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Other Worlds Austin 2014: Science-Fiction Shorts

By Jordan Gass-Poore' on December 8, 2014 - 11:00am in Local Cast and Crew | Local Film Fests



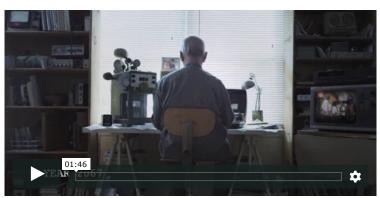
In my book, short filmmakers (not judged by their height but the length of their movies) were the true guardians of the Galaxy -- Galaxy Highland 10 Theatres, that is.

My attendance Friday at the inaugural **Other Worlds Austin** science-fiction movie festival will be saved in my mental hard drive; not only was this Austin's first dedicated science-fiction movie festival, but my first attendance at one. Oh, I've had many informal science-fiction movie fests on my couch in front of the TV (alone because none of my friends or family members enjoy science-fiction, they're more into rom-coms).

The **Other Worlds Austin** Cthulhu-like logo sold me instantly. It brought back many memories, like when I first heard about H.P. Lovecraft, author of the short story "The Call of Cthulhu." I was in middle school, stuck at home sick and bored, so I dug around in a box of a family member's belongings and found a DVD of the first episode, *Dreams in the Witch-House*, of the now sadly defunct Showtime series *Masters of Horror*. This led to me scrounging my local public library for anything associated with Lovecraft, who, despite his sexism and racism, probably has the coolest last name. Ever. My anthropoid homie Cthulhu and I have been tight ever since.

This "passage to the unknown" lines up well with the short movies I saw at OWA for its second shorts program (aptly titled "Passage to the Unknown"). One short even almost made me cry.

Dear Lucas: A man meets the love of his life -- a fan of the television series he cohosted with his scientist father as a child -- only to receive an ominous message from his future self.



The Trail's End: The day before his plug is pulled, an android has an unexpected encounter with his neighbor that will alter the course of his existence.

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Little Man of Steel: Life's hard for Clark Kent, AKA Superman. Especially when he's around Lois Lane.



Moon-Lite: A young boy discovers the magical secret of an eccentric elderly man who's shunned by their village.



One Last Question: After his wife is taken hostage and a sniper's rifle is aimed at his head, a man asks a series of questions to save their lives instead of handing over a piece of technology he created.

The House at the Edge of the Galaxy: At a desolate outpost, a lonely young boy encounters an astronaut who helps him discover that there's a heaven on Earth.



Crash Course: A thief gets more than he bargained for when he hijacks a flying driving-school car.



One-Minute Time Machine: In order to win over the woman of his dreams, a man uses a machine to go one minute back in time, until he discovers the unexpected consequences of his actions.



Martian American: A lonely Martian visits Los Angeles to make friends, but when he's faced with prejudice and adversity he struggles to find the courage to stay.



Austin connection: One Last Question was shot in Austin and its director, **Sean Corbin**, and star, **Hal Schneider**, both live in the city.

[Photo credit: Debbie Cerda, Mike Saulters and Jordan Gass-Poore' by Holland Photo Imaging]

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