingon's obvious, but which sin is the Cardassian?

# COMING EVENTS

August 21..... Time for our next monthly meeting! We'll be at the Abby's Parent's House in Gaithersburg, Maryland. We'll start swimming at 3:00, then our monthly club about 7:00 .p.m.!

## REFLECTIONS: Waiting to Exhale [concluded]

good news is that T'yr and Harper had not been eaten, at least, not yet. The bad news is they been infested with Magog larvae, and once the larvae wake up, they'll be eaten. No matter how optimistic you are, there is no glass half full sentiment here.

On the Worldship, Dylan encounters Magog with guns (that is SO wrong). T'yr is blown away by a Magog quoting Dante. They discover that the Worldship is headed toward populated space. Becka launched the Nova

Bomb, with Dylan, Rommie, T'yr and Harper still on it, which managed to extinguish its sun, but not the worlds. The

bad news is that the Worldship is still headed toward populated space. The good news is its moving at a much slower pace.

Dylan manages to save T'yr and Harper, breaking his ankle in the process. This prompts T'yr to utter the memorable line, "I know but one person idiotic enough to try and rescue three dead men from a Magog hive!"

Dylan's response was, "That's me, Captain Idiot!"

Trance manages to remove the Magog larvae from T'yr's body, almost killing him in the process. They are afraid to try with Harper. He's given medicine that keeps the larvae dormant, but it is only temporary. ★★☆☆☆ ■

Conn Officer Lorenzo "Seen Not" Heard

## REVIEW: Star Wars in Concert [concluded]

sequence.

The highlight, of course, was the Imperial March. The orchestra played it twice—once for the encore, including lasers. One suggestion that we made afterwards is that they should have had Vader and some Storm Troopers march out during the encore. And yes, I did do the "Imperial Death Macarena." Old habits die hard.

After the show, we walked around photographing the rest of the props and costumes, then went to the Smithsonian American Art Museum to see an exhibit of Norman Rockwell paintings owned by George Lucas and Steven Spielberg. They've both been influenced by Rockwell's work, and have put in subtle homages to Rockwell in their movies. For ex-

ample, the Suzanne Somers "Girl in the white convertible" character from *American Graffiti* was a homage to the Rockwell painting of the truck drivers flirting with a blond in a white convertible. It's nice to actually see what all of the money that we spent on tickets to *E.T.*, *Star Wars* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* went to!

If it comes back around and you're inclined to listen to some live orchestral music, I would recommend paying the money for *Star Wars in Concert*. If only to see some of the props and costumes used in the movies. It was a good show, but maybe a little too intense for very young children. ■

Starfleet Intelligence Officer Annie White



Ms. Trance Gemini