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Dragon Con 2017

The Daily Dragon

Stan 'the Man' Lee! Excelsior! by Kelly McCorkendale

Stan Lee—the man, the myth, the legend—graced Dragon Con goes on Friday at 1PM in the Marriott Atrium Ballroom for, perhaps, the last time. Lee, who will turn 95 this year, is the American comic-book writer known for many of Marvel Comics' beloved, celebrated superheroes: Hulk, Thor, Iron Man, the Fantastic Four (his first creation, as he reminded the audience), Daredevil, and Spider-Man, arguably his most famous character and his personal favorite.

As attendees asked over a dozen questions of the nonagenarian, Lee, wearing his signature glasses, offered some sage advice and often filled the room with laughter, thanks to his snappy one-liners, jokes, and just general wit. He deadpanned that a man of his caliber, incredibly handsome and intelligent that is, should not have to pay taxes, explained that comic book means something different from comic-book, and declared

that of all of his characters, Hugh Hefner best represented him.

"They all represent me," he then said. "Dammit, I made them."

In the past decade, Lee has become just as known for his cameos in The Avengers film franchise as he is for his comic-book contributions. His favorite role was in *The Avengers: Age of Ultron*, mostly because he got two short scenes—the before and after shot of drinking a potent Asgardian alcohol offered up by Thor. He hopes to get three scenes in his next appearance.

He also addressed the theory that, added together, these cameos point to him being a member of



an extraterrestrial species: the Watchers. "I don't like you, an ordinary citizen, to pose a question of such magnitude," Lee joked, before saying that while he can't give a definitive answer, he could affirm that people may be on the right track.

On writing and storytelling, Lee told aspiring artists that he works "the same way you do" and that it doesn't matter what genre you work in, just make sure the reader wants to turn the page. "I want the characters to be interesting as hell."

"Think of all the things that might happen," he later said, when discussing how to develop a story arc for a specific character, "and pick the one you like the most." Lee said that, for him, that was key. "Please yourself. Chances are, you aren't that unique." In other words, if you like it, someone else probably will too.

Getting Hammered with Fillion by Amanda Faith and Debbie Yutko

A fan's gotta do what a fan's gotta do, and seeing Nathan Fillion tops the list for many Dragon Con attendees. Around 2,000 fans got their chance on Friday at 10AM in Centennial II-II, Hyatt. Beloved for many of his roles, such as Captain Malcolm Reynolds on *Firefly*, Captain Hammer in *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*, and Richard Castle on the popular television series *Castle*, Fillion didn't disappoint.

In fact, he seemed as excited and thrilled as his fans. He spoke of remembering everything about moments like this, "the temperature of room, how the seat feels against your butt, the energy of everything that's going on around you, the excitement, the level of... Ho, man. You ever do that? I'm doing it right now." What a guy.

When asked what his favorite role was, there was no hesitation: Captain Mal. His most difficult role



was playing Dogberry in Joss Whedon's *Much Ado About Nothing*. "Doing Shakespeare is hard. Yeah, it's English, but it's not *English*." He was worried about screwing it up, but he played the character based on his observations of people who think they are smarter than they really are. "It's been my experience that people who are not too bright don't know that they're not too bright." To keep his cool, he kept reminding

himself, "Don't blow this, buddy, don't blow this," because all the other actors were so good.

During the Q&A, one of the fans called him Mr. Fillion. His response? "Don't be so formal. Please, call me Your Lordship." He quickly lost it laughing, but the title stuck...all in good fun. He even answered a question about which products he uses in his hair. With wry wit and enthusiasm, he confessed that "being good lookin' (pause for effect) is merely a question of keeping your distance... My secret to good hair: don't fight it, man." (Insert Fillion sexy hair rake.) "Just let it do its thing." He proceeded to give the gentlemen in the audience a quick course in proper hair care. He also told them that every man should be able to make five meals, plus clean up afterward. The ladies in the audience heartily approved.

A Wookiee Roar and a Haka Dance by Kevin Shirley

Reflection and family were two major elements of Friday's 1PM panel featuring Daniel Logan (young Boba Fett) and Chewbacca himself, Peter Mayhew. The Marriott Imperial Ballroom resonated to rousing applause and Wookiee roars when panel moderator Riley Blanton introduced them. Logan and Mayhew then reminisced and reflected about their Star Wars careers and, especially, the relationships they created.

Riley Blanton began the conversation by asking Mayhew about bringing Chewbacca to life. When asked what makes "Chewie, Chew-

ie?" Mayhew declared: "Me!" Mayhew pointed out that he had to take George Lucas's guidance and build his own character through his presentation, movement, and physicality. Chewbacca was a fully realized character whose only limitation was that he couldn't talk with others in the way they spoke with each other. His is a character with a real moral compass. Mayhew pointed out that Chewie cared for the other characters, even robots. Mayhew declared, "He was one of the characters who saved the day almost every time."

Daniel Logan launched his visit by

donning a Boba Fett helmet and offering a haka war dance in homage to his Maori ancestry. When asked about playing an iconic Star Wars character, Logan declared it was a "blessing" to be a part of the franchise and that it was a "life-changing" experience. His work on *Star Wars: Episode II—Attack of the Clones* occurred when he was quite young (13), and he speaks fondly of his work with Tem Morrison (Jango Fett). Age has only deepened his appreciation of the Star Wars family. Of Mayhew, Logan simply declared: "Peter's always had my back... and I appreciate that."

Schedule Changes

Hy = Hyatt S = Sheraton
M = Marriott W = Westin
Hil = Hilton
AM1/2 = AmericasMart Bldg 1/2

The following previously confirmed presenters will not be able to attend Dragon Con 2017: **Taylor Anderson, Kate Baker, Paul Blackthorne, Nick Blood, Amanda Conner, Ric Flair, Lena Headey, Jon Heder, Joe Granato, D. Alan Lewis, KJ McCormick, E.C. Myers, Bobby Nash, Corvis Nocturnum, Jimmy Palmiotti, Rekha Sharma, R. Alan Siler, Gail Simone, Joonas Suotamo, Karl Urban, Toni Weisskopf, Caleph B. Wilson (@HeyDrWilson).**

ADDITIONS

Michael Hogan will be on "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Surge" Sat 11:30AM, Peachtree Ballroom (W); "Richard Hatch Remembered" Sat 1PM, International South (Hy).

James Callis will be on "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Surge" Sat 11:30AM, Peachtree Ballroom (W); "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Supremacy" Sun 11:30AM, Centennial II-III (Hy); "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Resurrection" Mon 10AM, Centennial II-III (Hy).

Arthur Darvill will be on "Legends of Tomorrow: Heroes through Time" Sat 11:30AM, Centennial II-III (Hy); "An Hour with the Ponds: Amy, Rory and River United" Sun 5:30PM, Atrium Ballroom (M).

James Palmer will be on "Significant Short Stories" Sat 1PM, Embassy A-B (Hy).

"Boomerang Presents: Saturday Cartoons" Boomerang brings your favorite cartoons to your devices and now to Dragon Con! Featuring classics like Tom and Jerry along with several NEW and exclusive classics including New Looney Tunes, Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz and all new Wacky Races! Sat 5:30PM, Galleria 4 (Hil).

Myke Cole will be on "Hunted, the TV Show: How Real Is It?" Sat 7PM, 208-209 (Hil).

Rick Worthy and Tasya Teles will be on "5 Truths and a Lie LIVE!" Sat 8:30PM, A601-602 (M).

Tamsin Silver will be on "Shadowhunters, Downworlders, & Mundanes! Oh My!" Sat 8:30PM, A707 (M); "The Growing World of Harry Potter: Old Canon

and New Canon" Sun 2:30PM, A707 (M). **"Sunday Sunrise with Steven Universe"** Sun 10AM, Galleria 4 (Hil).

Ken Feinberg will be on "Filmmaking Essentials: Directing" Sun 11:30AM, Spring (Hy).

Mark Gagliardi will be on "Booze & Phasers LIVE!" Sun 10PM, Galleria 6 (Hil).

David Boop will be on "Dark Matter: Zairon or Bust!" Sun 1PM, M302-303 (M).

Van Jensen will be on "State of the Comics Industry 2017 & Beyond" Mon 1PM, Chastain I-J (W).

CANCELLATIONS

Rekha Sharma will not be on "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Surge" Sat 11:30AM, Peachtree Ballroom (W); "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Supremacy" Sun 11:30AM, Centennial II-III (Hy); "Battlestar Galactica: Operation Cylon Resurrection" Mon 10AM, Centennial II-III (Hy).

KJ McCormick will not be on "Oddest Cases" Sat 11:30AM, Grant West (Hil); "Ghost Hunters: Fave & Odd Cases" Sun 10AM, Grand Ballroom A-F (S); "Safe Journeys: Kindred Spirits & Ghost Hunters" Mon 10AM, Grand West (Hil).

D. Alan Lewis will not be on Autograph Sessions, Sat 11:30AM, International Hall South 4-5 (M); "More Than Gears: The Neo-Pulp & Dieselpunk Author Roundtable" Sat 7PM, Augusta (S).

Michael Hogan will not be on "Mass Effect Voice Actors: Our Favorite Panel on the Citadel" Sat 1PM, Peachtree Ballroom (W).

Joe Granato will not be on "Video Game History & Preservation" Sat 1PM, Augusta E-G (W); "Screening: The New 8-Bit Heroes" Sun 10PM, August E-G (W).

Caleph B. Wilson (@HeyDrWilson) will not be on "The Science of Luke Cage" Sat 1PM, Crystal Ballroom (Hil); "Personal Genetic Testing" Sat 8:30PM, 201-211 (Hil); "Chemical Warfare in Wonder Woman" Sun 5:30PM, Grand East (Hil).

Amanda Conner will not be on "Fashion in Comics" Sat 2:30PM, Chastain I-J (W); "Aftershock Comics" Sat 4PM, International South (Hy).

Jacqueline Goehner will not be on "My

Cosplay Melee Experience" Sat 2:30PM, Grand West (Hil); "Masquerade" Sun 8:30PM, Centennial I-III (Hy).

Nick Blood will not be on "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." Sat 4PM, Atrium Ballroom (M); "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. Season 5: Um, Asteroids?" Sun 2:30PM, Grand Salon (Hil); "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. (or Is That Hydra?)" Mon 1PM, Grand Salon (Hil).

Jimmy Palmiotti will not be on "Aftershock Comics" Sat 4PM, International South (Hy); "State of the Comics Industry 2017 & Beyond" Mon 1PM, Chastain I-J (W).

Paul Blackthorne will not be on "Arrow: What Has the Arrow Cost Us?" Sat 5:30PM, Atrium Ballroom (M); "Arrow: An Eye for an Eye" Sun 10AM, Centennial II-III (Hy); "Arrow & Legends of Tomorrow" Mon 10AM, Grand Salon (Hil).

Gail Simone will not be on "DC Legend—Gail Simone" Sat 5:30PM, International South (Hy); "Love Is Love: The Orlando Shooting Benefit Comic" Sat 8:30PM, International North (Hy); "Women in Comics" Mon 11:30AM, Chastain I-J (W).

"Karl Urban: Bad to the Bones" Sat 5:30PM, Grand Salon (Hil).

"ASIFA Animators Roundtable" Sat 5:30PM, Galleria (Hil).

R. Alan Siler will not be on "Doctor Who: Goodbye, Moffatt...Hello, Chibnall!" Sun 11:30AM, Crystal Ballroom (Hil); "Classic Series Doctor Who" Sun 1PM, Galleria 5 (Hil); "Class" Sun 7PM, Galleria 5 (Hil); "Doctor Who Extended Universe" Sun 8:30PM, Galleria 5 (Hil); "Ask the Experts: Everything Doctor Who" Mon 1PM, Galleria 5 (Hil).

"Karl Urban" Sun 11:30AM, Atrium Ballroom (M).

Reading: Lou Antonelli, Sun 1PM, Vinnings (Hy).

Mike Horner will not be on "So You Want to Build a Puppet" Mon 11:30AM, A707 (M).

UPDATES

"Kaiju in the Media" Sat 5:30PM, Galleria 8 (Hil), is now "Godzilla: The Evolution of the Classic Movies," Galleria 1 (Hil).

night. Grab your best Sonic and come along. Dance to DJ Weasel's tunes and stay for our Pageant of Rassilon Winner Announcements at midnight. Allons-y! Sun 10PM, Grand Salon (Hilton).

Mechanical Masquerade: Frontier

The Mechanical Masquerade returns with "A Night in the Old Weird West." We drew inspiration for our 6th annual installment from the good, bad, ugly, and weird Western tales. Let the dancing and imagination run free! Sun 10PM, Grand Ballroom A-F (Sheraton).

Check out the Parties/Events page on the Daily Dragon website for more parties and meetups.

Daily Dragon Tweets

Don't miss the latest Dragon Con news. Follow @daily_dragon on Twitter!



Black Geeks of Dragon Con 2017 Photo Shoot

The Black Geeks of Dragon Con (BGD) will be holding its third annual photo shoot. BGD began as a way to increase awareness of geek diversity because of a lack of African American interest in science fiction and the associated multigenre conventions. While BGD honors the growing African American community at Dragon Con, it is in no way exclusionary and welcomes all who want to celebrate the diversity of convention. Sun 2-3:30PM, back steps (Hilton).



Film Festival Filmmaker Discussion

Do you want to get your film into a film festival? We'll tell you the tricks. This is a no-holds-barred discussion of the good & bad about festivals, films, & filmmakers. If you are—or want to be—a filmmaker, this is necessary information. Mon 10AM, Regency V (Hyatt).



Check the mobile app, the Pocket Program, or the Daily Dragon website for more information.

CORRECTIONS

Marc Gunn will not be on "Everything Is Filk Live Podcast" Sat 2:30AM, Hanover F-G (Hy).

Andrew McKee will be on "Everything Is Filk Live Podcast" Sat 2:30AM, Hanover F-G (Hy).

Doing It with Heart: Rooker

At his Dragon Con press conference on Friday, Michael Rooker spoke of approaching every role with the intention of making the character someone fans would be so enthralled with that they would want more. Rooker certainly isn't afraid to give a part his all. He recalled using an assigned pantomime death scene to "deal with" one of his college professors by pretending to be a circus performer with a venomous pet snake that would retrieve objects. Rooker mimed swallowing the object, then the snake. Of course, the snake bit him. Poisoned, Rooker rolled and writhed on the floor, crawled over to his professor, and clawed his way up along the professor's leg. For the grand finale, Rooker proceeded to throw up... all over his professor's pants and shoes. Now that's acting with true passion. The result? He got an A+ in the class.

Heroes & Villains Ball

Get your costumes and your dancing shoes ready! DJ Spider will be spinning until the wee hours and you just never know who's going to stop by. Sat 10PM, Peachtree Ballroom (Westin).



Yule Ball

Dance the night away with the YA Lit Track and DJ Chris! Parade of costumes at 9:30PM, so come in your Hogwarts finest. All ages invited until 10PM; Mature Audiences Only after 10PM. Sun 8:30PM, Imperial Ballroom (Marriott).



Queerios Meetup

You've met on Facebook, now meet in person. All your Queerios friends are invited to this meetup.

Afterward we will trek over to the Spectrum LGBTQ Party together. 8:30PM Sun, 306 (Hilton).



The Spectrum Party

We welcome all of Dragon Con's LGBTQ attendees! Enjoy a party just for you: DJ Neon the Glowgo Bear spins the beats, and our go-go grrlz 'n' boyz dance for you. Must be 21+ to party and have valid photo ID to enter. Brought to you in conjunction with OutlantaCon. Mature Audiences Only. Sun 10PM, Grand East (Hilton).



3rd Annual Doctor Who Ball

The best party this side of Rax-acoricofallapatorius! We'll rock on like an Axon late into the