TON-1999

A 50th Anniversary Celebration

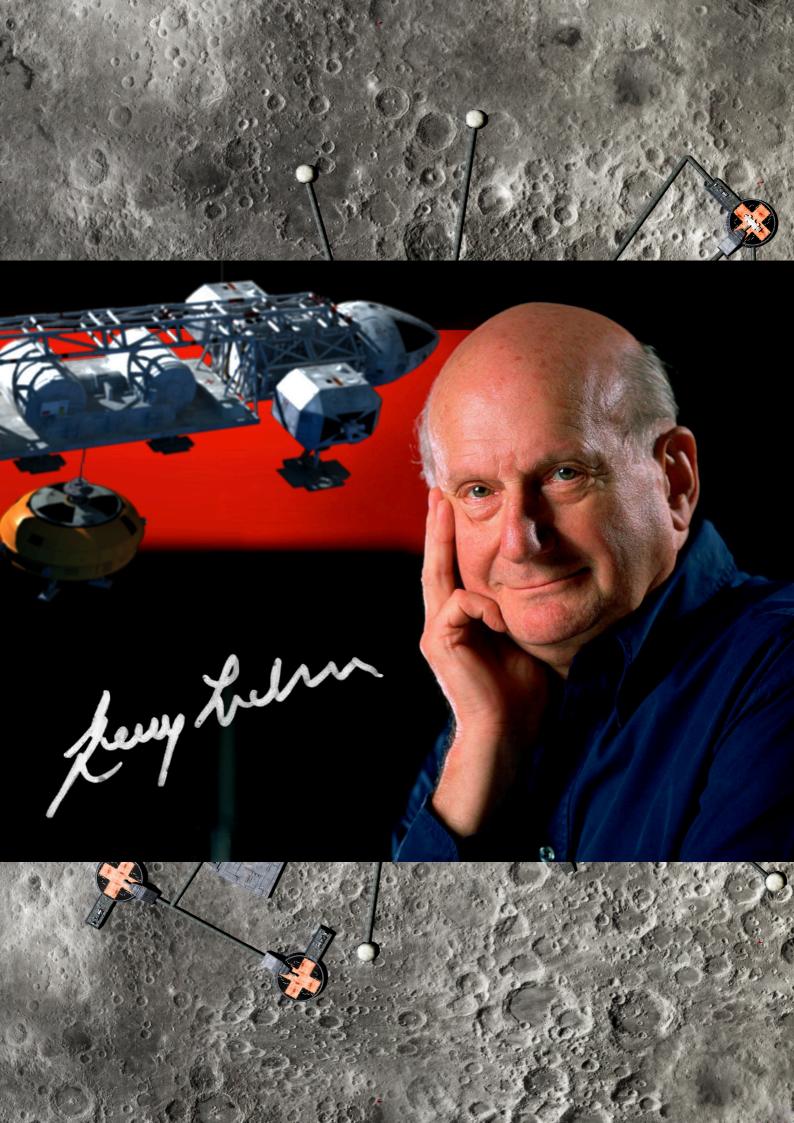


Celebrating 50 years of Space: 1999 September 13th - 15th, 2024



Welcome to London to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Space: 1999! This event is all about coming together to honour the legacy of the series and the incredible work of so many fantastically talented people - many of whom are no longer with us, but several will be joining you over the weekend. Space: 1999 holds a special place in the world of science fiction. It pushed the boundaries of what was possible on TV, combining philosophical and thrilling storytelling with pioneering effects. Today, as you dive into the world of Moonbase Alpha, you're stepping into a part of that legacy - a legacy that is intimately connected to my late father, Gerry Anderson. The team behind the event has lots of great stuff lined up for you. There are panel discussions with some of the people who made the show what it is, exclusive screenings, and a chance to check out some rare memorabilia. Plus, you'll get to hear more about how Space: 1999 has influenced not just sci-fi, but realworld space exploration too. And the legacy continues with new novels (The Armageddon Engine), role play games, collectibles and much more. Space: 1999 remains alive and well thanks to your enthusiasm and support for this five-decade-old show. This celebration is as much about the fans as it is about the show, so I'm so glad you're here to be part of it. Let's make this 50th anniversary something special, together!

Jamie Anderson



The genesis of Space: 1999

For many British fans, Space: 1999 was one in a continuum of shows they'd grown up with. From the late 1950s onwards they were entertained by the many worlds of Gerry and Sylvia

Anderson on the commercial ITV network.

The Andersons were part of AP Films, with Arthur Provis, Reg Hill and John Read. Their first foray into TV was when they were commissioned by Roberta Leigh to work on The Adventures of Twizzle in 1957 and Torchy the Battery Boy in 1959. Both series featured toys; Twizzle could extend his arms and legs and Torchy was built with a battery in his body and a lamp on his head. The episodes were about 15 minutes long.

APF decided not to work with Roberta Leigh on the second season of Torchy, and started a new series, Four Feather Falls, in association with Granada Television. It was a cowboy show with magical elements, based on an idea by Barry Gray, who also wrote the music, as he had for Twizzle and Torchy.

For the first time the puppets mouths were synchronised with the recorded dialogue, to make it more obvious which character was speaking. The heads contained rods to move the eyes and a solenoid to create movement in the lips, so they had to be large in proportion to the bodies. This feature continued in most of the puppet shows the Andersons went on to produce. Part way through production Arthur Provis left APF.

In 1960 Four Feather Falls was the first APF show to be shown across the UK on all the franchises in the ITV network. There were annuals, a comic strip in TV Comic and a board game based on the show. Despite that, Granada didn't order a second series, so the Andersons approached Lew Grade, founder of the Independent Television Company (ITC), with a new idea: Supercar.

Grade bought the show, starting a business relationship that lasted until the 1970s (he later bought APF). Supercar was longer than previous shows, on for 30 minutes. This was the first containing the legend: Filmed in Supermarionation! It was also the first time Sylvia voiced some of the characters. She was credited as Sylvia Tamm for the first series, before she married Gerry in 1960. The show also had a dedicated special effects unit that included such familiar names as Derek Meddings and Brian Johnson. Supercar was syndicated in the USA and sold to countries worldwide.

With the space race starting, the natural next step was a voyage to the stars! Colonel Steve Zodiac, Doctor Venus and Professor Matthew Matic had adventures in the rocket Fireball XL5. This trio - the leader who can pilot the ship, blonde female doctor, expert in space medicine, and science officer who is an old professor - might be a line up Space: 1999 fans recognise! Sylvia Anderson lent her voice to Venus and Gerry Anderson used an artificial larynx to produce the voice of Robert the Robot.

Fireball XL5 was first shown in 1962 and was the only Anderson programme shown by an American network (NBC). It spawned tie-in merchandise and a long running comic strip that appeared in TV Comic then, from 1965, TV Century 21.

"Anything can happen in the next half hour!"

That certainly was true in the next Anderson series, Stingray, which came down to Earth with a splash. It was filmed in 1963 in colour - sorry, Videocolor! One of the first colour TV series in the UK. The sculptors made more than one head for some of the puppets, so the characters could be shown with different expressions. Stingray was shown from autumn 1964 in the UK (the same year we got a 3rd TV channel) and was syndicated in the States.

There was a nod to the series in Aquaman (2018), when Stingray is on TV at the beginning, and it's now counted as one of the great Supermarionation series. It was the first Anderson show to feature in TV Century 21, a comic produced in partnership with APF, and there were 2 books and 3 audio adventures.

5-4-3-2-1: Thunderbirds are go!

Thunderbirds had everything going for it. Disasters. Secret base. Spaceships. Underwater vessel. Cool English aristocrat (voiced by Sylvia Anderson). Working class sidekick. Sneaky villain. What about square jawed hero? Not just one, it had five! Grade saw its potential and gave extra funding to extend the episodes to 50 minutes. Screened from 1965 it won a Royal Television Society award the following year.

Toys, a comic strip, a new Lady Penelope comic and 2 feature films followed, though Lew Grade cancelled the TV show after he failed to sell it to a network in the US. Such was its continuing appeal, Thunderbirds inspired a rush on toy Tracey Islands when the series was reshown in the 1980s. Its legacy continued with an anime series in the 80s, 2 series edited from the original shows in the 90s, a live action film version in 2004 and the animated Thunderbirds are Go from 2015 to 2020. In one episode Lady Penelope (Rosamund Pike) gets a visit from her Great Aunt Sylvia, voiced, of course, by Sylvia Anderson.

With Thunderbirds cancelled, the Andersons and their company (now called Century 21 Productions) started work on Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons and innovation continued. This was the first Supermarionation series to have puppets with heads in proportion with their bodies, though they arguably lost some of their charm - and were more difficult to work with. This series, which premiered in 1967, was back to 25 minutes, but it was a lot darker in tone.

After all (spoiler!) our hero gets killed in the first episode!

As with other Anderson shows there were books, comic strips, audio adventures and models based on the cars and aircraft. In 2005 Gerry Anderson produced New Captain Scarlet, which was computer animated in Hypermarionation.

Bane of every bespectacled schoolboy (and possibly some girls too), Joe 90 was the kid who got to be a spy! The series was on our screens from 1968 and was obviously aimed at boys. Tie-ins included model cars, comics and a briefcase like the eponymous hero used. And it had an absolutely fantastic theme tune!

And now we come to perhaps the strangest offering from Century 21, The Secret Service. This was another spy series - but what a spy! Instead of a child in glasses, he was disguised as a vicar, who can shrink and speaks gibberish (actually Unwinese, developed by Stanley Unwin, who starred in the show). The series combined Supermarionation with long shots in live action. On seeing the pilot Lew Grade cancelled the show, when only about half the planned episodes had been produced. They weren't shown across the whole of the UK. Despite that, there were 2 books and a comic strip, based on the series, which started its limited run on TV in 1969. But the series wasn't the only thing Century 21 was working on.

The Andersons and Donald James wrote Doppelganger, as a TV play, before realising it could be a film, which they produced with Universal Studios. The Andersons at last were working on a live action film, featuring the special effects they were well known for. It wasn't a success, but it united the Andersons with some of the actors they would work with again later. After disagreements during filming John Read left Century 21, and the title he'd suggested was changed in the USA to Journey to the Far Side of the Sun. It was released in 1969.

UFO was the next series produced by Century 21, using some of the props and cast from Doppelganger. The series had a break in production caused by the closure of the MGM-British studios, so they moved to Pinewood to complete the 26 episodes. Like other Anderson productions there were toy cars and an interceptor, made by Dinky (and finished in the wrong colour, like they did later with the Eagles). The series was shown in 1970 in the UK and 2 years later in the States.

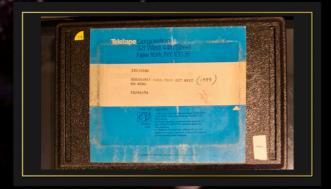
The next series was a departure for the Andersons - a contemporary adventure series that ran for 2 seasons. It was the first produced by the Andersons and Reg Hill's new company Group 3. In another change, it didn't feature music from Barry Gray. Like most it had a Transatlantic feel with an American star, Robert Vaughan. The Protectors also starred two actors who would appear later in Space: 1999 - Tony Anholt and Yasuko Nagazumi. The series started being shown in 1972. Look out for the 2 parter guest-starring Prentis Hancock!

In 1972, UFO was being shown and enjoyed in the USA. They wanted more - and Group 3 started to work on a sequel. Then the powers that be decided they wanted a series that was set in space, without the Earthbound elements. That was when Space: 1999 came into being.



The MARTIN LANDAU U-Matic Tapes











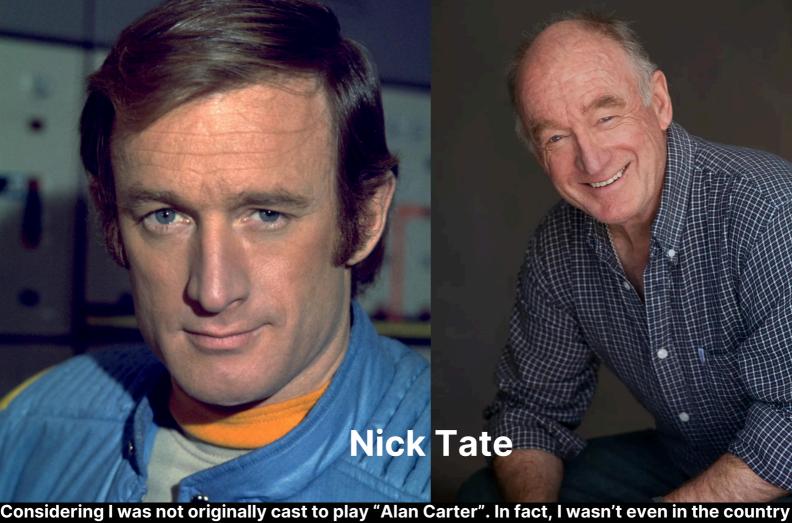


In early 2023, a number of fans were involved in recovering these precious archive finds from extinction. While many episodes were final broadcast versions, there were some rare alternate scenes uncovered which we're thrilled to be presenting this weekend. This find also provided the inspiration and basis for the remarkable reconstruction of 'Breakaway' as well as a few other surprises...

46 out of 48 episodes were found, along with two copies of Destination: Moonbase Alpha, incorrectly labelled 'Return To Moonbase Alpha'







the day Gerry and Silvia Anderson started pre production on "SPACE 1999". No, instead I had just arrived from Australia to start rehearsals for the smash hit comedy. "Don's Party" for the "Royal Court" in London. However, I was asked to take a meeting with the Anderson's, at Pinewood studios, the home of so many legendary movies. Silvia had worked with my dad as he did many character v/os in Thunderbirds. So she took me on a tour of the set. I was blown away by everything they were doing ... I sensed in my bones that this show could be sensational.

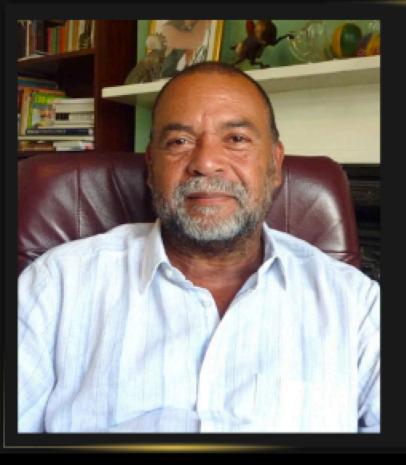
We had just landed on the moon 4 years earlier and a Moon Base was planned and the possibilities were endless. Sylvia and I got on so well together she said... Nick, it's a pity you weren't here when we were casting ...but I'd love to find something for you, if you're interested.?

The next day news came that "Don's Party" was shunted 6 months ahead. I also took two other meetings that proved very positive. But Silvia was as good as her word and I was offered a contract to play an Astronaut that is killed in the Pilot episode.... All that followed ... and just how he developed into the Chief Astronaut Capt. Alan Carter. I will talk about at the Convention., Because it was a wonderful promotion that literally changed my life. This allowed me the great opportunity to work with some very talented international movie stars like Martin Landau, Barry Morse, Leo McKern, Peter Cushing, Joan Collins, Ian McShane, Brian Blessed, the list is long and I enjoyed trading verbal gymnastics with every one of them. So, it is no surprise to me that 50 years after the first episodes went to air, there are still today hundreds of thousands of loyal science fiction fans who still love "SPACE 1999" all over the world. My fan club alone www.nicktate.com. has continuously been fielding questions for most of the past 50 years. Phil Proctor and Eileen Skidmore were founder members and became wonderful friends of mine and jointly went on to run the club wonderfully until sadly they both went to see The Big Guy in the Sky about 6 years ago - they are both sorely missed.





Prentis Hancock, born on May 14, 1942, in Glasgow, Scotland, is a British actor renowned for his roles in classic television series. He is best known for playing Paul Morrow in Space: 1999 and appearing in several episodes of Doctor Who during the 1970s. Hancock's career spans numerous TV shows, including Z-Cars, Colditz, and The New Avengers. His versatility and dedication have made him a memorable figure in British television.





Anton Phillips

Having been brought up with Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, Robert Heinlein, Arthur C Clark, and other great writers of SiFi, it was an unexpected pleasure to be offered a part in Space 1999. I had recently graduated from drama college and was making my way nicely in the theatre. This was a time when Avant guard and experimental theatre was all the rage. I was appearing in an utterly baffling play, at lunch time, in a famous pub theatre in London. Michael Barnes, casting director for Space 1999, came to see another actor who was in the play. He invited me to come to Pinewood to meet Sylvia Anderson. I met the wonderful Sylvia, and was offered the part of Bob Mathias in the first episode.

I was given a brief outline of the episode, fitted for a costume, and in what seemed like no time was on set. Wow! Martin Landau, Barry Morse, Barbara Bain, all big stars that I had been watching for years. Not only would I be working with them, but here I was at Pinewood Studios. Things could not get better. But actually, things did get better as I got to know the actors and crew I was working with. I must have done something right on my first day of shooting, as I was offered the rest of the series a day or two later.

So many friends and colleagues have gone to the stars, but I remember them with fondness for their friendship, gratitude for their help and patience, and admiration for their talent. We would not be here celebrating the 50th anniversary if it were not for the fans. The fans have kept Space alive and well over the years. It is always a pleasure to see new people joining the established family of fans. As a Space veteran I am still happy to be part of the adventure.

Anton Phillips, August 11th, 2024





Catherine Schell, born on July 17, 1944, in Budapest, Hungary, is a talented actress known for her work in both film and television. She gained widespread recognition for her role as Maya in the second season of the science fiction series Space: 1999. Schell also appeared in notable films such as On Her Majesty's Secret Service (1969) and The Return of the Pink Panther (1975). Her diverse career and captivating performances have made her a beloved figure in the entertainment industry.



Here are a couple of memories from the glorious summer of 1976 when 1999 seemed so far ahead of us and now unbelievably to me., as far behind. We were filming an episode called BETA-CLOUD and I unfortunately had succeeded in dislocating my shoulder playing tennis two days before a scheduled fight between Tony Anholt playing Tony Verdeschi versus a huge alien played by David Prowse of Darth Vader fame. Unsurprisingly I was somewhat worried about this fight with my mobile shoulder joint, so I meekly voiced my fearsto Dave......."Oh don't you worry mate, I'll see you alright" he said......and he did. As a child David had polio and used body-building on his road to recovery. He was phenomenally strong, but a truly gentle giant. In the fight he had 12 stone of Tony draped round his shoulders and 12 stone of BillFraser ...me...nonchalantly tucked under his arm....keep your elbows tucked in and hang on tight to my arm...and *try* and "RELAX"

he advised......(easier said than done)......in the event he flipped me backwards, like a bag of pop-corn, then he had me pressed over the console and happily landing on the mattress behind the console in one piece, undislocated. ...,it's always good to work with people who know what they are doing,,,,,,even if you don't.

I was a neophyte in front of the movie camera as I was more used to stage work, but one learns or hopes to be given the chance to learn.

Thank you David, thank you Brian and thank you all cast and crew (now not all still with us. RIP)

Space was happy days for me and special thanks to you all for watching. All Best Wishes

John Hug. (Bill Fraser)

Fandom

When we look back at the beginnings of Space: 1999 fandom, we have to acknowledge a perhaps painful truth. The first 2 events that included a Space: 1999 star were actually Star Trek conventions - one in the USA and the other in the UK.

The first was in the August Party 1976, at the University of Maryland. One of the organisers was the late Mary Bloemker, who ran the Main Mission Alpha fan club for many years. As a Space: 1999 fan, though unusually for that event, Mary invited a guest - Nick Tate, who was on a promotional tour of the US.

Later that year Nick was invited to attend the Terracon, a Star Trek con in Leeds. He went along with a publicist from the show, and they invited six fans to visit Pinewood, to see the filming. One of them, the late Robin Hill, later wrote an entertaining article about the trip to the studios, including Bray, where he was able to show his scratch-built Eagle to Brian Johnson.

Fan clubs sprang up and while some clearly found out about them through Star Trek fandom, others would find out from magazines. No Internet then! For example, in the USA Starlog magazine, which published a letter from the National Save Space: 1999 Alliance, while in the UK Lookin ran small ads.

'Back then "online" was Starlog. Unfortunately my first issue was #6 and the announcement that the show had been cancelled. I didn't know about Yr 2 yet, my station in Montana never showed it. It wasn't until I got my back issues that I learned about what I was missing and other fans. Then the letter by Jeff Jones in a later issue inviting people to join the National Save 1999 Alliance, hoping that we could.' Claudia Combs (USA).

'Starlog for me, too. Then, MANY years later, when I took a punt and looked up the show online, I found there was still life out there. And then I finally got to go to a convention.

Have not looked back.' Jenny Bonney-Millett (Australia).

'Starlog.' Becky Eisenhuth (USA).

'From Starlog magazine back in the 70s and 80s. And also Starburst magazine too. Then from Space:1999 clubs and fanzines. Then the internet sites later on in the late 90s and 2000s. Never been to a convention sadly as I live in Australia.' Andrew Rea (Australia).

'Once upon a time there were newsletters for fan groups!! In the world of no internet or FB!!! I believe Starlog Magazine may have listed them or once I learned about the 1978 Convention and signed up for thier newsletter they were listed.' Rosie Badgett (USA).

'I'm pretty sure there was an ad in Starlog for one of the early fan clubs (the Save:1999 Alliance), I joined and the rest is history! When I got online, I think I searched for the series, like others did, and joined any groups I could find. Sorta the same thing I do now!' Anthony DiPietro (USA).

'1993, in an article of the newspaper "le monde". It mentioned the french fan club during a re-run of the show on French tv. Of course, internet didn't exist. To subscribe, one had to send a letter with a stamp in it for the answer.' Nicolas Lemarignier (France).

'Through Conventions, Fans and SF Press Small Ads... My first Convention was a Space 1999 Mini-Con in 1987, advertised by Fanderson. My first Merchandise was the green Eagle Transport brought for my Birthday in 1975. Dinky Eagles were released for sale months before the first episode of 1999 would ever be show so brought but had no real idea what it was. I was going to buy a load of Airfix model kits....but saw The Eagle and the kits went back on the shelf and Eagle brought with Birthday Money in Truro from a Toy Shop I think was called Rickards in Truro, Kernow.' Kerry Endacotte (UK).

'Well after LWT bought Stingray, Joe 90 and Thunderbirds in 1981 for one showing in syndication they bought Space 1999 which started early 82, I met a guy in early 84 who was into tv and I was looking to sell some bits and pieces so he put me in touch with this other chap who told me about Fanderson as I thought that I was the only 23 year old still watching these shows, so I wrote to Fanderson and the rest is history.' Martin Townley (UK).

'A friend's mum and dad took our gang of three to something new to us called a convention "London way", in 1978. Tracey Cooke was there and I remember we chatted with her and, if I remember correctly, handed over our pocket money to subscribe to her fanzine. We were about 13/14 at the time. This was the earliest encounter with fandom that I can recall... I think that she had an original Dorcon gun and Martin Bower was there with his 22" Eagle, the large Ultra Probe command module and, I think, one of the Hawks and possibly the baby Gwent. I was starstruck, Martin told us how he was working on a new sci-fi film and folk were throwing up at the rushes, it was "Alien". I vividly remember an original Liberator gun horribly held down on its table with tons of Sellotape and being the only one tall enough to get into an original Star Wars stormtrooper armour, the helmet was roughly lined with foam rubber inside and was just a little stinky..!!' Simon Rhodes (UK).

'Fan clubs a few years ago. Again I was surfing the channels and found S1999 on one of the cable channels. I decided to search a fan club on fb and found everyone there. I'm so happy to be here. Went to my first convention in Pa I believe it was 1979. Bought tickets to meet Catherine Schell at the Dr Who con in Long Island last year, but she had to cancel out. I'm more of a S1999 lover now than I was back in the 70s.' Mariann I. Bergeron-Foti (USA).

Seeing the DVD's in a shop in around 2011/2012, then looking online in 2014 and realising I definitely wasn't the only one who remembered. First convention in 2014. Frieda Verbaenen. (Belgium/Ireland).

'There are other fans??? I grew up in rural Ohio and while I was blessed to have 3 stations running 1999 in year one that we could pick up on our little TV, we were a little isolated. Once in a while we might travel to Youngstown were I could buy a Fundimensions model kit. A local hobby shop started ordering Fundimensions kits later at my request. Our local newstand would get a few copies of Starlog and I was lucky if I got there before they were gone. I had no idea there continued to be a following for the show until I started running into these groups on Facebook! Today, despite the sad reality that many of the stars and avid fans are no longer with us, it seems that we are in a Golden Age for 1999!' Bob Mack (USA).

'One day I - like a 10 year old boy - decided not to look at porn but typed "Space:1999" into a search engine. I thought it would say something like 'it could not find anything with that name. Boy was I wrong. There was a large number of websites and was giddy knowing other people remembered the series.' David Acheson (Canada).

'On line.' Nancy Ehle. (Canada).

'I went into the local newsagents convinced there's be something about Space: 1999 in the latest Lookin. (I couldn't buy it - I was about 17 so I thought myself far too old to buy a kid's comic!!) So I flicked through it in the shop and all I found was an ad for a fanclub called Omicorn. I subscribed thinking I'd never write articles - no-one would ever know. I think that lasted until I got my first newsletter - I submitted something for every newsletter after that! I wrote to penpals, found out about cons and other clubs - the rest is history.' Isobel Hoy (UK).

'I discovered other fans online when the internet came to us. Nice to see so many people still love the show to this day. I've never been to a convention since I live so far away. Nevertheless, I loved the photos fans shared of their collections and actual items on display from the show. I will always admire the Eagles. Want to conclude about the documentary to be released next year. If it be shown in theatres, I hope to see many Space:1999 fans in my local area and discuss about episodes etc. If it's shown online, I'll just sit back and fly in an Eagle. Maybe one day, we may see a Space:1999 reboot. Let the Eagles fly. Thank-you. Andy Metallian. (Canada)

What got some fans into Space: 1999?

Fans explained when and how they found out about Space: 1999:

'I could hear the music and sound effects when My parents and older siblings watched it after I was in bed (I was maybe 9 or 10). I would sneak downstairs and watch from the doorway. Love at first sight!' Nancy Ehle

'I was there from the start. I remember watching the adverts for the show on London Weekend Television, and was hooked from the start! I remember for my final year in junior school my year was moved to a newly built annex, which had very spacious corridors which reminded me of Alpha!' Michael Bontiff

'I forget exactly how I first heard of it, but I first started watching it in the second season. As a 20-year-old it was Maya. It was only decades later that I got into the first season.' Robert Treat

'I saw a very short, maybe 30 second advertisement during the summer of 75 showing John, Helena and Victor, an Eagle and the logo over Alpha. My first thought was, this looks very interesting. It's the only time that I saw it and didn't make a note of when it was coming on. At 12 years old I was too busy playing with my friends and missed Breakaway, my first episode was End of Eternity. Flipping channels and there it was, hey that's the show I wanted to watch. Getting ready to take Balor to Alpha. By the end of the episode I knew I was an Alphan.' Claudia Combs

'Claudia Combs similar story but mine was Missing Link. I know not a fav episode but it was my first and I love it!!!' Janet Schill

'On Channel HSV7 in Melbourne, Australia, June 28 1975. Breakaway. It easily became my Favourite Show. Aussie TV - finally a new sci fi show... I watched that first episode, and that was it. Hooked. It had so much creativity, brilliant sets, sophistication - and an Aussie pilot (c'mon, gotta love a local). Great stories sets, guest artists, music. Basically, it had me at hello!' Jenny Bonney- Millett

'Jenny Bonney-Millett same although I swore it was channel 10. Had the Dinky toy Eagle too.' Brian Grinter 'Jenny Bonney-Millett world premiere. I watched it that night too. The station promo ad was "[Channel] Seven colours your world".' Geoff Allshorn

'From the pages of The TVTIMES a while before sept 1975 when I'd first seen it on LWT/ London.' Robin T Medford

'I saw the ads and wanted to find out more! But the first night it was on I went out with a friend. We were loitering outside her boyfriend's house and I asked his little brother if he had seen it and what it was like. He said there were lots of explosions! I saw it from the 2nd episode - as long as I could persuade my sister it was my turn to choose what to watch. She always wanted Top of the Pops on the other side!' Isobel Hoy

'Channel 11, in NYC when is started. I was 7 years old and I fell in love with it that night.' Patrick Devaney

'I read Breakaway (England publication) and was hooked and loved the image of the Eagle on the front cover... a few months before the show aired.' Martin Bend

'Through TV commercials back in 1989. It was love at first sight! I would watch it religiously!' Leonidas Papadopoulos

'It's funny as I was sorta thinking about this recently. I'm pretty sure my grade school friend told me about it - he was into all things TV/movies in those days. I'm pretty sure I saw it from Breakaway and loved it from the start. My love has only grown over the years.' Anthony DiPietro

'I saw it from the very beginning. Breakaway blew me away, and I was hooked. I can't recall, now, but I must have seen promos, ahead of time, to be there at the start.' Ken Scott

'Future + creepy + puppets. Drew me in as a 10 year old. So I found out about Space: 1999 after the puppets. Best alternative to Lawrence Welk, who my grandmother watched.' Kevin Perkins

'Saw it as a 14-year old when it came on originally. I can't remember, but there must have promos on the television, but Breakaway had me hooked.' Frieda Verbaenen

'Absolutely loved Space:1999. Breakaway was the first episode I ever saw when I was 13. It first aired here in June or July of 1975 here in Australia on BTQ7 Brisbane. Loved the First Series over the second. The technology the base the Eagles loved it all. Still my favourite SciFi series after nearly 50 years.' Andrew Rea.

'Was watching Mission: Impossible reruns over Summer then saw an ad for the show. "Hey, it's that same couple!" Actually missed Breakaway my first time around. But I eventually caught up.' Rebecca Eisenhuth

'1987. First airing of the second series in France on the Silvio Berlusconi's french tv channel "la 5" (along with buck rogers, galactica, knight rider, supercopter...) I was 12, so the multicolored and action-packed second series was perfect for me. Then I discovered the first series in 1993.' Nicolas Lemarignier

'A friend introduced me to it because he knew that I liked all the puppet shows that Gerry Anderson did, he also showed me an episode of UFO. My friend didnt think that i would have liked it but I did. Also the episode of space 1999 he showed me was Dragon's Domain and the UFO episode he showed me was Sub Smash.' Andrew Beet

'An ad that announced Space:1999 would be on CBS on Sunday nights and that Martin Landau and Barbara Bain would be starring in it!!!! That was all I needed. The reason CBS picked it up was Sonny and Cher were divorcing but continuing the show. Well, that is unheard of here in Cincinnati, lol. And that was the beginning!!!' Rosie Badgett

'I was hooked from the very first airing in 1975. I was 9 years old and was absolutely amazed by the special effects, gadgetry and of course the eagle transporter! At the time, and at such a young age, I found the first season to be a little hard to understand, and my preference was season 2 when it aired. Many decades later my preference is now season 1, although I still enjoy season 2.' Simon Brett

'I was born into it.' Heather Cook (Her parents ran the International Space: 1999 Alliance fan club from 1979 to 1982.)

'Smitten? I was practically doing backwards somersaults in front of the television.' Lewis Salmon

'I was bored one Saturday and was surfing the channels and found Space: 1999. Never heard of the show then but I was always into space so I gave it a try and fell in love with the show... I recognized the Landau's from M.I. and instantly fell in love with the show and cast. It was about 1975 I wanna say. I was 17 and my first episode I caught was War Games, Y1. Not long after that my parents got me a view master with the reel War Games.' Mariann I. Bergeron-Foti

'Smitten from day one.' Russell T Sloan

'Actually we were just too lazy to change the TV channel. It just happened to be the day that the first episode, Breakaway, was shown. It was love at first sight for me. Not so much for the rest of the family.' David Acheson

'I saw it back when it originally aired in 1975 and instantly fell in love with the series, It was so different than anything I had seen before. I love both seasons but season 1 is my ultimate favorite. Season 2 is basically a new reimagined version and is not a continuation of season 1 and only a few of seasons 1s cast are carried over. Season 1 and 2 are different shows to an extent. Each different and have their own story telling style's. Be it season one or two I still cant get enough of the show. My all time favorite Sci Fi show and favorite ship the Eagle!' Dennis Chevalier

'Dennis Chevalier introduced me just before we headed to Pennsylvania for the Con in 2019. It took me a bit to get excited about it but meeting everyone and talking with Barbara Bain really helped me to appreciate the series. Plus Dennis loves it so much his excitement for the show is contagious.' Margaret Puglia. My first encounter with Space: 1999 was on the morning of Monday 8th September 1975. Everybody in my class at school (I was 12) was raving about it. The "Breakaway" episode had been broadcast the previous Saturday evening (on London Weekend television). Thereafter, I was an avid watcher of Season 1 every Saturday evening, and subsequently Saturday mornings at 11:30 when the schedule changed - I constantly had to persuade my dad to leave his allotment early as I always helped him there on Saturday mornings! What I loved about the series was the amazing special effects and how realistic everything was. I also bought and read all the Space: 1999 paperbacks that came out at that time (and still have them!). At about that time I was a very keen model maker, making lots of Airfix models. Having seen Space: 1999, I wanted to build an eagle transporter. So I did, spending many hours in my dad's shed constructing it out of kitchen lino tiles (for the body), balsa wood (for the "iron work"), and drink bottles (for the boosters). Everything was glued together with Evo-Stik. When finished, it was nearly a metre in length and I was extremely proud of it! Unfortunately, I never took any photos of the model which I deeply regret now. When I watched the first episode of Season 2 I was so disappointed! It was so different from Season 1. In fact, I never watched any further episodes at that time. (I'm finally watching them on Blu-ray in 2024!) Apart from watching a few re-runs of Season 1 (including the "Breakaway" episode which I originally missed), my next encounter was many years later. I somehow found out about Fanderson in 2005 and saw a "Destination" Alpha" event advertised for 4th September, to be held at Pinewood Studios. There was a waiting list but a cancellation came up and my wife and I were able to attend. It was a fabulous day, seeing "Breakaway" on a big screen, meeting actors, script writers, Gerry Anderson, and having a tour of the studios. After this, I found out about Space: 1999 conventions and got hooked on attending them. David Watts



Back in the late 80's or early 90's, a Canadian TV network called YTV advertised that they were adding episodes of SPACE: 1999 to their Saturday morning lineup. I bought my very first VCR just to tape it! The show had a huge impact on me when it originally aired, perhaps due to my rather vivid imagination, or because I watched it at such an impressionable age... or both.

With VCR cued up and ready, the first episode aired... and to my disappointment, it wasn't 'Breakaway' - they were not broadcasting the episodes in order. I was thrilled nevertheless to see the show again. I even took photos of the TV screen with my trusty Minolta 35 mm camera when I rewatched the recordings (a literal version of 'screenshots' back in the day!). As you can imagine, the photos were fuzzy, to say the least. It was enough, however, for me to be able to sit down and draw, pretty much on a whim, a moonbuggy driven by Alan Carter (Nick Tate, of course). I really didn't expect the drawing and subsequent painting to turn out and just did it on an 8.5 x 10 piece of paper, but I liked it so much that I kept it all these years in a frame. In April of 2023, I had Nick Tate autograph it at the Calgary: 1999 event, with the inscription: "We're coming in, Alpha!" In 1994, I took more of my photos and painted a poster featuring the Eagle. It has faded somewhat over the years but I still love it! That same year, I painted an Eagle on a black 10-pin bowling ball (using model paint) and sat it in a go-cart tire as a doorstop! Both the poster and the bowling ball have survived several moves since then and are prominent in my meagre collection. At one point, I discovered images from the show on line and created a couple of collages on foam board. It has only been in recent years since I discovered the groups on social media that I became aware that there were conferences being held in North America and of course I was in HEAVEN at the Calgary: 1999 event among all of those Eagles (this was my first sci-fi conference ever!), let alone meeting fellow fans along with Nick Tate & Yasuko Nagazumi!

London: 1999 is going to be spectacular! Nancy Ehle











My earliest recollections of Space:1999 go back to seeing the initial advertisements on Channel 11, WPIX (NYC) a week or so prior to its debut on Sunday, September 21, 1975 @ 6:30 PM, EDT. These 60 second ads were run on a regular basis showcasing the pilot episode "Breakaway" with an emphasis on the climatic scene where the Nuclear Explosion takes place and Alan Carter frantically attempting to contact Moonbase Alpha. It is at that point the familiar WPIX announcer (Bill Biery) addresses the fans to tune in for the series premiere on Sunday, September 21st@ 6:30 PM.

To say the nine year old "me" at that time was intrigued, is an understatement. At that time in my early life, I was already a fan of "Star Trek", "Lost In Space" and any of the shows that had a sci-fi theme in the early to mid 70's. Little did I know at that time, the impact Space:1999 would have on my life, and continue to do so, almost 50 years later.

It occurred to me as I was formulating my thoughts for my reflections, that there was a very profound moment shared between Commander Koenig and Arra during the episode "Collision Course", when Arra tells Koenig "You shall continue on, your odyssey shall no end. You will prosper and increase, in new worlds, new galaxies, you will populate the deepest reaches of space." In essence, this has been true of Space:1999 over the last 50 years, as the show continues to grow and reach past, present and future fans, as well as creating friendships, and families, throughout the world.

CHEERS TO AN AMAZING CELEBRATION SPACE:1999!!!!

Roy Bjellquist

'My family had always watched Mission Impossible so, when it was announced that Martin Landau and Barbara Bain had a new series, we wanted to check it out. By the end of the first episode, Breakaway, I knew I'd found my favourite TV show for life.' Mae Barr.

Think it was early September 1975 in Woodstock, Ontario, CANADA, and as a 10-year-old, I was both instantly transfixed when Breakaway started, right from the opening scene, and blown away when Area Two exploded. Thus, I was hooked literally from the moment the show began, and by end of Matter of Life and Death as the 2nd episode on CBC, already a life-long fan even though our time together had only just begun, and there were still 22 episodes yet to go. That 1st season was a thrilling journey into the wondrous, mind- blowing, and often terrifying unknown, and I can't imagine what my life would have been like without it. It has been a bond that has meant so much, and in many ways, at this coming 50 year mark with so many things happening it now feels that both the reconnection and the journey has just begun, again. Long live Space 1999!' Richard J. Bendell

'Space:1999 first aired on CBC in Canada every Saturday at 5pm. It was also available in French on Sunday at 7pm on CBC Radio Canada. When I first saw an Eagle, I was hooked right away especially looking at the design of the ship. The episodes show that people can work together, explore the cosmos and solve issues in space. The actors chosen especially the first season are amazing. Loved the way Landau, Morse and Tate played their roles in the show.' Andy Metallian

'On TV in Australia, back as a kid in the 1970s. The Base, the Stun Guns and Eagles were all so Cool I thought as a kid. Even a Aussie on the show Alan Carter and Season 2 when Maya showed up. Allan Mills

'I was 7 when Space came out, always wanted to be an eagle pilot like Alan Carter. I remember Christmas 1975 when one of my presents was a Dinky Eagle, I was well happy and woke most of the family up at four in the morning with my noise of take off eagle 1...' David Sparkes

At the tender age of ten I was a young Glaswegian hooked on Star Trek, UFO, Doctor Who et-al. There was a trailer shown on STV (Scottish Television) for an up-coming Gerry Anderson show, Space:1999. I was instantly hooked. The future on my screen, Moonbase Alpha, and EAGLES. I was totally transfixed by these magnificent machines. I bought all the books I could, recorded episodes to cassette tape and built model kits of the Eagles and Hawks. In later years I was able to buy more complex books, then videos and DVDs then Blu-Rays. Bigger kits too and I was lucky enough to meet Brian Johnson at the Leicester Space Center twice and show him photos of my kits, he gave me praise. Praise from the Eagle Daddy! Jim Wood

The thing about tv shows is that you can discover their original transmission dates and hence precisely date your memories. So, on Friday 26th September 1975 I was playing with a tennis ball around the back of my parents' house and I was a month away from turning seven. I know because of what happened next.

Now I'm not in any way sporting (always last to be picked for school sport teams etc.) but I was doing very well throwing and catching the ball against the wall. However, I eventually got bored and entered the house to find my brother in the front room watching the tv and on it I saw an Eagle for the first time; for it was from something new called Space 1999 and the episode was called Breakaway.

To clarify, my ITV region was Granada so they showed the series several weeks later than others and what was on the screen was a revelation. Now my brother is 14 years senior to me and seemed to have known the series was coming on, something he had neglected to mention. Now he is a long time Anderson fan and it was from his collection of books and toys that I had learnt about shows like Stingray, Thunderbirds and Captain Scarlet. It wouldn't be for many years that I got to see those so this was essentially my ground zero for seeing an actual Gerry Anderson production.

After this Space 1999 became a fixture of my childhood. All I wanted for Christmas was a Dinky Eagle and it was only after a bit of cajoling by another even older brother (there are a few of them) did I extend the Santa list to include the Lego Classic Space Moon Landing set 367. Otherwise, it was Eagles all the way.

From then on, I had the annuals for Christmas and the model kits for birthdays. I recall my mum buying me the Hope jigsaws from a local hardware store and whilst in Blackpool (a northwest coastal town famous for its lights, the tower, and the donkey rides) my dad bought me a Palitoy Commander Koenig. Thinking back, I also recall the Letraset sets from WHSmith, dad making me a stun gun from odd bits of wood (it was very simple, but I didn't care) and the spacesuit backpack from a cereal packet and a little bit of black strapping.

Once in an art class in junior school I was told off for wasting a piece of paper as I'd only seemingly drawn a few triangles. What I had actually done was to map out a picture of an Eagle in what I would later learn was called "isometric projection", but that outline was so faint the teacher couldn't make it out and didn't know what it was when I explained.

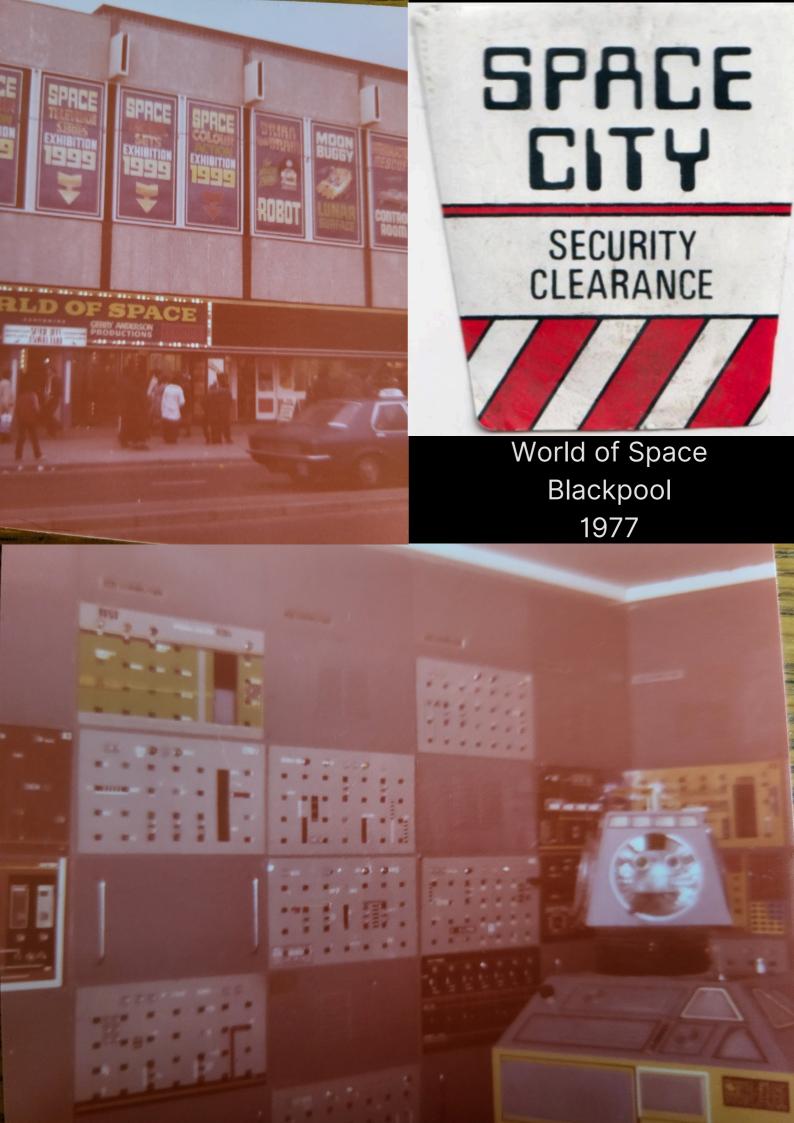
Over the years most of these childhood treasures have sadly been lost; I still have the annuals and the small cards that came with the Lyons Maid Ice Lollies (originally supplied inside a small protective envelope within the wrapper and was hence very sticky experience to reveal) plus the small cards that came with the Barratts sweet Cigarettes.

As for the Gerry Anderson loving brother, he did make amends by getting me my first Look-in comic with its Space 1999 strip inside plus an oversized Treasury Edition Spider-man comic.



Interior Eagle set and 44 Inch Eagle model were created by Lew Place back in 1984, when he made his fan film entitled, "Voyage To Meta". These photos were taken in January 1988, when I visited Lew at his residence for the very first time (he is pictured with beard). He created a replica of the cockpit of the Eagle, as well as the 44 Inch Scale Eagle model by using photographs from the series (before the days of computers). RoyB





SECTION



MAIN COMPUTER

Newsletter of the International Space:1999 Alliance

Dues: \$8.00 US/Canada & \$12.00 overseas Issued in Sept., Nov., Jan., March, May & July

COMMANDER KOENIG'S NEIGHBORHOOD

By Robert Johnston

There was an air of tenseness. All eyes were on John Koenig, the Commander of Moonbase Alpha. Koenig finally spoke, "O-67."

From the back of the room came, "BINGO!" It was Alan Carter. This was the third time he won tonight. All the other Alphans were thinking; Alan Carter will never see tomorrow.

Alan Carter woke up the next morning; not a scratch on him. He got out of bed, showered, then dressed, and left his quarters. As the door shut behind him, a tremendous explosion rocked the hallway. It was inside Alan's quarters. The explosion ripped the wall apart. Everything was sucked out into the vacuum of space. Red Alert klaxons bellowed throughout the moonbase. Alpha's central computer sealed the door to Alan's living quarters.

With tears in his eyes, Alan turned around and banged on his door yelling, "My Liberace records!"
Maintenance and Medical personnel, lead by Dr. Helena Russell, ran down the hallway. Helena ran up to Alan, "Are you alright?"

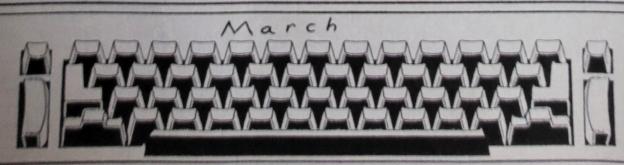
Wiping the tears from his eyes, he said, "Yea." "What happened?" Helena asked. Alam turned to her, "I don't know. As I left my quarters something blew up in there. Where am I going to live? What am I going to wear?" Helena shook her head.

Later in John Koenig's office, Alpha's top brass were sitting around the conference table pondering over the prospect of Alan temporarily living with one of them. "Well, he can't stay with me." Sandra said, "What will people think?"

Raising his hand, Paul Morrow said, "Okay Alan, you can stay with me for a couple of days." "Thanks Faul," Alan was grateful.

John Koenig stood up and walked over to the window. He was about to speak when he saw a Liberace record jacket drift by. He turned to the others and said, "Now this explosion. The head of Maintenance reported that the explosion was no accident. Somebody deliberately put an explosive device in Alan's quarters."
"Doopothhhh," came the response from the others. Koenig continued, "The question on everybody's mind, right now, must be: Does this assassination attempt have anything to do with the Bingo game last might?"

"Or is it that somebody doesn't like Liberace?" Sandra suggested. Alan gave her the evil eye.



Volume 9

Number 4

SPACE PROGRAMMES APPRECIATORS CLUB EARTH

Newsletter No. 13 June/July 1980

Club President George Shoesmith

Club Secretary Lynn Shoesmith

Condon Correspondant Robin Edmonds

Honourary Members Tony Anholt Gareth Thomas

Club address: 58 Northampton Road WELLINGBORDUGH Northants NN8 - 3HT

Fees; U.K. £2.00 per year Postal Orders and Cheques payable to S.P.A.C.E. Continent; £2.50 " " International Money Order made out for Sterling Overseas; £3.00 11

Hello Spacers,

BOY! Have we got some great news for you.

Quite a few months ago, our contact at the Publicity Dept at I.T.C. phoned us with this message. "The board of Directors of ITC at one of their meetings discussed the forming of an official Space 1999 Fan Club. The subject had been raised because a number of ITC departments had been, over a long period of time, getting letters from people either asking for the address of the club, or requesting permission to start one. The Board decided that owing to the interest created by the series, the idea of an official club was a good one. The name of S.P.A.C.E. was mentioned as being one of the already established clubs nearest to the ideals envisaged by the Board. Would you be prepared to come to London for discussions on

We readily agreed, but it was some time before we were all available at the same time. The meeting took place at the offices of ITC Lincensing

Many things were discussed including how we run S.P.A.C.E., what we put in our newsletters, and many other points. The members of the I.T.C. staff that we were talking to were very concerned at some of the rip-offs that were being done on Space 1999, and said that an official club would help tighten this up. .

About halfway through the meeting, the decision was made that we would be the ones to be given the honour of starting the first official club, and they said that once we were established, if anyone who wanted to anything along the same lines (on the continent for instance) then they could send their articles etc to us for clearance before printing.

During the discussions, one ITC man said to us. " This will give you access to everything we have, - and you have no idea JUST HOW NUCH we

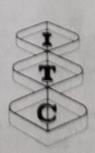
Being officially sanctioned by ITC, we will be able to get the permission to reproduce such things as photos from the series, so that chould improve our newsletters quite a bit. We have already been told that we can use the Space 1999 logo on such things as badges and tee-shirts etc, so that is something to look forward to.

We plan to still bring you news of other sci-fi films etc, but we shall naturally concentrate on Space 1999. If it means a little less work for us (as we hope) then the time saved can be used to do other thin s. One idea we have is to hold a convention solely for 1999, at which you can see the episodes, uniforms, weapons, and even meet some of the stars. But let us not run, before we can walk. That is just another thing for us all to look forward to.

(1)

SPACE: 1939 FAN CLUB

CLUB ADDRESS
58 NORTHAMPTON ROAD
WELLINGBOROUGH
NORTHANTS







A Brief History of Bray Studios

Down Place was built alongside the Thames in the early 1740s. The unique mansion was built by the then MP for Windsor, Richard Tonson. After his death in 1772, the estate had a variety of owners until the Harford family moved there in 1835. Even though the mansion was on the small side, the family of four is recorded as having eleven live-in servants in 1901. The family moved out sometime after 1901 and the mansion was mostly left derelict. It was briefly revived during the Second World War as the Government needed some place to store duffle coats. Even years later, the locals referred to it as Duffle Coat Manor.

In 1951, William Hinds (better known as Will Hammer, half of the comedy double-act Hammer and Smith) brought his Hammer Film Productions to Down Place to film parts of The Dark Light. They couldn't afford expensive studios, so they filmed in large country houses instead. Even though Down Place had collapsed flooring and duffel coats still strewn about, it was perfect for their needs so they signed a one-year lease. After a year, they considered moving to a studio but there was an on-going movers strike, so they bought the freehold and created a studio on site. They named it "Bray Studios" after the nearby town.

After opening, they had 7 stages (A through G) for filming. But the truth is these were all just rooms in the mansion. The east wing off the mansion, which included the ballroom, was in much better shape than the rest of the house so these were primarily used. Being quite small and with low ceilings, these "stages" were difficult to light and film in. The sound crew frequently had to stand outside holding boom mics through the window as there was no room inside. During this time, it would be best known for The Rocky Horror Picture Show, The Quatermass Xperiment, Quatermass II, Murder by Death and of course, the Hammer Horror films including The Curse of Frankenstein, The Abominable Snowman, Dracula (aka Horror of Dracula), The Mummy, The Hound of the Baskervilles, The Curse of the Werewolf, and Rasputin: The Mad Monk.

Hammer Films would eventually sell the studio in 1970. It had 4 stages, 2 were medium sized, but 2 were quite small so they were used for photo effects. Around 1972, the BBC started using the small stages for special effects for Doctor Who and Blake's 7 with the live action being filmed mostly at TV Centre. Gerry Anderson would join them with model work and special effects for both seasons of Space: 1999 and Terrahawks. Star Maidens was also filmed here with special effects in the smaller stages and some of the live action shot in the larger stages. But it wasn't just TV shows. Ripley Scott's 1979 Alien had its special effects done at Bray.

A new large stage was built in 1985, and for the next 25 years, the studio was pretty busy. Film work continued along with considerable TV comedies and dramas being filmed. Additionally, many bands used Bray for rehearsing for their tours and filming music videos. This included Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, David Bowie for Live Aid, Pink Floyd, Duran Duran, Genesis, Amy Winehouse, Radiohead and many more.

During this time, it would be best known for Inspector Morse, Poirot, Jeeves and Wooster, Pie in the Sky, Born and Bred, Invasion Earth, Ruth Rendell Mysteries, Sex Chips & Rock n' Roll, Soldier Soldier, Captain Corelli's Mandolin and The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus.

In 2010, the owners closed the studio and tried to get permission to build housing on the land. There was a Save the Studios campaign on Facebook, but they ultimately got approval to build 10 apartments and 15 houses on the land. The owners also owned the farm property next door and wanted to build 127 houses there.

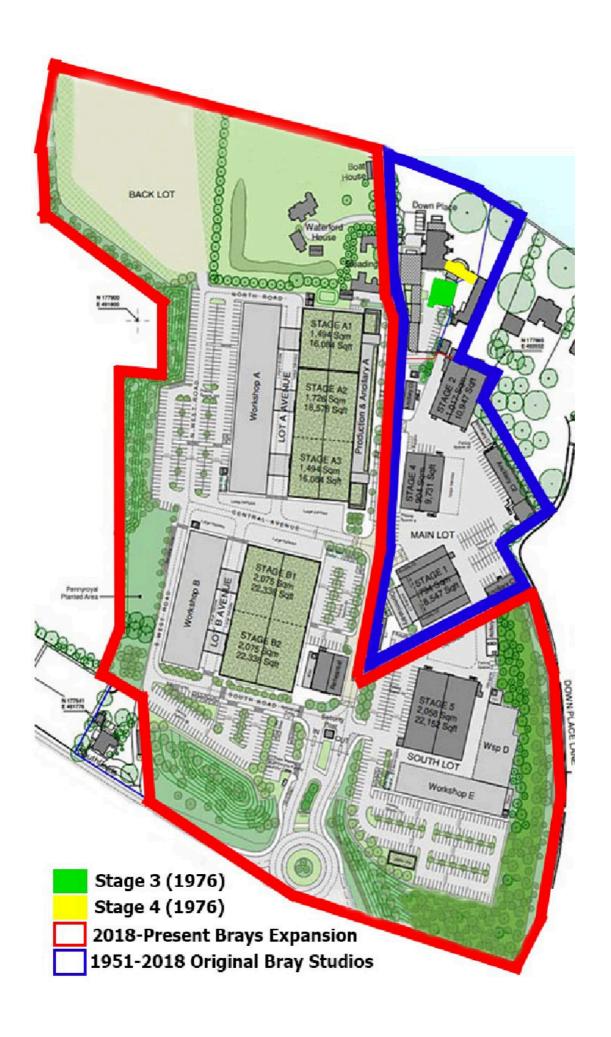
While they were waiting for approval and financing, they accepted an offer to film BBC's Bodyguard there in 2017. This was followed by Rocketman (the Elton John biopic) and several others. It seemed that the closure of so many London area studios like TV Centre, The London Studios, Teddington, etc. that there was now a real shortage of usable filming space. The owners drew up new plans for 5-6 additional stages and support services (office, make-up, costume, workshops and tech facilities). These plans were approved and building started.

In 2021, Amazon filmed Citadel and in the following year, series 2 of The Rings of Power - the Lord of the Rings at Bray. Amazon was having difficulty finding filming space, especially with Disney signing a 10-year contract with Pinewood and Netflix doing the same at Shepperton. We end on a happy note with Amazon-MGM purchasing Bray in July 2024 so its future as a film studio is safe.

Gerry Anderson at Bray

As the Supermarionation puppet films had finished, Gerry Anderson had closed his studios by 1970. When Space: 1999 needed space for model work and special effects shots, they went to Bray. They used Stage 4 (the ballroom stage – shown as yellow on the map) and Stage 3 (green on the map). The thin Prop Store between these two stages served as their main workshop. The live action scenes were filmed at Stages L and M at Pinewood.

In 1983-84, Terrahawks was also filmed at Bray. Special effects were shot at Stage 3 (green on the map) and the puppets were shot on Stage 2 (an old corrugated iron stage – on the map it would be approximately the grey building labelled Stage 4). The old stage 4 (yellow on the map), which had been used for so many shows was no longer available as it had been converted to a viewing theatre in 1979.



A Brief History of Pinewood Studios

With 29 stages, 3 TV studios and a two-storey tall underwater tank, Pinewood is the largest and best known of the UK studios. With another 21-25 stages under construction, it will soon be the largest studios anywhere. But it didn't start out that way.

The large Victorian estate of Heatherden Hall was built near London in 1865. It went through a variety of owners until 1934 when building tycoon Charles Boot bought it to turn into a retreat for the rich and famous, but his real dream was to turn it into a film studio. The following year, he met the millionaire J Arthur Rank and together they cofunded the studio project. The Rank Organisation went on to produce and distribute many of the films made at Pinewood. You have probably seen older movies that start out with a man banging a huge gong?

Charles Boot renamed Heatherden Hall to Pinewood. In an interview, he explained it was for all the pine trees that grew on the estate, and the "wood" was to evoke a sense of Hollywood to the new studios. The first five stages (A to E) were completed and Pinewood Studios opened on 30 September, 1936.

Business was brisk initially but things slowed quickly when the Depression set in, and stopped with the Second World War. The government requisitioned the studios and the stages were soon full of flour, sugar and other war needed supplies.

After the war, filming resumed and the studio put out a number of classics. It's probably best known for the Carry On films, Kubrick's Full Metal Jacket, Richard Donner's Superman, Frank Oz's Little Shop of Horrors, Tim Burton's Batman, Brian De Palma's Mission: Impossible, Luc Besson's The Fifth Element, Ridley Scott's Prometheus, Jurassic World, the James Bond 007 films and most recently several of the Star Wars franchise films.

Gerry Anderson at Pinewood

Gerry Andersons two companies, APF and Century 21, had their own studios. As they were filming their Supermarionation puppet shows, their needs were modest. In 1969, the puppet shows ended and they ventured into live action series starting with UFO. Filming took place at MGM British Studios Borehamwood until the studios closed in 1970. It was the last series filmed at MGM Borehamwood. With nine episodes remaining to be filmed, they needed a new studio and opted for Pinewood.

Stages L and M at Pinewood were built in 1966, so they were fairly new at the time. They are two large studios, side by side, with communal facilities including offices, tech facilities and makeup rooms. Gerry Anderson would use these two stages to complete UFO, then to film Space 1999 and Space Precinct.

Space: 1999 Merchandise - Isobel Hoy In 1975, before Space: 1999 was shown on TV the first 2 books - Breakaway and Moon Odyessey - were on sale in the UK. These novelisations had no pictures apart from the covers, so interested readers had to wait for the series to enjoy the visuals. Later US versions included pictures which gave, in those pre-video days, a nice reminder of the episodes.

Even better were the Italian photo-books. These large format hardbacks featured a recap of the story and were packed with photos. Other lovely books were the Moonbase Alpha Technical Notebook and the Japanese photo- guidebook. In the UK, the large format was reserved for Annuals, issued yearly from 1975 until 1979 with the usual mixture of text, photos and cartoon strips (except for the last one). Later, books by fans reviewed the series or offered new stories (Powys Media).

There was a variety of merchandise issued when the series came out, chief among them in the UK were the Dinky and Airfix eagles, while in the US Mattel released an eagle that was "over 2 and a half feet long" with models. There were also action figures, Mattel released Koenig, Russell and Bergman in the USA and Germany. That was later joined by the alien Zython (never seen in the series), while in the UK Palitoy released "Captain" Koenig, Morrow, Carter, Zantor and Male Alien. While fans in the USA may have looked on enviously at the Dinky eagles (despite the odd colours), fans in the UK were equally jealous of the range of toy tie-ins available in the States! Especially the Commlock Communicators, which couldn't be sold there because British law at the time prohibited CB radios. Fans collected stickers, bubble gum cards, sweet cigarette cards, cards sold in packets of bread and even cards sold with Space: 1999 ice lollies.

As fans revisited the series on TV, video and later DVD and BluRay there was a new demand for merchandise. New action figures were released in the early 2000s, these - thankfully - included female characters like Sandra and Maya. Unstoppable produced sets of trading cards. Big Finish released adventures on audio with a new cast. There were also new eagles - of course. Die-cast versions from Product Enterprise, later Sixteen 12 and Aoshima as well as kits in different sizes from Round 2. Most recently Anderson Store has released t- shirts, hoodies, bags, and books, including the Moonbase Alpha Technical Operations Manual, Everything That Might Have Been: The Lost Universes of Space: 1999, Space: 1999 Comic Anthology, Space: 1999 Aftershock and Awe and Space: 1999 The Armageddon Engine.

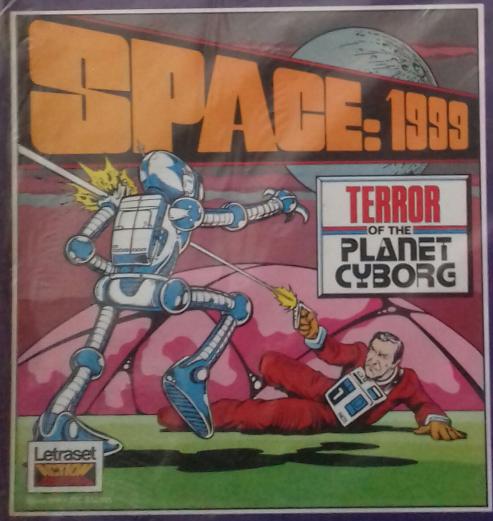


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SUPER ACTION PACKED SCENE WITH RUB DOWN TRANSFERS



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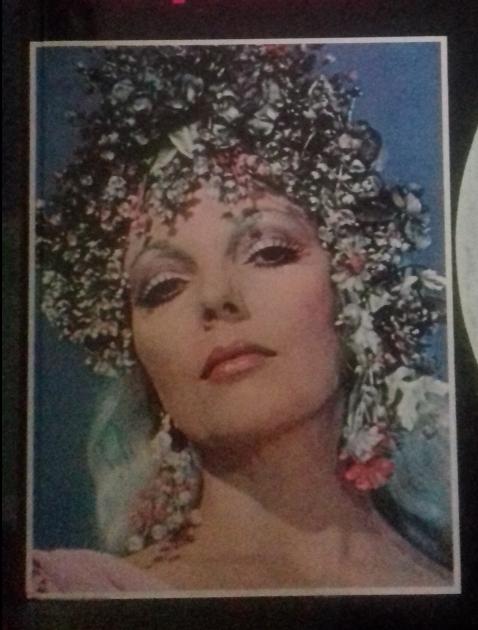
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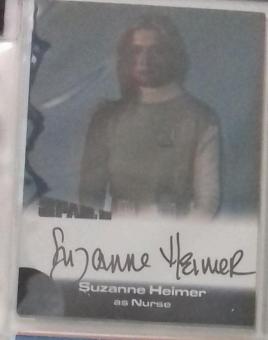
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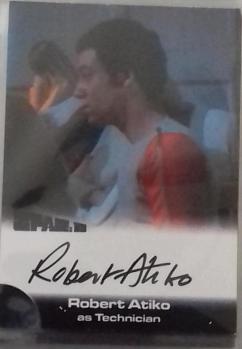


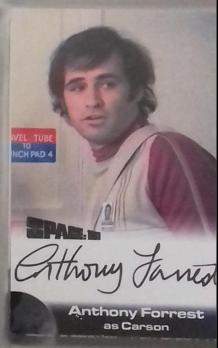


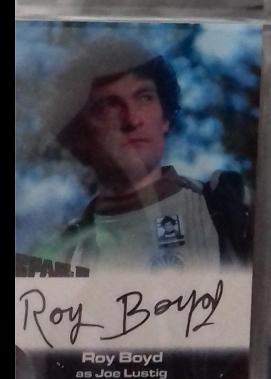


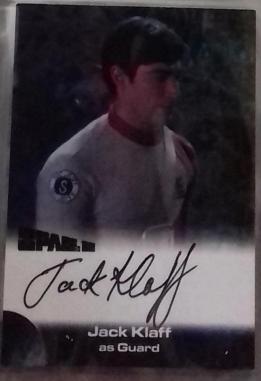














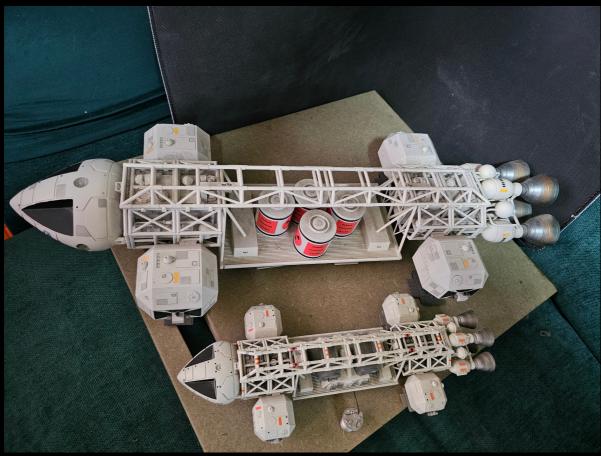






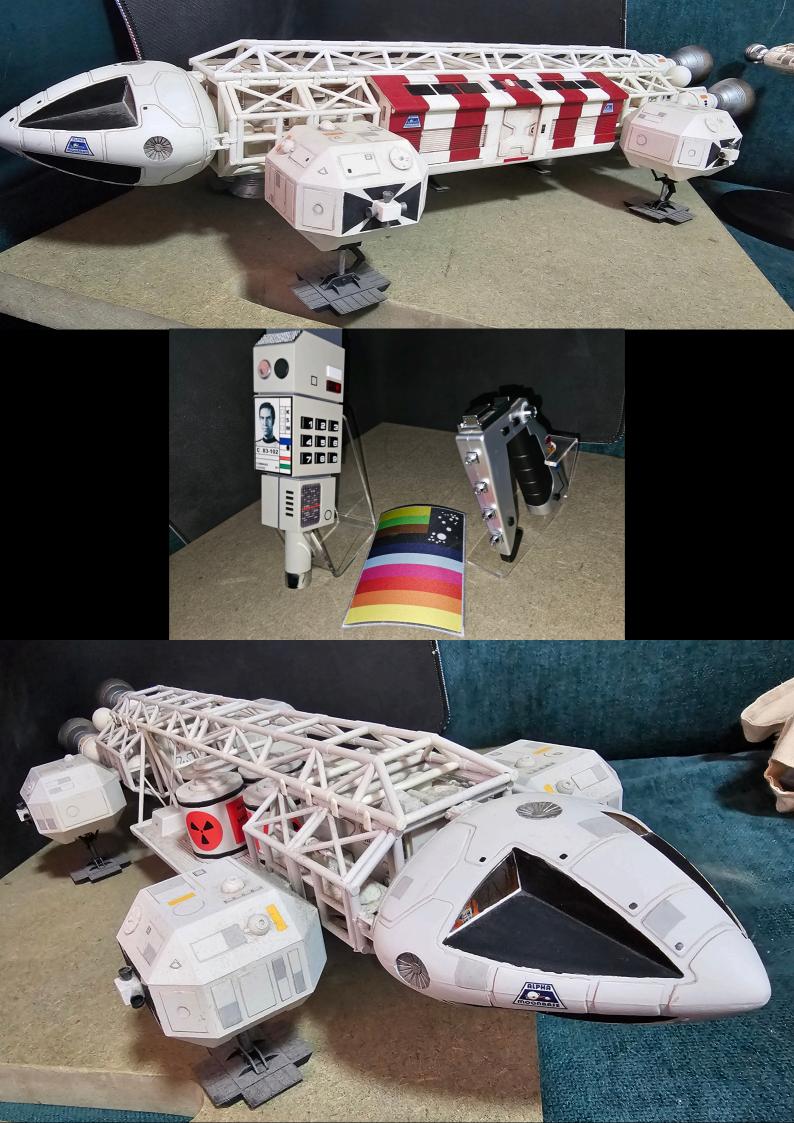
COMMANDER JOHN KOENIG IN MOONBASE ALPHA SPACESUIT FEATURING: Full articulation REMOVABLE HELMET STUN GUN and COMLOCK DISPLAY STAND SCENIC BACKDROP DELUXE ACTION FIGURE COLLECTION



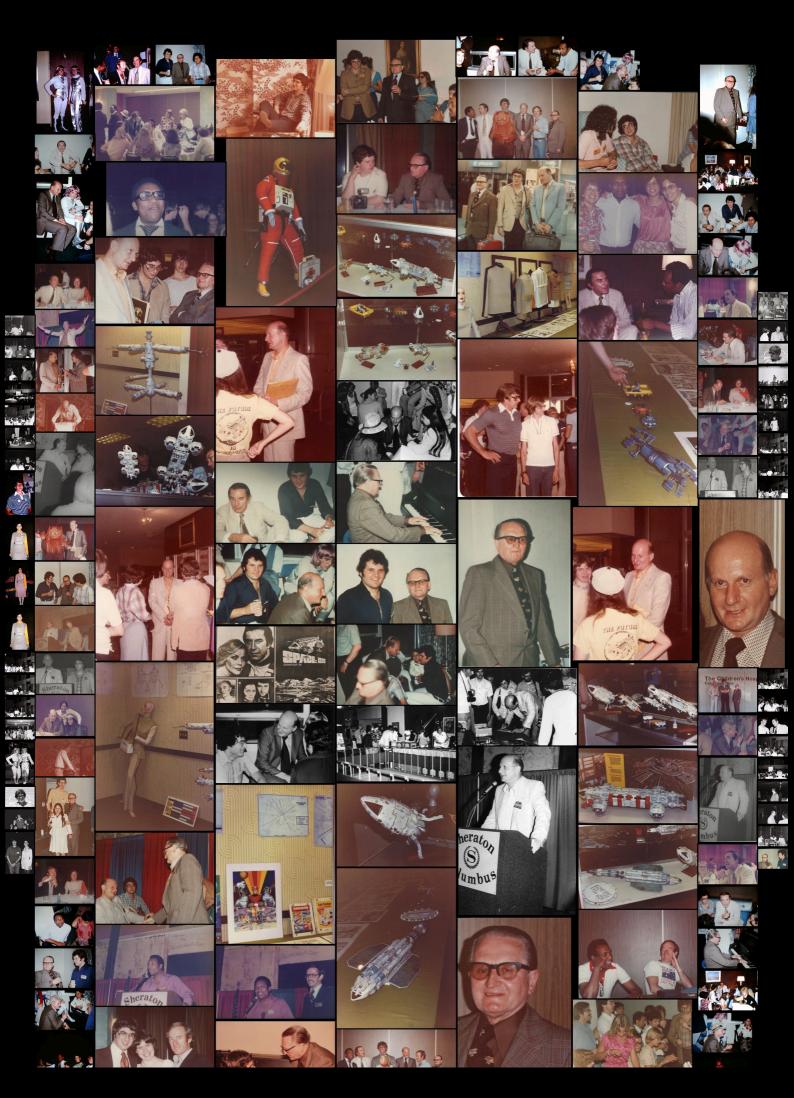








1978 Columbus OH



SpaceCon 1978



1979 Pittsburgh PA



1981 Atlanta GA



Space City - BlackPool



Tribute to Johnny Byrne: Space 1999 By Sandy Byrne

- I am both amazed that it can be 50 years since the making of Space 1999, and saddened that I am unable to be present at the celebrations of its half century. And more so that Johnny Byrne, my late husband, will not be there either. He would have loved this.
- When I met Johnny, writer and story consultant, I was 20 and he was already working at Pinewood Studios on the show. It all seemed to me and it was impossibly glamorous. One, and perhaps the most personally significant memory of those earlier days, was when we became engaged and rushed to Pinewood the next morning to tell the writer Chris Penfold, the first to know.
- As the shooting of Space continued, we spent much time at Pinewood, and made good friends among cast, writers and crew. Thus on our wedding day, at our reception at the London Ritz, Space 1999 was royally represented by the presence of Gerry and Sylvia Anderson, Martin Landau, Barbara Bain and the
- Director Charles Crichton. We also became close to the actor Nick Tate, director Ray Austin and writers Christopher Bidmead and Chris Penfold, who was to be a lifelong friend of Johnny's.
- I had still been at university when I met Johnny, and he encouraged me to take a typing course on graduation. This led to countless nights hunched over the IBM Golfball typewriter, pounding out Space 1999 scripts, before packing them up and despatching them by train to London and then on to Pinewood. No fax, printer or computer in those days! It was literally cut, paste and Tippex as Johnny was
- suddenly struck by the inspiration to change a scene.
 Our first son, Jasper, was born and Space continued to be shot at Pinewood. Our first destination on leaving hospital as new parents was to the haven offered by the immensely kind producer Freddy and his wife Shirley Freiberger in their Knightsbridge house. And then we would take baby and dogs out to

the studios where a great fuss was made of Jasper by Barbara Bain.

- The greatness of Johnny's writing lay in his profound understanding of both character and story. While Space 1999 made his name initially in screenwriting, and science fiction remained one of his greatest loves, he applied the same values to all his subsequent work. As he often put it, good drama arose from the 'small verities' of human life and behaviour, and this was as true when set against the grand context
- of outer space as it was in his later work. That, surely, is why 50 years on his stories are as relatable as they were in 1974.

 It is also perhaps why Johnny went on to write on other shows that were globally successful. Among them, Dr. Who, where he worked with Peter Davison and Tom Baker. Johnny also worked as principal
- writer and script editor on 'All Creatures Great and Small,' the dramatisation of James Herriot's fabled vet stories. Johnny Byrne created the still perennially loved 'Heartbeat.' Both 'All
- Creatures' and 'Heartbeat' are still watched somewhere every day some 47 and 30 years later. It is marvellous for us as his family - myself and our three sons, that such an incredible legacy remains of
- a giant talent and a deeply compassionate man. His understanding of people derived largely from his childhood in 1930s and 40s Dublin, which he vividly remembered as a rich tapestry of characters, human experience from comic to tragic and everything in between. I wish Johnny had been able to participate
- in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Space 1999. The boy who left school aged just 12 to help support his huge family of 11 younger siblings, could never have dreamed of such a special and wonderful occasion.
- But sadly he became ill in 2007. While being cared for in a palliative care hospital in Norwich, incredibly a Space 1999 super-fan, Mateo, used his savings to fly over from Los Angeles to spend five days at Johnny's bedside. Such was the reach and splendour of Johnny's brilliance. The man he was shone through his work and still does.





Gianni Garko

Our favorite dragon fighter ("Dragon's Domain"), Gianni was born in Zara, Dalmatia, Italy (now part of Croatia). His first prominent film role was an important part in the Oscar nominated "Kapò" (1959). He found stardom in "Blood at Sundown" (1966), but may be best known as the titular character in "If You Meet Sartana Pray for Your Death" (1968) and it's sequel, "I Am Sartana Your Angel of Death" (1969).

Pick a fight with Gianni at your own risk!



Orso Maria Guerrini

Born in Florence, Orso started his career in spaghetti westerns, but gained lunar stardom playing the role of Luke in fan the favorite episode "Testament of Arkadia." He is also known for "The Bourne Identity" (2002), "Double Team" (1997) and "Keoma" (1976). Orso is also well known as a spokesman for the Italian beer, Birra Moretti. Let's buy Orso a pint!



Carla Romanelli

Born in Arezzo, Tuscany, Carla came to Alpha's attention as Melita in Space Brain. (They're still cleaning up foam at Pinewood!) Carla is also a director, producer and author. Not a person to waste her spare time, Carla organizes conferences with Nobel Peace Prize winners such as Andreij Sakharov and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Carla authored the recent book, "The Valkyrie of Peace: Bertha von Suttner, 1905 Nobel Peace Prize."



Pam Rose

Pam was working as a casino manager when offered her first film role in "Oh! What a Lovely War" (1968). She stayed busy in film and television roles for over 40 years including Gerry Anderson's "Doppelganger" (1969), "The Protectors (1972), and "Space: 1999." She appeared as an alien in the "Star Wars" (1977) Mos Eisley cantina scene and in films like "Return of the Pink Panther" (1975), "Star Maidens" (1976), "International Velvet" (1978), "Superman" (1978), "Superman II" (1980), and "Batman" (1989).

Quentin Pierre

Somebody has to keep order on Alpha! Quentin wore Security's purple sleeve in both seasons of Space, but worked around the shooting schedule in order to do stunts for Star Wars (1977). He later appeared in The Empire Strikes Back (1980) and Return of the Jedi (1983). He has acted in other roles and has spent many years as a personal assistant to Morgan Freeman.





Suzanne Heimer

Suzanne crafted an amazing career as a stand-in and actress doubling for such stars as Lynn Redgrave, Lisa Harrow, Sarah Douglas, Valerie Perrine, Lois Chiles, Cybill Shepherd, Farrah Fawcett, and Melody Anderson. She appeared on-screen in "Casino Royale" (1967) and "Superman" (1978) and as an Alphan in multiple episodes. Suzanne's mother, Renee Heimer, doubled for Caroline Mortimer in the episode "The Last Enemy." Suzanne later trained and worked as an interior designer.

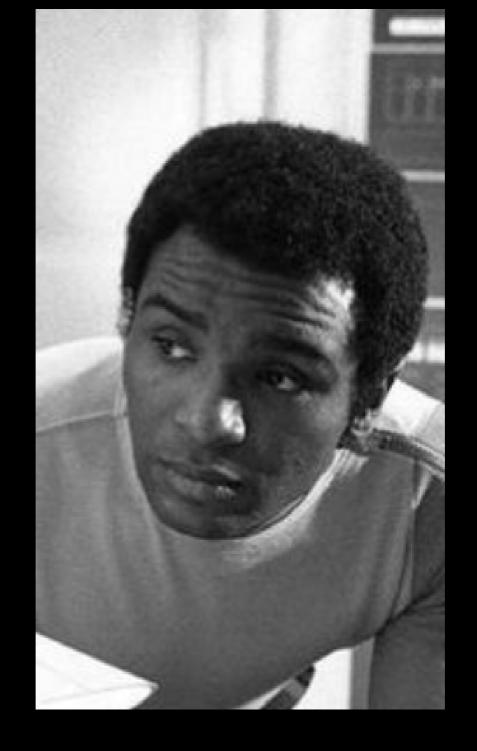


Ina Skriver

Ina is a Danish born actress and model who appeared as "A" in "The A-B Chrysalis." She also appeared in "Star Maidens" (1976), "The New Avengers" (1976), "The Professionals" (1979), and "Victor/Victoria" (1982). Ina acted under the name Christina World when she appeared in "The Golden Lady" (1979) - the film credits read "starring Miss World".



Jess played Mark Sanders in "The Lambda Factor." A 1960s pop star, Jess charted with hits like including "Cherry Pie", "This Pullover", "Mystery Girl" and "Pretty Jenny." Jess moved into acting with Konga (1960) and has appeared in many films and TV shows since, including the upcoming release "Somebody's Daughter" (2024). Conrad is a member of the show business fraternity the Grand Order of Water Rats, having served as "King Rat". He was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2011 for his charitable services.



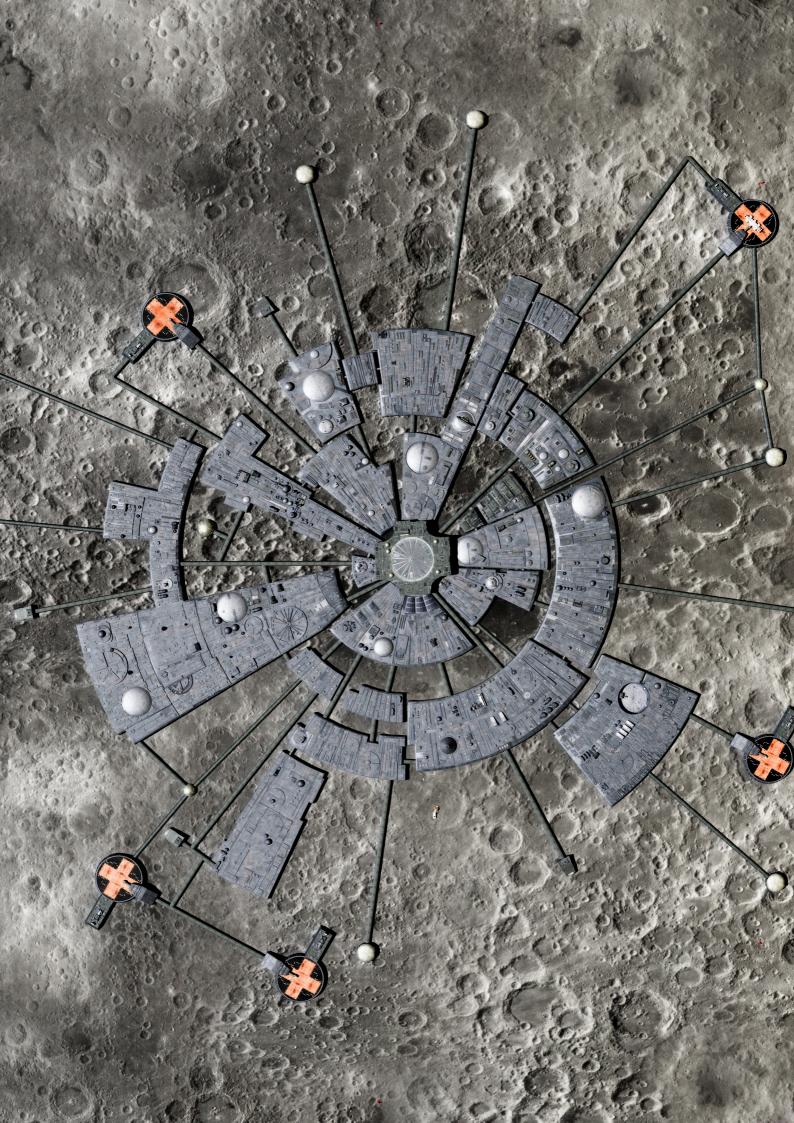
Film and theater actor, talent agent, producer and director, Loftus appeared as Main Mission Operative Lee in year 1. Loftus wrote and directed the short, "I am Jack" (2021) and directed the award winning film "My North Kensington - Reflections & Recollections" (2022). His film and TV credits include "Rollerball" (1975), "Omega Factor" (1979) and "The Boy From Space" (1980). He founded an acting school in Notting Hill, London, which trained actor Danny John Jules ("Red Dwarf", etc.).



Jack McKenzie

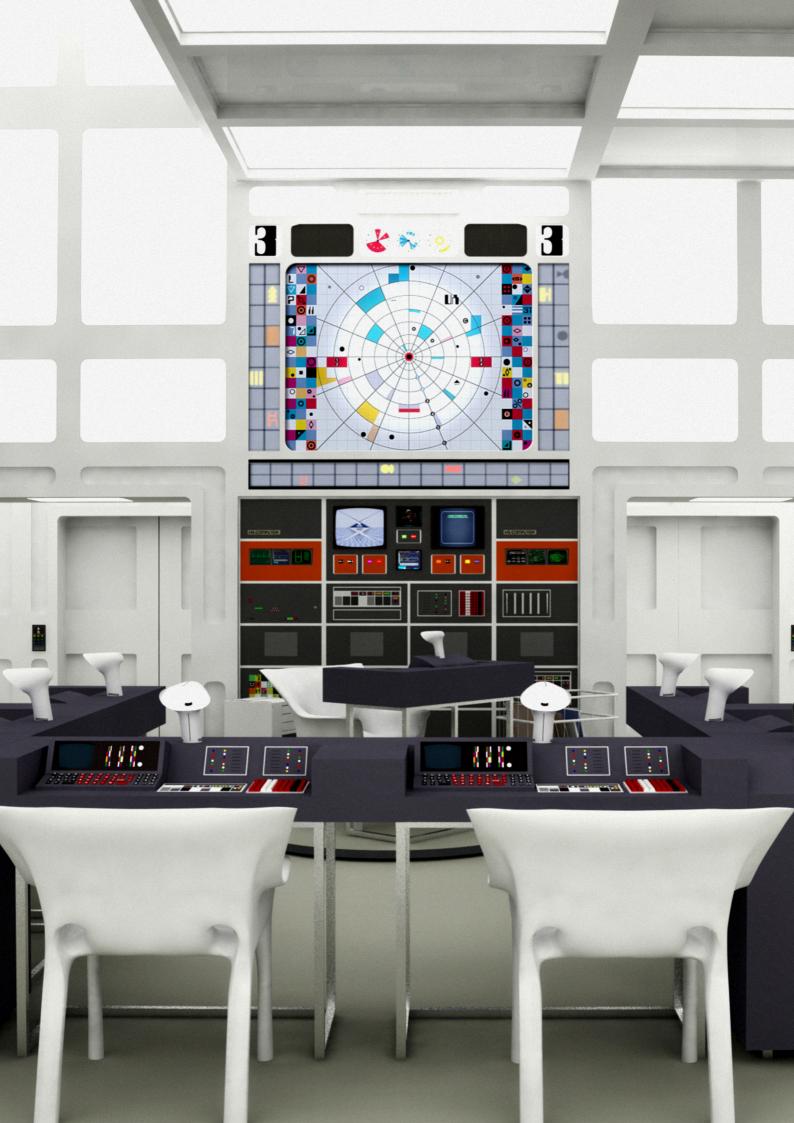
Jack played a technician in several first season episodes. Jack was born in the same street as Sean Connery and was a Scottish policeman before he came to acting as a radio voice artist in 1964. Jack is a neighbor of Sandy Byrne (Johnny Byrne's wife) and appeared in "The Empire Strikes Back" (1980) alongside John Ratzenberger. Jack also appeared in "The Sweeney" (1975), "Secret Army" (1979), "Blakes 7" (1980), "Gandhi" (1982), "Heartbeat" (1993), and "The Bill" (1998).

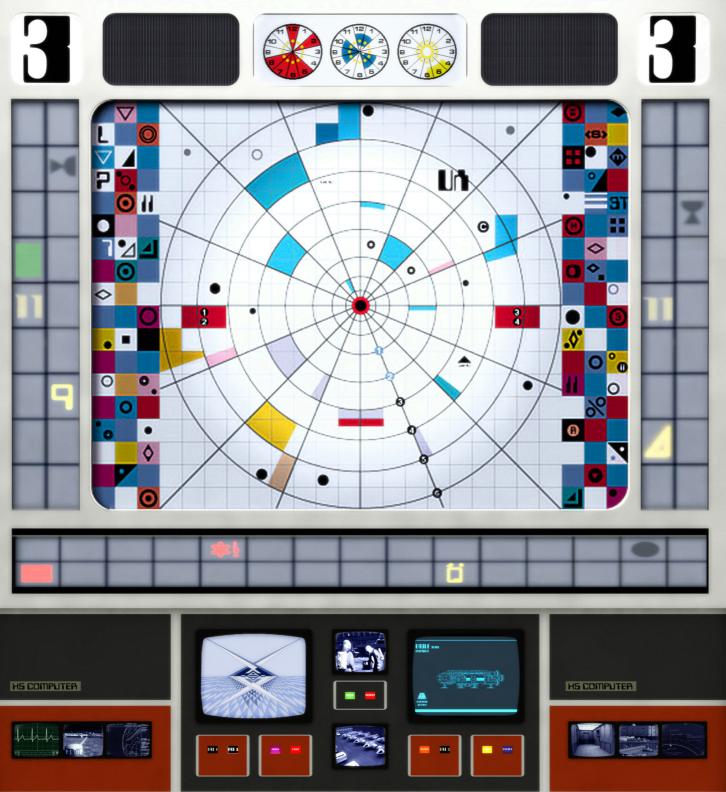




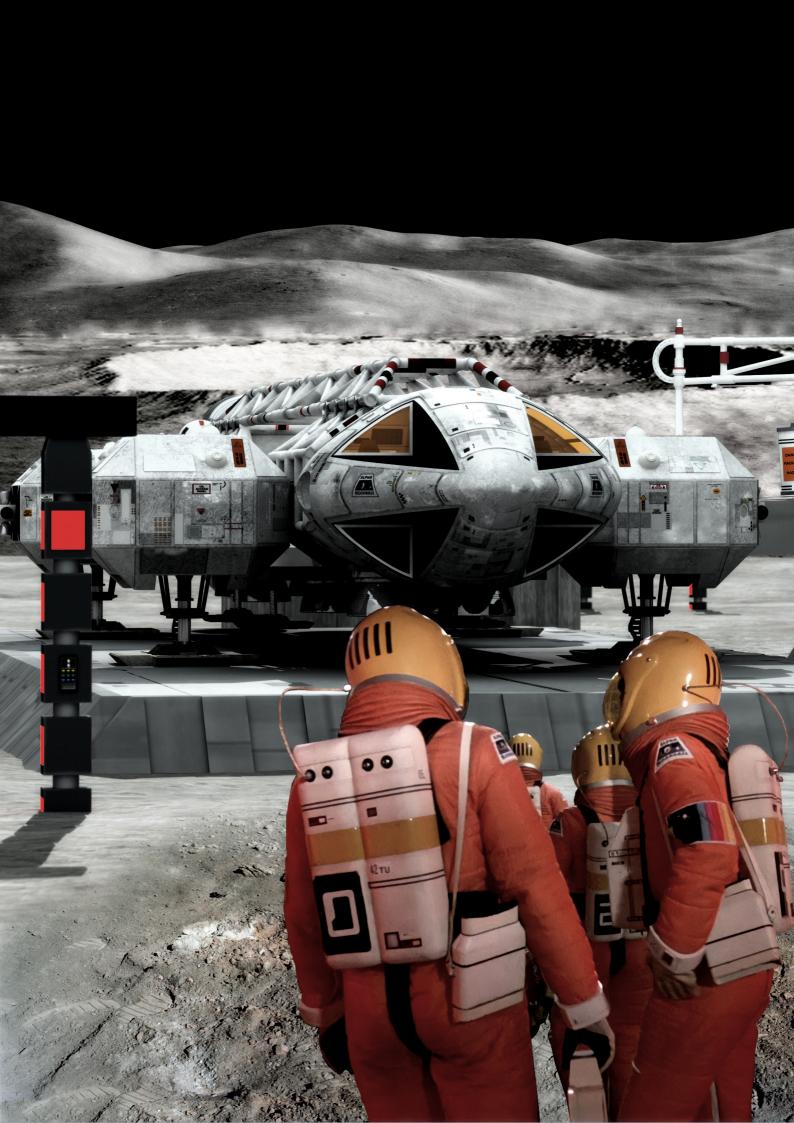




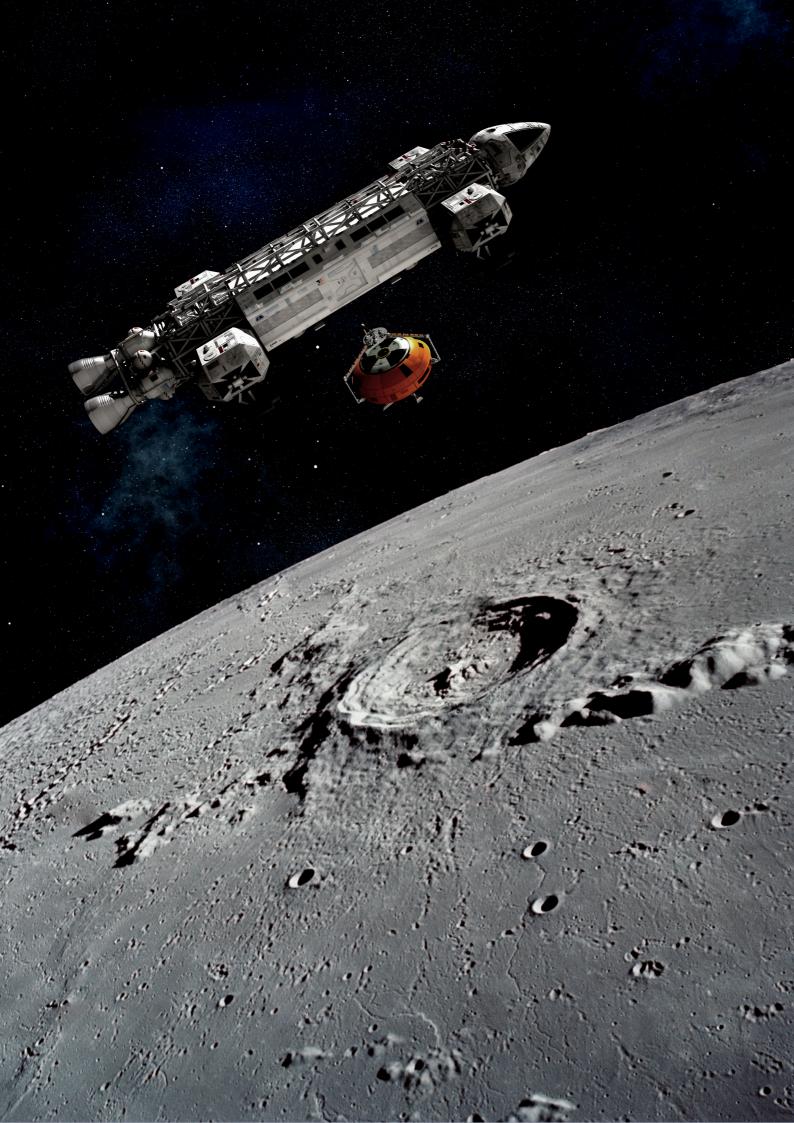










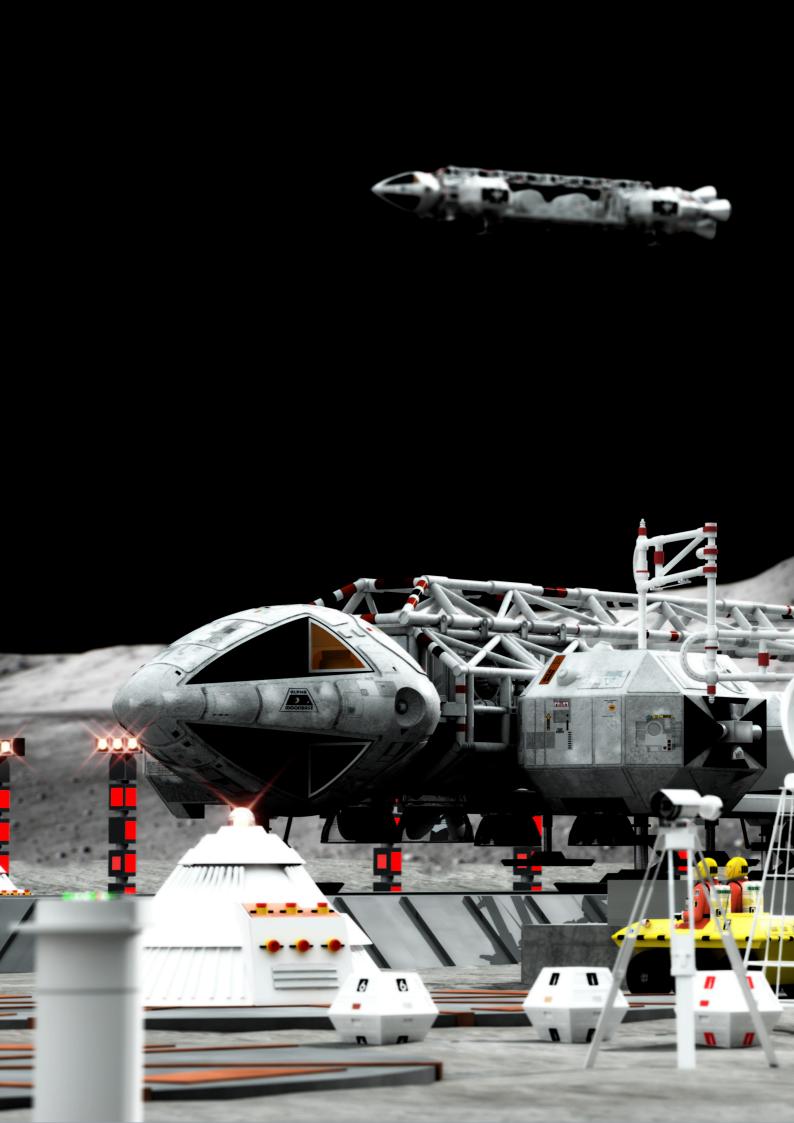


















Special thanks to those who've helped support us over the years:

Robert Wood, Roy Bjellquist, Rosie Badgett, Robert Farugia, David Hirsch, Heather Laird, Kathryn Cuglietta, Katy Nicholls, Dave Thomas, Andy Starks, Peter & Adina Smart, Vincent & Janet Barnes, Jim Wood, Robert Mack, Martin Bend, Christopher-Crowley Paulsen, Isobel Hoy, Frieda Verbaenen, Christine Barr, Steven Reder, Nancy Ehle, Ruth Rickersfeld, Nancy Johnson Moberg, Mary K. Peck, Terry Lee, Peter O'Rourke, Nick McCarty, the Catacombs: LIVE exhibitors, the Eagle 6 Team, ASA, the Calgary:1999 crew, our amazing volunteers, Warren Friedrich.....plus MANY others!!















The Cast. Our Alphan friends forever!

From week to week, the inhabitants of Moonbase Alpha filled our TV screens as they wandered the universe in search of a new home. Their adventures were memorable, and their journey ongoing...

Thank you to everyone for bringing these characters to life, along with many others.



























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AUGUST 23

52 Three Stooges—Comedy

3 Psychic Phenomena: The World Beyond

- 5:30 -

4 **Nightly News**

Little Rascals—Comedy 6

News-Jim Gordon (8)

10 Wild Kingdom-Wildlife

WFL Football (Live)

California Suns vs. Birmingham. Tom Kelly reports. (3 hr.)

(15) Black Perspective on the News

2 Cartelera Social—Report

30 Blue Ridge Quartet

40 Esta Es La Vida

50 The Boarding House-Music

D Little Rascals—Children

EVENING

6:00

2 News—Bob Dunn

(10) NFL Football (Live)

L.A. Rams vs. Buffalo Bills at Rich Stadium, Buffalo, N.Y. Curt Gowdy, Al De-Rogatis report. (3 hr.)

Bonanza-Western

8 News-Dan Rather

My Partner the Ghost-Comedy

B Night Gallery-Mystery

1-A wife is terrified when her husband begins having visions of a love tryst shooting. Stars William Shatner. 2-Visions of an iron mask and flashing

AFTERNOON- EVENING

sword cause a dying man to fear for his i daughter. Stars Lee Majors.

15 24 Washington Week in Review

22 Buscando Una Estrella-Variety

28 William F. Buckley-Discussion

Travel Time-Religion 30

34 News-Nono Arsu

40 Un Camino Mejor-Spanish

50 Philadelphia Folk Festival

53 La Raza Magazine

- 6:30 -

2 News—Dan Rather

39 News-Ted Koppel 3

News-Larry Carroll

8 World at War—Documentary

24 Wall Street Week-Report

Faith for Today—Religion

Boxing (Tape)

Scheduled card from Mexico City. Luis Moreno reports. (1 hr.)

Man in the Arena-Religion

Three Stooges—Comedy

7:00

2 Other People, Other Places The Roots of Yoga, its techniques, philosophy and purpose.

Wild Kingdom-Wildlife

5 Bowling for Dollars—Chick Hearn

Sammy and Company-Variety

News-Ted Koppel

(8) Doc-Drama

9 SPECIAL PREVIEW

* EARTHLINGS ADRIFT

IN "SPACE: 1999"

Space: 1999—Science Fiction **DEBUT** Martin Landau and Barbara Bain return in a syndicate series that will air weekly starting Sept. 20. In a preview, the first episode recounts how an explosion on the moon hurls it out of Earth's orbit and casts the 311 people stationed there into space. Barry Morse costars. (1 hr.)

11 Takes a Thief—Adventure A woman scientist behind the Iron Curtain is tempted to defect. Ida Lupino

15 Firing Line-William F. Buckley Jr.

Motitrece-Reporte

24 20th Century Dialogues

28 NAZIS IN FRANCE! * "THE SORROW AND THE PITY" ON KCET.

(23) "The Sorrow and the Pity"

SPECIAL Marcel Ophuls' 1972 documentary examines the Nazi occupation in France and questions how ordinary people could have gone along wth a barbaric regime that destroyed human beings as a matter of public policy. Interviews with Harold Macmillan, Anthony Eden and resistance fighters are featured. French and German newsreel footage from 1939-1945 is used, with Eng-

SATURDAY



ONE SHOULD BE RIGHT FOR YOU! SOFLENS (Polymacon)







TRUNCATED MINI-THIN

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