

ARCANA 46

Celebrating the Weird, the Macabre,
and the Dark Fantastic



OCTOBER 21-23 2016

FFI: <https://arcanacon.com>
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/ArcanaCon>

Guest of Honor:
Kathe Koja

ARCANA/PO box 8036/Lake Street Station/Minneapolis, Mn 55408

TALES OF THE UNANTICIPATED

The anthology of SF Minnesota

Features off-the-beaten-path speculative fiction, poetry, and artwork, and the occasional SF-related essay or interview.

For a complete run of back issues (including photocopies of #1) visit the SF Minnesota Table in the Arcana Vendor Room (Milwaukee Road). Under the auspices of our publisher, SF Minnesota, we are hoping to bring TOTU #32 out early in 2017.

There will be a one-month submissions window for TOTU #33 early in 2017, around the time of the publication of #32.

Visit our websites (below) for periodic updates on submission guidelines, and up-to-date mail order rates.

See editor Eric M. Heideman at Arcana 46 for swell TOTU package deals. (Among other places, Eric will be hanging out in Krushenko's, Room 101, each evening after the live Programming ends.)

www.totu-ink.com
www.diversicon.org

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Welcome to Arcana & Minn-Con!

It's mid-to-late October. The leaves are russet, the apples crisp, and ancient evil strives to break back into the world. It's time for Arcana... Our story so far: in 1968 three devotees of the H.P. Lovecraft/Weird Tales/Arkham House horror tradition—including author John J. Koblas (1942-2013)—started hanging out. About August 14, 1971, they were joined by two more fans for the first official Minn-Con, the five of them pledging to recruit others. Whenever several of the fellowship gathered for some activity—usually, though not always, horror-related—they called it a Minn-Con. There would eventually be over 150 Minn-Cons, as well as some out-of-town activities, including Spooncons in Spooner, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1971 they held the first annual weekend in members' houses, which they called Oktoberfest. Over the years, these Minn-Cons and Oktoberfests attracted horror, fantasy, and science fiction authors, artists, scholars, musicians, and fans. Somewhere in the mid-'80s the name Minn-Con attached itself to both the regular and annual gatherings. In 1987 Minn-Con, surviving a schism, started holding annual fall gatherings at hotels, evolving from a large gathering to a small convention. In 1992 the convention settled into the hotel beside Bandana Square—the Sunwood Inn-Holiday Inn Express-Best Western-now Best Western Plus—where it happily resides for its 25TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR. In 1994, to avoid confusion with a larger and slightly older Twin Cities science fiction convention, Minicon, we changed Minn-Con's name to Arcana, "A Convention of the Dark Fantastic." To preserve its rich history, Arcana has retained the original numbering from Oktoberfests, and our Sponsoring Organization is Minn-Con. Meeting in hotels, Minn-Con/Arcana has drawn 32-70 warm bodies, defining the compact edge of what is, in fact, a full service convention. Arcana 46's Programming centers around our Guest of Honor, Kathe Koja, and her interests, including writing, theater, and puppets. Saturday night she will do a performance, *The Art of Darkness: A Participatory Fiction*. Other topics include "What are You Reading," "What are You Viewing," "Star Trek Dark," a centennial appreciation of Shirley Jackson, "The Art of Jon Arfstrom," the true-life macabre, our "Weird Robin Readings," and our Silver Edition reminiscences of Bandana Square. There will be late night conversation, media, and snacks in Krushenko's. The Minn-Con Auction, this time Saturday, 4:00-6:00 p.m., will steal the show. Read through this Program Book for other

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amenities. Our Sponsoring Organization meets not-quite-monthly, usually early Sunday afternoons, to plan the next Arcana, to socialize, and to share our love of the Dark Fantastic. The next Arcana/Minn-Con meeting will be Sunday, December 4, noon-1ish p.m. at East Lake Library, 27th Ave S & Lake St E, Minneapolis. We'll do an Arcana 46 Post-Mortem, and moves things along for Arcana 47. Join us for fellowship, whether or not you want to work on the convention. If you enjoy this hotel, try the Western convention, Con-Sarnit, early June 2017, and the speculative fiction convention, Diversicon, July 21-23, 2017. Diversicon Sponsor SF Minnesota will hold its annual Classic Horror Films Party Saturday, November 5, 2016, 2:30 p.m.-midnight, in the same hotel on the same dates as MarsCon's Masquerade Ball. The theme for this year's Classic Horror Films Party is "Classic Horror Comedies of the '60s and '70s." See the orange flier on the Arcana freebie table for details of this and other fall events.

–Eric M. Heideman

ARCANA 46 VOLUNTEERS

Eric M. Heideman: Chair, Programming Director, Hotel Co-Liaison, Arcana Parties Host outside Arcana, Krushenko's Host

Dwayne H. Olson: Treasurer, At-Con Vendor Room Manager, Hotel Co-Liaison, Auctioneer

Michael Waltz: Program Book Editor, Auctioneer

Tessa Johnstone Carlson: Hospitality Host/Manager, Facebook Editor, outgoing

Sybil M. Smith: Hospitality Host/Manager, incoming

Brian K. Perry: Registrar, Pre-Con Vendor Room Manager; Hospitality Subhead

Greg Ketter: Guest of Honor Liaison; Auction Assistant Recorder

Greg Larsen: Audiovisual Room Host, Tech Support Doug Thorpe: Webmaster (arcanacon.com) Roger Lasley: ,Auction Recorder; Krushenko's Transportation

David Christenson: Auction Material Scrounger

Mark Tersteeg: General Volunteer

Minn-Con Board of Directors: Eric M. Heideman, Roger Lasley, Dwayne H. Olson, Brian K. Perry

Artwork by Steve Fastner and Rich Larson

Special thanks to Greg Ketter and Alice Bentley of DreamHaven Books

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Hotel: The Best Western Plus—Bandana Square has a swimming pool, sauna, free internet computer & free wireless, lobby & 2nd floor ice machines, & a 24-hour convenience cubby nestled behind hotel registration. The hotel is built inside a historic train repair shop, with original wooden beams, and train tracks running through the lobby. There is a free breakfast, hot and cold, in the lobby for hotel registrants. Check-in-time is 3 p.m.; check-out is noon. **The Waiting Room** (1st floor) serves pizza, snacks, and hard and soft drinks Monday-Saturday, 4-9 p.m. It has recently extended its hours as a lounge in times when the bar isn't open. The Best Western Plus is located next to historic Bandana Square, which contains the **Twin City Model Railroad Museum** (2nd floor, admission \$6). A nearby restaurant with a varied menu is **Gabe's by the Park**, 991 Lexington Pkwy N (about three blocks from the hotel). There is a wide variety of restaurants within 2-3 miles. On Sunday, Arcana will do a coordinated dinner expedition to **Tavern on the Grand** after Closing Ceremonies (see schedule).

Live Programming will be in our "Mainstage," **Soo Line Room**, 1st floor.

Our Vendor Room will be in the **Milwaukee Road Room**, 1st floor. (next to Mainstage). Hours: 3-7:30 p.m. Friday, 10: a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. 11 a.m.-3p.m. Sunday. Featuring books, magazines, films, artwork, and other Dark Fantastic items to die for. This year's dealers include Greg Ketter, **DreamHaven Books**; **Steve Fastner and Rich Larson**, artists/illustrators; **Lydia Perlick**, Faeward Inn (iridescent fantasy wings); **Dwayne H. Olson**, Fedogan & Bremer (book publishers); and **Eric M. Heideman**, Tales of the Unanticipated (original anthologies).

Arcana Hospitality, under the direction of Sybill M. Smith, will periodically put out food and beverages in the Vendor Room (Milwaukee Road) through Saturday afternoon; thereafter in the Mainstage (Soo Line).

Krushenko's (Room 101) is open Friday and Saturday evenings after the live Programming ends, combining conversation, media, and light refreshments (see Program Schedule). On Sunday Krushenko's will be one of the locations of the **Undead Dog Party** 7:15 p.m.-late night (see schedule).

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GUEST OF HONOR: KATHE KOJA

Kathe Koja grew up in Detroit. She began writing short stories for various anthologies and magazines before publishing her first novel, *The Cipher from Dell Abyss* in 1991. It went on to win the Stoker Award and a Locus Award that year. Her other horror novels include *Bad Brains*, *Skin*, *Strange Angels* and *Kink*. Her work explores some of the darkest corners of the human mind and obsessive behavior. Some of her short fiction has been collected in *Extremities*.



The second stage of her career began with *Straydog*, a young adult novel. She followed that with *Buddha Boy*, *The Blue Mirror*, *Talk*, *Going Under*, *Kissing the Bee* and *Headlong*. And in yet a third stage she has written an Historical trilogy starting with *Under the Poppy* and continuing with *The Mercury Waltz* and *The Bastards' Paradise*: a love triangle, a brothel and puppets in the Victorian age.

Kathe has been active in theater, founding the theater company, *nerve*, in the Detroit area, mounting productions of *Dracula* and *Faustus* among others, making them immersive and interactive, using other media including puppets, dance, and music.

Encountering a writer as versatile and exciting as Kathe Koja is a great joy. She has a wicked sense of humor and is great fun in conversation. Make sure to meet her and to talk to her and wait for the fireworks.

-Greg Ketter

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**MINNESOTA FANTASY AWARD WINNER:
ALLEN ANDERSON, 1908-1995**

Allen Anderson was born in Minneapolis in 1908. The youngest of two brothers, the son of a cook, he studied art via The Federal Schools of Minneapolis (a correspondence art school), graduating in 1928. For the next ten years he worked as a journeyman artist at Fawcett Publications, then based in Robbinsdale,



and became close friends with fellow Minnesota artist Norman Saunders. When Fawcett relocated to New York, Anderson, like many of his fellow artists, moved with them. In the years to follow he would produce cover art for many publishers and magazines, and across a gamut of genres: SF, Mystery, Western--his career interrupted somewhat by WWII. In 1949 he also ventured into comic books, painting some covers for Ziff-Davis. In 1953, with the Pulp markets failing, he remarried and moved to Tillson, NY where he supported himself by doing advertising work, the occasional cover or illustration for such markets as remained, and even working as a sign painter. He died on October 23, 1995 at the age of 87.

Further information, and a small gallery of his art, may be found at <http://www.pulpartists.com>

-Dwayne H. Olson

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Thursday, October 20, 2016 CE:

6:30-8:00 p.m. DreamHaven Books, 2301 38th St E, Minneapolis. A reading/Q&A by, reception for, and autographing by Arcana 46 Guest of Honor KATHE KOJA. Greg Ketter and Alice Bentley, hosts

All subsequent Arcana-related events will take place at the Best Western Plus—Bandana Square, 1010 Bandana Blvd W, St Paul (651-647-1637).

Friday, October 21, 2016 CE:

3:00 p.m. Registration Table (outside the Soo Line Room, 1st floor) opens

3:00 p.m. Vendor Room (Dealers & Art; Milwaukee Road Room, 1st floor, between Soo Line & Northern Pacific) opens

***3:30-4:25 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line Room; 1st floor). Panel or Discussion: Star Trek Dark**

A 50th anniversary tribute. The Star Trek galaxy—six TV series and 13 feature films, with another TV series on the way—has been largely known for its upbeat view of the future, with hundreds of sentient species overseen by the benign Federation of Planets. But there's plenty about it that's cautionary. Let's explore the darker side of Trek, series by series, film by film. Eric M. Heideman, mod.

4:00 p.m. The Waiting Room (bar area of hotel lounge, 1st floor) opens

4:30-6:25 p.m. DINNER BREAK

Some of us will walk or drive the three blocks to Gabe's by the Park, 991 Lexington Pkwy N, St Paul.

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You're welcome to join us.

6:30-7:00 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Opening Ceremonies

Featuring a Guest of Honor **Kathe Koja** Interview, Part One by Greg Ketter, interviewer

***7:05-7:30 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Panel or Discussion: Minn-Con-Arcana at Bandana Square: The Silver Edition**

Featuring reminiscences about this convention's 25 consecutive years in Bandana Square and the hotel next door to it. Eric M. Heideman, mod.

7:30 p.m. Vendor Room closes

7:45-8:00 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Award Presentation

The Minnesota Fantasy Award for lifetime achievement in the field of the fantastic by a Minnesotan is accepted by Dwayne H. Olson on behalf of Allen Anderson (1908-1995).

8:00 p.m. Registration Table closes

8:30-11:00 p.m., Krushenko's (Room 101). Germanic Horror Party

Let's get expressionistic!

9:00 p.m. The Waiting Room closes

11:00 p.m.-past midnight, Krushenko's (Room 101). Germanic Horror Media

Saturday, October 22, 2016 CE:

10:00 a.m. Registration Table (outside Soo Line) opens

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10:00 a.m. Vendor Room (Dealers & Art; Milwaukee Road Room) opens***10:00-10:30 a.m., Vendor Room (Dealers & Art; Milwaukee Road). Meet the Vendors**

See the Dealers show their wares! Talk with the artists about their work.

Greg Ketter, DreamHaven Books; Lydia Perlick, Faeward Inn (fantasy wings); Steve Fastner & Rich Larson, artists/illustrators; Dwayne H. Olson, Fedogan & Bremer (publisher); Eric M. Heideman, *Tales of the Unanticipated* (original anthologies).

10:30-11:25 a.m., Mainstage (Soo Line Room). An Interview with Kathe Koja, Part Two

In which our Guest of Honor is further interviewed by Greg Ketter

***11:30 a.m.-12:25 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Panel: Walking Alone: Shirley Jackson, 1916-1965**

A centennial look at the author whose work ranged from humorous family memoirs to such classics of horror fiction as the short stories “The Lottery” and “The Summer People,” and the novels *The Haunting of Hill House* and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*. Eric M. Heideman, mod.; Cynthia Booth, Roger Lasley, Brian K. Perry

12:30-12:55 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Autographing: Kathe Koja, Cynthia Booth, Roy C. Booth, et al.**1:00-1:55 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Panel: Puppets, Marionettes, and Ventroloquists’ Dummies in Fact, Folklore, Fiction, and Film**

Each year Arcana does a “Monster of the Year” panel. This time we look at our artificial friends, particularly, though not restricted to, their scary side. Eric M. Heideman, mod.; **Kathe Koja**, Roy C. Booth

2:00-2:55 p.m., A/V Room (Northern Pacific Room, next to Ven-

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dors). Slideshow Presentation: The Art of Jon Arfstrom, 1928-2015

Celebrates Arfstrom, the painter/illustrator/*Weird Tales* cover artist/longtime mentor to Minn-Con-Arcana. Greg Ketter, presenter; Greg Larsen, technical support

3:00-3:55 p.m. A/V Room (Northern Pacific). Fastner & Larson's Daughter of Trailer Park of Horror

Local fantasy artists Steve Fastner and Rich Larson present and discuss another batch of trailers from films that influenced and inspired their less-than-tasteful body of work. Steve Fastner & Rich Larson, presenters; Greg Larsen, technical support

***4:00-6:00 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Minn-Con Auction**

Featuring books, DVDs, BluRays, artwork, and miscellaneous items, the Auction keeps Arcana's parent organization afloat. And it's gobs of fun! Dwayne H. Olson & Michael Waltz, auctioneers; Roger Lasley, recorder; Greg Ketter, assistant recorder; Kathe Koja, moral support. To donate or consign, contact Dwayne, dholson84@gmail.com

6:00-7:55 p.m. DINNER BREAK**8:00-8:55 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Performance: The Art of Darkness: A Participatory Fiction**

Kathe Koja, performer

9:00-11:00 p.m., Krushenko's, (Room 101). Book Release Party for

MacGUFFIN, a horror/mystery/thriller by Roy C. Booth and John F. Mollard, based off of their optioned screenplay, from Indie Authors Press. Both authors will be present and participating.

11:00 p.m.-past midnight, Krushenko's (Room 101). Puppet Party

Featuring civilized conversation; puppets, marionettes, and/or ventriloquists' dummies optional.

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Sunday, October 23, 2016 CE:

11:00 a.m. Registration Table for Arcana 46 and 47 opens

11:00 a.m. Vendor Room (Dealers & Art; Milwaukee Road Room) opens

***11:00-11:55 a.m., Mainstage (Soo Line Room). Panel: What are You Reading?**

Featuring especially—but not limited to—horror-related books and magazines, published especially—but not limited to—during the past 18 months. Includes information about what’s coming out in the horror publishing field. Roger Lasley, mod.; Brian K. Perry

***Noon-12:25 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Panel or Discussion:**

Weird Historical Figures and the True Life Macabre, Part One

Focusing mainly on three historical figures of the 15th, 16th and early 17th centuries, whose true life atrocities significantly influenced horror fiction and cinema: Gilles de Rais (1405?-1440), Prince Vlad Tepes, the historical Dracula (1431-1476?), and Elizabeth Bathory, the “Blood Countess” (1560-1614). Eric M. Heideman, mod.

***12:30-1:55 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Weird Robin Reading**

Bring a five-ten minute sampling of your poetry and/or prose, with a second five-ten-minute sampling in reserve in case we have the time.

***2:00-2:55 p.m. Panel: The Madness of Dr. Caligari**

The new Fedogan & Bremer book, *The Madness of Dr. Caligari*, has gone to press and should be available at Arcana. We accordingly thought that we might do a panel on old time fantasy cinema, mainly German or Germanic, that has remained influential over the years—probably including *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, *The Golem*, the 1920 and 1931 *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *Nosferatu*, *Metropolis*, the Lugosi *Dracula*, the Karloff *Frankenstein*, *Freaks*, and the Karloff *The Mummy*. Eric M. Heideman, mod.; Dwayne H. Olson, Scott F. Wyatt

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3:00 p.m. Vendor Room closes

***3:00-3:55 p.m., Mainstage (Soo Line). Panel: What are You Viewing?**

Old and new, US and international films of the weird, the macabre, and the dark fantastic we've viewed in the past 18 months. Might include some tidbits about soon-to-appear horror films. Eric M. Heideman, mod.; David Christenson

4:00-4:15 p.m., Mainstage. Closing Ceremonies

Featuring a few words about the convention we've just shared, and some news about Arcana 47 next fall. Eric M. Heideman, MC.

Followed by...

4:15-4:45 p.m. Mingling and fond farewells. Followed by...

4:45-5:00 p.m. Coordinated dinner expedition to...

5:00-7:00 p.m. Our traditional Sunday dinner expedition to the walleye place, Tavern on Grand, 656 Grand Ave, St Paul;

followed by...

**7:15 p.m.-, Back at the hotel: The Undead Dog Party, featuring:
Railroad Lobby: Conversation & Gaming;
Krushenko's: Conversation & Viewers' Choice**

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In Memoriam, David G. Hartwell, 1941-2016

David G. Hartwell, Guest of Honor at Arcana 36, worked tirelessly as an editor, anthologist, critic, and historian to expand the boundaries of speculative fiction. He was also a warm person who welcomed shy fans and pros into his circle. And he loved loud ties.

-EMH

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DIVERSICON 25

JULY 21-23, 2017

BEST WESTERN PLUS—BANDANA SQUARE
1010 BANDANA BLVD W, ST PAUL, MN

GUESTS OF HONOR: ELEANOR ARNASON, MELISSA SCOTT

DIVERSICON is an “old fashioned” literate Speculative Fiction convention. We feature panel discussions, readings and our classic auction. We have live and posthumous guests to look at things from a number of perspectives.

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**SCOTT LOHMAN, DIVERSICON 25 CHAIR: SCOTTL2605@AOL.COM
ERIC M. HEIDEMAN, PROGRAMMING: EHEIDEMAN@DHZONE.COM**



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**Celebrating the Weird, the Macabre,
and the Dark Fantastic**

October 2017—weekend TBA

Guest Author: William F. Nolan

Guest Editor: Roy C. Booth

Guest Playwright: Cynthia Booth

Special Guests: Jason V. Brock & Sunni Brock

Rates: \$30 through January 1, 2017

\$35 through August 1, 2017

\$40 through October 1, 2017

\$50 At the Door

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Make checks payable to Arcana 47. (Do not mail cash.)

Or pay via PayPal to arcanacon@comcast.net

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