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Subject: Finncon X - Eurocon 2003 Agents newsletter July 2003
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(This is a newsletter sent to all agents of Finncon X - Eurocon 2003)

Greetings Finncon agents!

Less than a month to Finncon X - Eurocon 2003, so this will probably be the last newsletter I'm sending to you.

Things that I'm going to be writing about are:

- We have a map!
- The floor accommodation is fully booked, but read on!
- Small changes in the programme

***** We have a map! *****

That's right there now exists a map that you can use to find your way around the town of Turku and on the same sheet you'll also find a floor chart that shows you where to go at the venue.

The map shows the most important landmarks, the places for the Finncon parties, the con hotel and the floor accommodation and even the railway stations and the bus station. It might not have an X that marks the treasure, but it sure has a large arrow that shows you the Finncon venue! As the centre of Turku is quite small, you probably will manage with this map through your whole visit. But we will of course have larger maps with brochures about Turku to give to you at the Finncon info-table if you would happen to need a nice colour map in stead of ours that is only black and white. ;)

The Finncon-map is a pdf-file and prints out as one A4 sheet of paper. A direct link to the map is as follows <http://www.finncon.org/kuvat/map.pdf>

The map is of course in Finnish, Swedish and English, so you shouldn't have any problems understanding it.

***** The floor accommodation is fully booked, but read on! *****

That's right, our budget accommodation is now fully booked. We have received registrations from Poland, Russia, Sweden, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Spain, France, UK, USA, The Netherlands, Ghana, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, Switzerland and Denmark (well and of course Finland too). Of course some of these registrations might be bogus and in any case everyone who has registered might not be able to show up, but I am sure there will be a lot of foreign fans arriving without registration, so Finncon X - Eurocon 2003 sure looks to become a truly international con. And all this would not be possible without your help. Thank you very much to each and everyone of you!

OK, so the floor accommodation is booked, but if you are looking for a place to sleep and are not prepared to pay for a hotel room you are in luck. Because of the

Tall Ship's Races that will be going on at the same time as Finncon, the youth centre Palatsi (located about one block closer to the Finncon venue than the con hotels) offers accommodation of the same kind as the floor accommodation we had. This is directly from their web site at <http://www.palatsi.com/popup/tsr.html>

Cheap accommodation in the heart of city of Turku
Youthcenter Palatsi
Eerikinkatu 7
20100 TURKU
-showers
-free internet
-breakfast at the grill (separately charged)

NOTE! Bring your own sleeping-bags !!!

Price/ 1 night: 8.40 euros incl. vat 8 %
More info & applicable reservations:
Tel: +358-2-2623129
e-mail: jussi@palatsi.com

Accommodation hours:
Thurs 31.7. 21 pm - Fri 1.8. 12 am
Fri 1.8. 21 pm- Sat 2.8. 12 am
Sat 2.8. 21 pm - Sun 3.8. 10 am

House closed on Fri and Sat between 12 am - 21 pm
No beds available.

***** Small changes in the programme *****

There have been a couple of small changes in the programme since the last newsletter. The bigger change is that the sf-movie event on Friday evening was cut all together. So, there will be no movies on Friday.

The other change is for Sunday. The Finnish talk about X-files and conspiracy theories will not be made. This means that another programme item (the Finnish talk about science fiction and technology research) has been moved to the now vacant bigger room.

That's it, no other changes. If and when there will be new changes in the program you can always find the most recent programme listing at the Finncon web site. At <http://www.finncon.org/english/e.programme.chart.shtml> you'll find a list of all the programme items that will be held in English and at <http://www.finncon.org/suomi/ohjelmakartta.pdf> you can download a pdf-file with all the programme of Finncon X - Eurocon 2003.

Here is a quick run down of Finncon X - Eurocon 2003:

*** THURSDAY July 31st ***

19.00-> (Number 3 on the Finncon-map)

A welcoming party for foreign fans who have arrived this early. The party will be held at the house where the floor accommodation is arranged (it's called Turun Rientävän urheilutalo and the address is Juhannuskatu 7). This house is the club house of a local sports-club. The party will be free for all who have registered for sleeping quarters for the night. Everyone else is asked to pay 2 euros.

*** FRIDAY AUGUST 1st ***

On Friday there will be two meetings: one of a more academic nature and the other of a more literary nature:

12.00-> (The huge arrow on the on the Finncon-map)

The first one is a meeting of people who research science fiction or fantasy at university level. The main language of this meeting is Finnish, but if you are doing some kind of sf-research at a university and would like to share your views it's OK to give a short paper in English. Contact Kanerva Eskola (kanerva@iki.fi) if you want to join in this meeting of sf-researchers.

14.30-> (The huge arrow on the on the Finncon-map)

The second meeting is a meeting of Finnish science fiction and fantasy writers. This meeting will also be in Finnish, but at some point Michael Swanwick is going to talk about writing and that talk will of course be in English. More information about the Finnish sf-writer's meeting can be held from Shimo Suntuila (shimo@utu.fi).

If you are not into sf-movies you can always do some sightseeing. Turku is a beautiful town and the Tall Ships Races which happens to be held in Turku during Finncon will definitely liven up the river Aura that runs through the town.

(Number 4 on the Finncon-map)

The Finncon warm up party will be held on Friday evening at the local comics pub, the Cosmic Comic Café (the address is Kauppiaskatu 4). This is the only comics pub in Finland and a very sf-friendly atmosphere. The pub is located in the centre of town very close to the main con hotels. You can find the Cosmic Comic Café web at <http://www.cccafe.fi>

*** SATURDAY AUGUST 2nd ***

10.00-19.00 (The huge arrow on the on the Finncon-map)

The main con programme. The venue is the Turku University at a walking distance from the main con hotels.

21.00-04.00 (Number 5 on the Finncon-map)

The Finncon X - Eurocon party will be held on Saturday evening at a club in the centre of town (this one is very close to the main con hotels too). The club is called Kino and the address is Kauppiaskatu 8.

The party will be from 21-04, but Kino has a café that is open all day, so if you can't find anything to do before the party, you can always go to the cafe first.

Entrance to the party will cost 6 euros, but everyone who comes in an sf-costume will get in for free.

There will be sf- and anime-music, sf-drinks, and some programme items like The Frodo Horror Show and a contest for the best sf-costume.

Club Kino is a huge place. There is a main club scene, a lounge that will be specially dedicated for all sf- and anime-fans and a café.

During the happy hours beer and cider will cost 2 euros.

Club Kino has it's web page as <http://www.kinoclub.com>.

*** SUNDAY AUGUST 3rd ***

10.00-19.00 (The huge arrow on the on the Finncon-map)

The main con programme. The venue is the Turku University at a walking distance from the main con hotels.

Later in the evening->

In the evening there will be one last party: the dead dog party where even the arrangers finally will have a chance to relax. ;)

The DDP (as in Dead Dog Party) will be held in a really nice villa on one of the islands just outside town (you can get there by bus or car). Yes, there will be a sauna for those who want to bathe, yes you can swim in the sea if you want to, yes there will be a lot of fans and relaxing con organisers there. Ask for instructions on how to get to the party at the Finncon info desk or ask any of the con organisers.

When you arrive at Finncon you will be able to pick up the Finncon booklet for free. The booklet contains mostly texts in Finnish, but there will be some texts in Swedish and English too (for example drabbles by both Michael Swanwick and Karolina Bjällerstedt Mickos and a short story by Michael Swanwick). There will also be an English version of the Finncon booklet, but this will not be as big as the main booklet and it will not contain the fiction. So, remember to pick up both the main Finncon booklet (you'll spot it easily, there will be loads of them at the entrance and it will have a nice colour cover) and the English booklet (this you will probably get at the information desk).

Finncon X - Eurocon 2003 is drawing closer by the day. I hope to see a lot of you and your fellow fans in Turku soon!

-Ben-

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Who: Ben Roimola, M.Sc. in geology from Åbo Akademi university

What: Science fiction, fantasy, Macintosh, movies, swords, dogs...

Why: * What is Time to a Wolf? * Happy, happy, joy, joy! *

--> Sf-news in Swedish: <http://www.enhorningen.net> <--

<http://www.finncon.org> Finncon X - Eurocon 2003 - Baltcon 2003

THE European sf-event of 2003