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The Daily Dragon

Tackling Evil of All Kinds by Max Caracappa

The stars of *Evil* gathered in the Hyatt Centennial II-IV ballroom at 1PM to discuss the show and answer some questions about how they have dealt with evil in their own lives during "Devil in the Details: Cast of Evil." Mike Colter, Katja Herbers, and Aasif Mandvi all spoke eloquently and shared some deeply personal insights during the hour-long panel.

From the start, it was clear that the three guests had a light and warm camaraderie between them as they immediately started making jokes and poking fun at one another. While none of them have watched themselves on the show, Herbers said that she would watch the opening credits because they aren't in the script. She felt that the creativity in the opening sequence was fantastic each time.

One question from the audience was about whether any of the guests had a possibly supernatural experience that they couldn't explain. Herbers said that there was a period of time where she was experiencing severe and debilitating headaches. She'd seen doctors, tried various remedies, but nothing was working and no one could explain why she was having these headaches. Then a friend in Amsterdam, where Herbers is from, suggested that she go see this woman who lives in the woods. The woman told her that she is carrying around thirty-seven ghosts and that they were weighing her down. "She told me that I could believe it or not, but that she was going to get rid of them,"



Herbers said. She added that apparently some of the ghosts didn't want to leave, but eventually the woman was able to get rid of them and the headaches eased. Mandvi commented that thirty-seven ghosts are too many, and Colter agreed, adding that thirty-six might have been manageable but the thirty-seventh was too much. Herbers also added that she thought that her room in the Hilton might be haunted and is convinced that the hotel is probably haunted because several people must have gotten drunk and fallen from the atrium over the years.

The storylines in *Evil* were often intense, so one audience member wanted to know if there was anything that ever got too real or too spooky for the cast. Mandvi said that there was a moment when the actor who played the demon George was standing by himself in full costume in the hair and makeup department while no one else was around.

He hadn't yet met the actor or seen his face, so it was odd for his first encounter with him to be in full costume. Mandvi said that had creeped him out a bit. Herbers had a similar experience during her second day of shooting. She was filming one of the scenes from the pilot episode where George is on top of her in bed and he chops off her fingers. Again, she didn't have the opportunity to meet the actor before spending two days with him on top of her, so in the end she Googled him to see if he had a kind face.

A frequent topic of the conversation was how the actors deal with the evil in the real world. Herbers and Colter are very passionate about the existential threat posed by climate change. Colter noted that there's "no sex on a dead planet, no anything that people enjoy, no Dragon Con."

Read the full article on the Daily Dragon website!

Donato Giancola: Seeking the Spark by Debbie Yutko



This year's Artist Guest of Honor, Donato Giancola, has created over 300 cover art illustrations and has earned a long list of awards almost as impressive as his paintings. Perusing his on-line gallery is captivating both visually and emotionally. Each of his works, even a deceptively simple depiction of hands, tells a vibrant story. Intricate battle scenes capture not only the struggle for victory but also the desolation and despair of war. Even his robot paintings delve into the heart of human emotions. During the panel "Linking Personal Projects and Commercial

Commissions w/GOH!" on Sunday at 2:30PM in Hyatt Grand Hall C, Giancola shared tips on how he developed his style and how he incorporates his own artistic passions into his commissioned artwork.

In his first illustration for *Magic: The Gathering*, he used his love of hands and how expressive they can be. His creation for the card, which depicted a person trapped in amber being held in the hand of a Wizard, cemented his long relationship with the card-game franchise. Giancola also loves portraiture, so he draws on Rembrandt and

Botticelli but gives his own work an updated twist. His depiction of Boromir, reminiscent of the Old Masters, he painted for himself.

Giancola also enjoys painting battle scenes. Many years ago, he was asked to do a cover for *Tor*. He decided to portray a battle from the book in far more detail than the original request. Although he really wasn't paid well enough for the amount of time required, the painting resulted in more commissions from *Tor*.

As an added bit of enjoyment, Giancola often puts himself or his friends, who model for him, into his paintings. In one futuristic cityscape, there's even a billboard that says "Donato" and depicts a hand in the process of drawing. The artist himself is the small figure near the bottom center handing a portfolio to someone.

In closing, Giancola said, "You have to show people you can do it before they'll commission you to do it." When he began his career, he accepted whatever fee was offered, but by investing extra time and effort in his work and producing more than asked, he's able to leverage that investment to yield dividends in both income and personal satisfaction. You can see Giancola and his amazing works in the Art Show.

Read the full article on the Daily Dragon website!

Schedule Changes

The following previously confirmed guests are unfortunately not able to attend Dragon Con 2025: **Andy Belanger, Alex Brown, Olivia Dudley, Colton Haynes, John Gregory Keyes, Maggie Lawson, David Mack, David McRaney, Jim Shooter, Tom Wilson**

ADDITIONS

***NEW* Stella Maeve** will be on "The Magicians Cast" Monday 11:30AM, Peachtree Ballroom (W).

John Barrowman will be on "Arrowverse Guests: One Last Visit to Starling City" Monday 10AM, Atrium

Ballroom (M).

Charles Kelso and **Veronica Dashiell** will be on "Felt Nerdy's Stargate Puppet Show!" Monday 1PM, Chastain DE (W).

CANCELLATIONS

***NEW* Tim Downie** will not be on "Baldur's Gate 3" Monday 11:30AM, Centennial II-IV (Hy).

Colton Haynes will not be on "Arrowverse Guests: One Last Visit to Starling City" Monday 10AM, Atrium Ballroom (M).

Allora Lee will not be on "Red Sonja"

Hy = Hyatt
M = Marriott

Hil = Hilton
W = Westin

CG = Courtland Grand
AM2/3 = AmericasMart Bldg 2/3

Sunday 5:30PM, L401-L403 (M).

UPDATES

"Farewell, Paranormal All-Stars!" is now Monday 11:30AM, Imperial Ballroom (M).

"Closing Ceremonies" is now Monday 4PM, Imperial Ballroom (M).

"What We're Reading" was Monday 10AM, A707 (M) and is now Monday 11:30AM, A707 (M).

"Bring Your Own Book Game" was Monday 11:30AM, A707 (M) and is now

Daily Dragon Social

Don't miss the latest Dragon Con news and announcements. Follow @daily-dragon on BlueSky!



The Last Thing You Want to See at Dragon Con: Peter David Memorial

Somebody once said the last thing people wanted was Peter David, which Peter wore as a badge of honor. For the last panel of 2025, we remember the legendary Star Trek scribe, comics maestro, and storytelling rebel. From Q-Squared to New Frontier, his wit, heart, and bold ideas shaped generations. Monday 2:30PM, Galleria 2-3 (Hilton).



NAMI Georgia

Dragon Con's Official 2025 Charity. Follow the link via the QR code or text NAMIGA to 24251.



2025 Dragon Award Winners

The winners of the 10th annual Dragon Awards, a fan choice award program to recognize the best in books, comics, games, and filmed entertainment, were announced Sunday. The Dragon Award winners are:

Best Science Fiction Novel

This Inevitable Ruin by Matt Dinniman

Best Fantasy Novel (Including Paranormal)

The Devils by Joe Abercrombie

Best Young Adult/Middle Grade Novel

Sunrise on the Reaping by Suzanne Collins

Best Alternate History Novel

The Martian Contingency by Mary Robinette Kowal

Best Horror Novel

Bury Your Gays by Chuck Tingle

Best Illustrative Book Cover

Wind and Truth by Michael Whelan

Best Comic Book/Graphic Novel

Daredevil: Cold Day in Hell by Charles Soule, Steve McNiven

Best Science Fiction or Fantasy TV Series (TV or Internet)

Andor, Disney+

Best Science Fiction or Fantasy Movie

Deadpool & Wolverine by Shawn Levy

Best Digital Game

Assassin's Creed Shadows, Ubisoft Quebec

Best Tabletop Game

Magic: the Gathering - Final Fantasy, Wizards of the Coast

Eugie Foster Memorial Award for Short Fiction

"Marginalia" by Mary Robinette Kowal

Mike Resnick Memorial Award for Short Fiction

"Elsewhere" by Anaïs Godard

Hank Reinhardt Fandom Award

Mike Henigan

Inside the Secret Lives of Puppets: A Teatime Investigation

by Elizabeth Caruso

Ovine host Claire Elizabeth O'Brien welcomed dozens of puppets to the "Magic Puppet Tea Party," a social event specifically for puppets. Guests filed into Marriott A704 at 5:30PM on Friday to imbibe (imaginary) tea and acquaint themselves with their fellow puppets.

Humans were not permitted to speak during the event, so adjunct reporter Egg Junior stepped in to interview the felted attendees.

Returning this year was Guthrie Weatherbottom III, fuzzy blue monster and possible cousin to Egg Junior. He remarked that he was most excited to meet new friends at this year's tea party but would truly absolutely be thrilled to meet a dragon at Dragon Con.

Many tea parties were new to the event. Turbo Granny was excited for

her first tea party. She was overjoyed to leave the confines of her home to visit Dragon Con. Obs Goblin, a mere child at "at least 7 years old", was thrilled to leave the house for the very first time. He overcame his shyness to befriend other puppets. Tom, a blue finger eye puppet, was excited to drink tea—ideally chamomile—and unwind.

Remy the Rat (no relation to the 3D rat of Pixar fame) donned her finest at her debutante tea party, clad in a magenta sateen princess dress. She remarked that she was excited for tea and treats. Remy brought a puppet of her own: a finger eye puppet who declined to share his name. In fact, our mysterious interloper refused to speak at all. Remy mused that perhaps a bit of emotional distance was healthy for the two of them.

Some familiar faces were in attendance, among them Punch and Judy. The English couple has been entertaining audiences for over 300 years with their wacky antics. Despite their extensive experience in the puppet scene, this was their first time attending the tea party. They enjoyed the challenge of communicating without human involvement.

Across the board, the puppets appreciated the opportunity to be their authentic selves. Even within this human-dominant convention, puppets quietly thrive.

