

The Wisent

the Eurocon newsletter

A lot of awards

Saturday afternoon included the awards ceremony for the European Science Fiction Society awards and a few other prizes. Led by the incomparable Jukka Halme, the ceremony began with the **Alvar Appeltofft Memorial Award**, which is Swedish science fiction fandom's most important award. Johan Anglemark, chairman of the Alvar Appeltofft Memorial Foundation, presented the award, and this year, the worthy recipient (who received a diploma, a sum of money and a trophy in the shape of a lightbulb wearing a stylized propeller beanie) was Tomas Cronholm.

Following this, the **Science Fiction Translation Award** was presented by Cheryl Morgan and her lovely assistants Elizabeth Bear and Ian McDonald. This award aims to promote the translation of speculative fiction into English from other languages, and it is awarded in two categories, long form and short form.

- Long form, runner-up: *The Golden Age* by Michal Ajvaz, translated by Andrew Oakland (Dalkey Archive Press). Original publication in Czech in 2001 as Zlatý Věk.
- Long form, winner: *A Life on Paper: Stories* by Georges-Olivier Châteaureynaud, translated by Edward Gauvin (Small Beer Press). Original publication 1976--2005 in French.
- Short form, runner-up: "Wagtail" by Marketta Niemelä, translated by Liisa Rantalaiho (Usva International 2010, ed. Anne Leinonen). Original publication in Finnish in 2006 as "Västäräkki".
- Short form, winner: "Elegy for a Young Elk" by Hannu Rajaniemi, translated by Hannu Rajaniemi (Subterranean Online, Spring 2010). Original publication in Finnish in 2007.

More information about the SFTA, plus motivations for the selection of winners and runners-up and the thank-you notes from those who could not be at Eurocon, can be found at the award's website sftawards.org.

The ceremony continued with the **ESFS Awards** which were presented by Dave Lally. There was a plethora of nominees from all over Europe; a full list is at www.esfs.info. These awards are decided by a vote, and this year a couple of the categories had two winners.

The ESFS award winners were:

- Honorary Awards:
Vlado Risa, Czech Republic and Svetlana Bondarenko, Ukraine
- Best Dramatic Presentation: Aniara, directed by Lars Rudolfsson, Sweden
- Spirit of Dedication, Best Fanzine: Parsek, Croatia
- Spirit of Dedication, Artist: Ivan Mavrovic, Croatia
- Best Promoter: Joint win, Oleg Kolesnikov, Russia and Louis Savy, UK
- Best Publisher: Lenizdat (Sankt Petersburg), Russia
- Best Magazine: Joint win, Ubiq, Croatia and the web magazine <http://fantlab.ru>, Russia
- Best Translator: Attila Németh (Galaktika Magazine), Hungary
- Best Artist: David Hardy, UK
- Best Author: Alastair Reynolds, UK
- Special award: Sam J Lundwall, Sweden.

The trophy was a lovely horse sculpture, different for each of the awards.

More on the awards and the ESFS at esfs.info.

Good heavens

The number of warm bodies by Saturday evening exceeded 700, which is a considerably more than any previous Swedish convention has had.

Swecon 2012 in Uppsala

Next year's Swecon, the Swedish national science fiction convention, will be in Uppsala, 12-14 October. 27 people voted in the bid session.

How to send yourself a parcel home

Location: near *Hemköp* (supermarket in Åhléns City). Left by the cashier is a post office [ed. note: or what passes for a post office in this country. When I was a gel we had **proper** post offices. Grumblesnort.] They also sell boxes. Open: Sun 10-16.

Tariff within the EU:

Up to 5kg 205 SEK

5-20kg 395 SEK (same price, 20 kg is the maximum you can send)

My personal experience: 1 parcel is about 7-10 kg, for the maximum you would have to use bricks. The guys and girls are very helpful, don't hesitate to ask.

Eastercon 2013 bid

8Squared is a bid for the 2013 UK Eastercon. We plan to run over the Easter weekend in the Cedar Court Hotel, Bradford.

See www.eightsquaredcon.org for more info (or talk to Kari Sperring, Steve Davies or Phil Nanson).

-- The 8Squared committee

The newsletter gnome adds: The UK Eastercons are fantastically fun, and people who enjoyed this convention would very likely love the Eastercon as well.

The survey

A plea from the committee: Please fill out the survey at Registration! It's dead useful to know how people find out about conventions, what their expectations are, what worked and what didn't work, etc. Thanks!

Lost & Found

A camera is waiting for its owner at the registration desk.

SMOFcon 29

Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2-4 December 2011

SMOFcon is an annual convention about how to run SF conventions! It will bring together conrunners from all across the world who will share stories and best practices and also have fun. All this and in the centre of Amsterdam too!

Details and memberships on the website: smofcon29.org.

Wilf James, veteran Swedish-speaking English fan, was looking forward to this con, but was unable to attend due to illness. His friends are trying to get a card to sign for him.

-- Peter Redfarn, UK

[Ed. note: There is now a card, on a table next to Registration.]

Tandoori

Tried the Tandoori House on Birger Jarlsgatan (location 5 in the programme guide) for an evening meal other than the free hotel service, and found its sizzling specialties (all right, lamb and garlic chicken) quite tasty, the 'heavy' sauce too. Alas the nans were too dry or even a little burnt. But the mango lassi was excellent. Also note that it's a small place, not good for large dinner parties.

-- Jan van't Ent

Blogging the convention

Blog posts about Eurocon have started to appear. The convention website eurocon2011.se will link to these, and you can in fact create an account at that website and post links yourself.