

Event Report



Virtual Postcards from Gallifrey One 2014 *Mette Hedin**

A veteran Doctor Who costumer files a series of personal highlights and photos of costumes and costumers from the convention.

This year was my seventh year in a row attending Gallifrey One, the annual *Doctor Who* convention in Los Angeles. The convention has grown 200% in that time, and the costuming has gone from healthy to completely out of control. The costume bug is spreading like wildfire and shows no signs of slowing.

Hall Costumes

While it is impossible to capture it all due to sheer amount of activity, here are a series of snapshots from this year's event.

The War Doctor

Two of the most popular costumes this year were the War Doctor and the Moment. While the time war had nothing on the Gallifrey 2014 photo lines, CJ DeAngelus and Lauren Brooks (right) prove that the lines were better braved in costume.



CJ De Angelus as the War Doctor, with Lauren Brooks as the Moment's main interface, brave the photo lines.

The Ubiquitous Tenth Doctor

No matter where at the convention you are, you pretty much can't throw a sonic screwdriver without hitting a Tenth Doctor. The restaurant, the lobby, the bathroom, even the vending area where I ran into new acquaintance Brandon Hillock looking for some ice (below left).

Many of the doctor and companion costumes are quite comfortable so, it is not uncommon for many costumers to go about their entire day in costume. By the pool I found two Tenth doctors side by side in vacation mode (right).



Brandon Hillock as the tenth Doctor.



A pair of tenth Doctors in vacation mode.

Another pair of Tenth Doctors in the Karaoke lounge, (below) this time recreating the drunken doctor scene with the tie around the head from "Girl in the Fireplace" while doing the time warp.



A pair of Tenth Doctors recreate a scene.

A dapper Fifth Doctor

It isn't just the Tenth Doctor that gets love, I saw pretty much every single doctor represented, by both genders throughout the weekend. Here is a particular dapper Fifth Doctor (below), complete with celery in the buttonhole.



A dapper fifth Doctor.



A gaggle of Zygon scientist clones in the lobby.

A gaggle of Zygon scientists

With the growth of the costuming at this convention, it is more likely than not that someone else will be wearing the same thing as you. The Gally costumers mostly embrace this, with prescheduled costume

meetups for specific characters or costumes. In this case it is especially not awkward to be wearing the same dress as someone else, as a group of Zygon scientist clones (above) hanging out together in the lobby.

First timers and old timers

The number of first time costumers were staggering this year, and friends I have known for many years showed up in costume for the first time ever. Here I am (right) with my old friends John O'Connor and Will York from the *Doctor Who* podcast [Mutter's Spiral](#) as the War Doctor (on the left) and the Third Doctor (on the right) respectively.

Seeing my old friends experience a whole new side of the convention, running around with smiles on their faces, and having their photos taken was fantastic.



Mette with first-time costumers and old friends John Connor (left) and Will York (right).

A family photo

The family that costumes together stays together. A whole family dressed up as River Song, the Eleventh Doctor and the Ninth Doctor. I didn't have the heart to tell the boy that he was married to his mom (spoilers).



A photo of mother "River Song" with Ninth Doctor father and Eleventh Doctor son.

Costume check

Costuming is always better when you're not flying solo. Here, a Novice Hame (below) is having the hood of her costume checked by her Master costuming buddy in the dealer's room.



The Master checks the hood of a Novice Hame.

A serious young cosplayer

I really wanted to show you all the sweat that goes into costuming with this kid (right) who was dripping sweat as he was pulled out of his gas mask. When he saw the camera, though, he insisted that it be put back on for the photo however. Rock on little costuming dude!



A young cosplayer really got into the spirit of the event.



A Doctor Who puppeteer a puppet show.

Punch & Judy and Doctor Who

If you don't feel like dressing up, there are other options for letting your costuming creativity flow. Here is Lee Thompson (left) with his "Avenue Who" River Song as well as a Punch & Judy style Tenth Doctor / Weeping Angel puppet show.

The Creator of Doctor Who

You might think that a convention where all the costumes draw from one show might be limiting, but there are 50 years of genre crossing episodes to choose from as well as many related shows. Here Simon Harries shows up in his first Gally costume

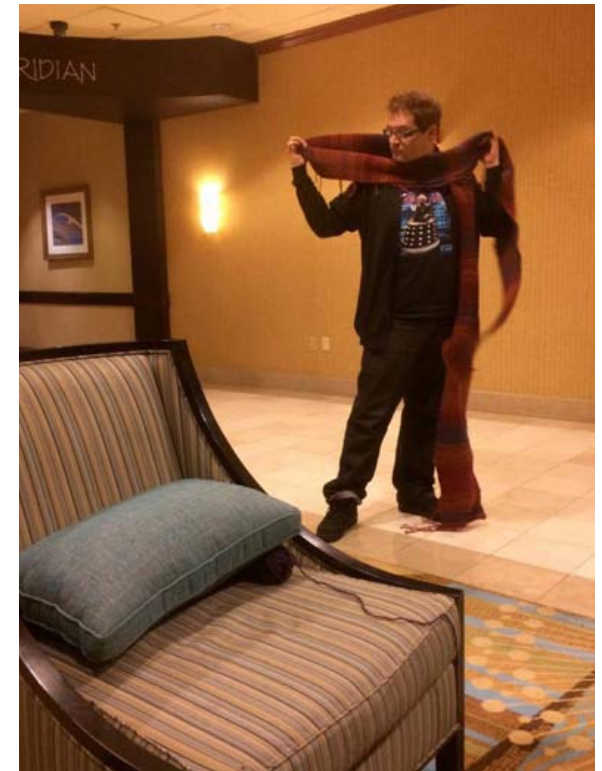


A first-time Gally costumer as Doctor Who creator Sydney Newman.

ever as Canadian TV executive and *Doctor Who* creator Sydney Newman from the BBC drama, "An Adventure in Time and Space" which dramatized the creation of the *Doctor Who* series 50 years ago.

Finis!

The convention isn't over until I finish my costume! Right as we were getting kicked out of the lobby very late Sunday night Sammi (below) who had been knitting fervently suddenly yelled "Done!" as he finished his season 18 Tom Baker Fourth Doctor scarf, just in the nick of time!



Finishing a Fourth Doctor scarf at the last minute!



The Masquerade

The masquerade this year contained over 30 entries and held a surprisingly even quality throughout. Here are some of the highlights. I was one of the judges and couldn't take photos, but Shawn Sulma was kind enough supply his for this section.

Right out of the Tardis

Sometimes you have the costuming skill, sometimes you have the looks. When you have both, you make it feel like the Doctor has actually stepped right out of the Tardis to cheat in the masquerade. This Fifth Doctor (below) was unusually good in costume, mannerisms and appearance. Extra kudos for the awful early 80's hair style.



Spot-on Fifth Doctor, straight from the Tardis!



Novice Hame took top workmanship honors.

Scary Novice

The contestants have the added boost of two MC's ready to play as well as a full size Tardis on stage. Novice Hame (above), who ironically was in the Novice category, took Best in Show Workmanship as well as a Costume College scholarship in her first ever costume having made every aspect of her costume including the electronics.

Cross-over quandary

While I am generally not keen on crossovers and the recent *Star Trek/Doctor Who* crossover comic having provided some of the odder costuming moments at the convention, I loved this highly entertaining skit (below) about the time lords looking just like Klingons and the 4th Doctor recruiting a new companion by showing off the sonic bat'leH



Despite my cross-over reservations, I loved the skit!



Above: A Tardis dress had some very sexy moves.
Below: Female Sixth Doctor with a rainbow umbrella.

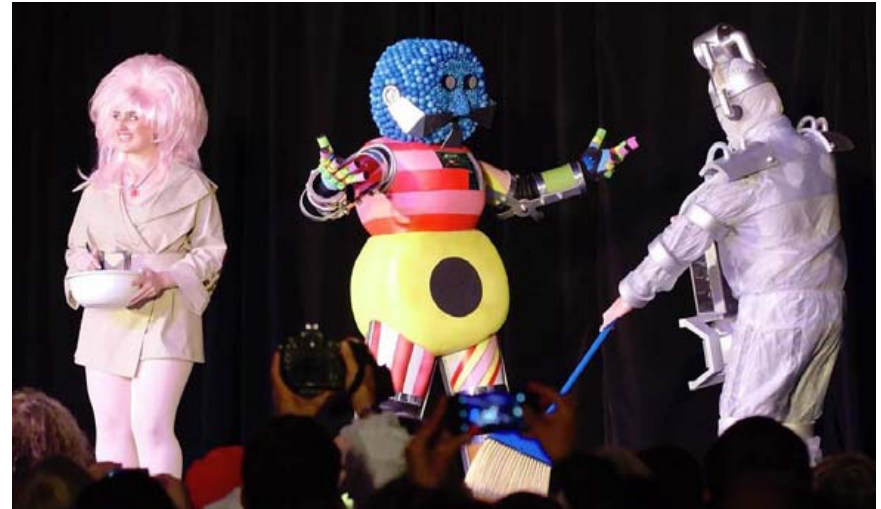


The Odd Couple

Another amusing skit (right) had the Kandyman and a 10th planet cyberman sharing an apartment, Odd Couple style.

A very sexy Tardis

Things took an unexpected turn after this unusually sexy Tardis dress (top left) which had some beautiful lighting effects. It threw the rest of the masquerade off with later contestants scrambling to add their own sexy moves to compensate, leading to some rather amusing moments.



Kandyman and 10th planet cyberman make an odd couple.

Rainbow Sixth Doctor

In any other masquerade a recreation of the Sixth Doctor's coat on its own would be enough to make the audience feel like a rainbow threw up all over them. In the Gally masquerade this is an everyday occurrence so it might be necessary to add even more color to get the attention, like this female Sixth Doctor's umbrella. (bottom left)

That's a Wrap!

Another year down, and Gally remain my favorite event of the year both for the convention itself, my many fantastic friends and the incredible costumes. Even though the show provides seemingly endless sources for costumes it is stunning to see

how much of it is covered every year with the amazing number of costumes that parade by and the boundless amount of skill and creativity people pour into their costumes.

The costumers at Gally span the gamut of the hobby from young fans, enthusiastic first timers seasoned journey-men and highly skilled masters and every hybrid in between. Every year I am both terrified and inspired by my fellow costumers, and I am looking forward to see what crazy stuff they have in store for next year.

Mette Hedin is a sci-fi and fantasy costumer who specializes in recreations of things that don't exist in the real world. She loves learning new techniques and materials, and is always looking to expand her costuming horizons. Visit her [Costuming Fools](#) web site.