



SCI-FI-LONDON

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASTIC FILM

APOLLO
CINEMAS
SEE YOU IN 2007
2 - 6
2008
APOLLO WEST
LONDON, UK
booking: 020 7451 9944

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Special Event

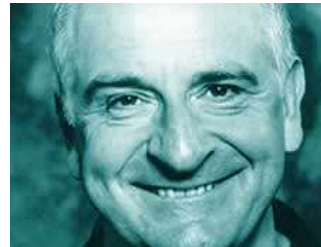
DOUGLAS ADAMS MEMORIAL DEBATE

Institute of Ideas



SCREENING TIMES

date: Thurs 3rd May
time: 7.00pm



From Star Wars to the Battle of Ideas Is science fiction good for public debate?

Science fiction often tells us more about social attitudes and anxieties than science itself, and can be a spur for debate about everything from genetics to consciousness, from war to climate change. Sci-fi can move people to engage in science, inspiring young people to become scientists, and encouraging the general public to debate the consequences of science for society. It can also frighten us, making us wary of new technology and its unintended consequences. Is this all to the good, or do

Writers and filmmakers often take their inspiration from science and ask 'what if...?', but when it comes down to it, they have few qualms about ditching scientific accuracy in favour of gripping narrative. Does it matter how much actual science gets into sci-fi, as long as it gets people talking? Do writers and directors have a responsibility to make their science accurate?

Should 'proper' sci-fi deal with hard science rather than 'issues'? Or should we stop worrying and just enjoy it?

Speakers include:

Professor Mark Brake, Centre for Astronomy and Science Education, University of Glamorgan

Rev. Neil Hook, Centre for Astronomy and Science Education, University of Glamorgan

Dr. Geeta Nargund, consultant in Reproductive Medicine, St. George's Hospital, London

David Perks, Head of physics, Graveney School; author, What Is Science Education For?

Dr Lizzie Burns, Hollywood Maths and Science Consulting

Stephen Foulger, curator of The Science Museum's 'Science of Aliens'

Mark Stevenson - Writer and comedian

Curated and chaired by Dolan Cummings

Institute of Ideas

!! FESTIVAL SPECIAL EVENT

Comedian and writer Mark Stevenson presents a stand-up routine to get us in the mood for some gloves-off discussions.