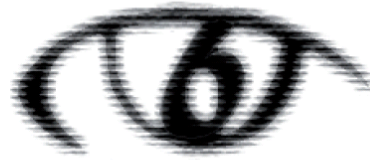


# CONTINUUM 6

## FUTURE TENSE



26-28th February, 2010 - Melbourne, Australia

*Remember when '2010' was one of those dates they used in sci-fi to mean simply, The Future? We do...*

**Future Tense.** *The killer robots are beating down the front door while the mutant hordes gather at the back; your emotional inhibitor is on the fritz again and your computer has started calling you "Dave"; the world outside is a burning wasteland but that's OK, there's an ice age right around the corner; so climb into your nutrient tank and get comfy – it's going to be a lovely apocalypse....*

**Continuum** is an annual Melbourne speculative fiction and pop culture convention celebrating creativity across genres and media. From hard-edge science fiction to high-flown fantasy, comic books to film noir, high culture to sub-culture...we sink our teeth into it all! Our aim each year is to provide a regional convention where writers, artists, readers and film/TV buffs of all kinds can get together for a weekend of panel discussions, entertainment, and social fun.

**Continuum 6 in 2010** will take place from the **26th to 28th February**, at **ether** convention centre in the heart of **Melbourne** CBD. Our confirmed Guests of Honour for 2010 are **Mark Pesce**, futurist writer, virtual reality pioneer and 'minor TV personality', and **Kim Westwood**, Aurealis Award-winning author of apocalyptic fiction, including the near-future novel *The Daughters of Moab*. Supporting them will be a wide range of other speakers and panellists in a fabulous line up of panels, presentations, readings, signings and special events. The convention will also host the **Chronos Awards** for excellence in Victorian SF, fantasy and horror in 2009. Another programming highlight is our 'Maskobalo', a costumed dance party in the best Continuum tradition of friendliness and fun.

Our members come from all walks of life, from around Australia and the world, but there's always something for everyone at a Continuum convention: Dr Who to Dexter, Star Wars to Battlestar Galactica, Tolkien to Terminator!

Continuum will open for registration at 4pm on Friday 26th February, 2010, and first panels will commence around 6pm; the convention runs until 7.30pm Sunday 28th February, 2010.

For more information:  
visit our website: [www.continuum.org.au](http://www.continuum.org.au) or contact [info@continuum.org.au](mailto:info@continuum.org.au)

For media enquiries:  
please email Fran La Fontaine at [publicity@continuum.org.au](mailto:publicity@continuum.org.au), or contact Hesperia Mann (Continuum 6 Convention Chair) on 0414 418 833

**-More-**

More about our Guests of Honour:



**Mark Pesce (<http://markpesce.com/>)**

futurist, technologist, philosopher, author, virtual reality pioneer, and TV's 'New Inventors' regular

One of the early pioneers of virtual reality, Mark Pesce has been exploring the frontiers of media and technology for a quarter of a century. The author of five books and numerous articles, he is widely respected as a technologist, futurist, philosopher and communicator who can translate abstract concepts into concrete explanations.



**Kim Westwood (<http://kimwestwood.com/>)**

award-winning author of apocalyptic fiction, including near-future novel *The Daughters of Moab*

Kim Westwood first realised she might be a bit speculative when her short story 'The Oracle' won a 2002 Aurealis Award. Her stories have been chosen for Year's Best anthologies in Australia and the US, and for ABC radio broadcast, and she is the recipient of a Varuna Writer's Fellowship for her first novel, *The Daughters of Moab*.

Note: for high-resolution pictures of our guests, please refer to our website

**-More-**

### More about Continuum conventions:

The first Continuum was held in Melbourne in 2003 to reinvigorate the regional speculative fiction convention scene, with Perth and Canberra already having the well-established 'SwanCon' and 'Conflux' conventions respectively.

Continuum draws together fans, readers, writers, publishers, artists and anyone with an interest in the science fiction, fantasy and horror genres, encompassing fiction writing, comics and graphic art, movies and video, music, games and toys, costuming and model-making, collecting and even cooking!

The convention is run entirely by volunteers, and has socialising at its heart. Members and guests come from all walks of life, from all over Australia and the world. All ages are welcome; the general range is from 8-80yrs. Many of our members have been attending like conventions for over 20 years\*, travelling the world to listen to the best genre writers and speakers, and to meet up with like-minded people (\*Member Survey, 2009). At Continuum, fans and professionals alike can meet to exchange ideas and stories, pick up tips about writing, engage in sometimes heated debate, talk, listen, share—and talk!

Past Guests of Honour have included popular and influential Australian and International authors and artists, including Kate Forsyth, Trudi Canavan, Neil Gaiman, Robin Hobb, Charles Stross, Margo Lanagan and Shaun Tan. Many local authors and publishing industry professionals also attend the convention as members and panellists, freely lending their expertise and advice.

Along with presentations by our Guests, the program features light-hearted discussion panels, activities and workshops on a diverse range of topics, usually with a connection to the convention 'theme'. A sample of program items from previous Continuum conventions is shown below:

*The Kids Today Wouldn't Know a Good Book if...*  
*Introductory Sword Fighting*  
*The Sparkly Modern Day Vampire (and his less sparkly cousins)*  
*The Art of Expansion: From Short Story to Novel*  
*Lego and Science Fiction: the Perfect Combination*  
*The Fashion of the Future*  
*Exquisite Corpses: Forensics in Fantasy, Horror and SF*  
*Weird Patents*  
*Twilight of the Superheroes*  
*What if Star Wars had never been made?*  
*How to Construct and Work in a Full Body Costume*

Other items that regularly feature include: auction, book launch(es), writers' awards, theatresports-style entertainment, cocktail party, costume parade and 'Maskobalo' dance party, readings and video screenings. A dedicated dealers' room offers books and other merchandise for purchase at the convention.

[Continuum is convened under the auspices of Continuum Foundation Inc., a not for profit association incorporated under the Victorian Associations Act, 1994.]

**-More-**

More information about Continuum:

Email:

[info@continuum.org.au](mailto:info@continuum.org.au)

Web:

<http://www.continuum.org.au>

<http://continuumconvention.blogspot.com/>

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/continuum\\_members/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/continuum_members/)

Post:

GPO Box 603

Melbourne Vic 3001

More about Continuum Foundation:

Contact Danny Oz, [dozman@netspace.net.au](mailto:dozman@netspace.net.au)

More about Chronos Awards:

<http://arcadiagt5.livejournal.com/252713.html> (Rules, as published 9/12/09)

Contact John Samuel, [arcadiagt5@livejournal.com](mailto:arcadiagt5@livejournal.com)

More about Arealis Awards:

<http://www.arealisawards.com/>

