

# THE SATURN RINGS

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## RAY HARRYHAUSEN, "BATMAN BEGINS," AND "KING KONG" TOP THE 32ND ANNUAL SATURN AWARDS



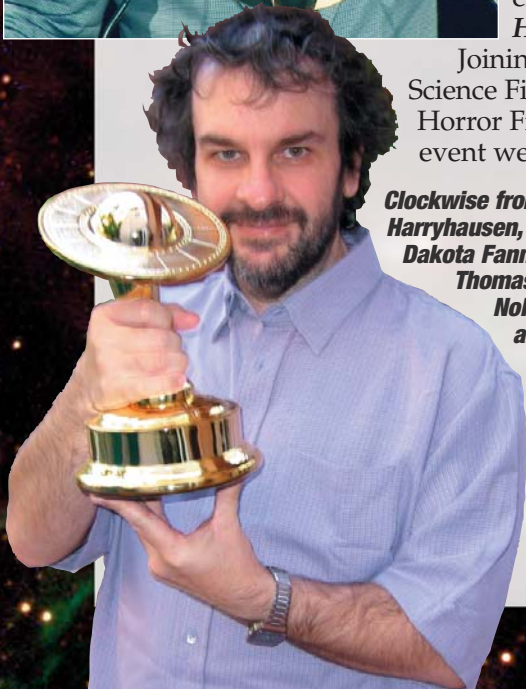
It was a night to shine! A galaxy of the brightest stars in the genre film and television universe sparkled on May 2, 2006, in Universal City, California, to celebrate the 32nd Annual Saturn Awards. This evening was especially poignant as the Saturns paid tribute to legendary special effects pioneer *Ray Harryhausen*.

Joining the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films' annual award event were many of the

**Clockwise from top left: Ray Harryhausen, Naomi Watts, Dakota Fanning, Emma Thomas, Christopher Nolan, David S. Goyer, and Peter Jackson.**

most talented wizards of the genre community including *Christopher Nolan, Joss Whedon, Dean Devlin, Shane Black, Jon Favreau, David S. Goyer, Eli Roth, James Callis, William Katt, Jenna Fischer, James Gunn, Michael Rooker, Catherine Bell, David Naughton, Ernie Hudson, Robert Picardo, Mick Garris, Craig Baxley, Jennifer Carpenter, Lou Diamond Philips, Bruce Davidson, Eric Braedon, Rick McCallum, Blanchard Ryan, Clifton Collins, Jr., Susan Ward, Ethan Phillips, Greg Grunberg* and via video *Peter Jackson, Tim Burton, Naomi Watts, and Dakota Fanning.*

Comedian and roast-master extraordinaire *Jeffrey Ross* was no alien to these festivities. As







Saturn Awards master of ceremonies for a record fourth straight year, Jeffrey continues to go where no host has dared go before.

The show got off to a stellar start with "Ray Harryhausen: The Early Years" winning the Saturn for Best DVD Release. "I don't believe my life--this is just wonderful," producer **Arnold Kunert** exclaimed. Veteran TV producer **Stephen J. Cannell**, who received last year's Life Career Award, took home another Saturn for Best DVD Retro TV Release, "The Greatest American Hero." Accepting on his behalf was the "Hero" himself, **William Katt**. "It's amazing to be here. This certainly for me is the culmination of a 25 year love/hate relationship that I've had with red Spandex!" Katt quipped.



Producer **Allison Abbate** graciously accepted the Best Animated Film Award for "Corpse Bride" while from London, the film's director **Tim Burton** said, "On behalf of all the artists and animators who have tried to keep the art of stop-motion alive, we're very grateful for this award."

Sith Apprentice **Ray Park** announced the winner for Best Performance by a Younger Actor, **Dakota Fanning**. "Oh my gosh," Dakota said enthusiastically, accepting her award via video, "This is such a gorgeous award! I'm so proud to say that I was a part of 'War of the Worlds.'"



**David Naughton**, star of the classic horror comedy "An American Werewolf in London" presented the Saturn for Best Make-Up. Accepting for "The Chronicles of Narnia," **Howard Berger** proudly said "This Saturn award will look great next to our Bafta and Oscar!" **Greg Nicotero** commented, "The best thing about getting a Saturn Award is to walk into a room and see people like **John Carpenter**, **John Landis**, **Tom Savini** and **Ray Harryhausen**. We're very fortunate to be here tonight and salute the people who inspired us."

Executive producer/writers **Carlton Cuse** and **Damon Lindelof** accepted Best Network TV Series for "Lost" saying, "All of us at Bad Robot are very, very happy!" After they thanked the rest of the cast and crew, presenter **Greg Grunberg** of NBC's "Heroes" joked, "Hey! What about thanking *me*, the guy who crashed the plane in the pilot?"

Winning the Saturn for Best Syndicated/Cable TV Series for the second year in a row was Sci-Fi's "Battlestar Galactica." Star **James Callis** (Baltar) proclaimed, "It's certainly Battlestar's night!" as he not only accepted for the show itself, but for the Best Supporting TV Actress **Katee Sackhoff**. Callis joked, "I know that Katee would like to thank ME... and I thank you very much Katee." And in a heartfelt speech for his own award for Best Supporting TV Actor, Callis said, "This is all pretty phenomenal. "I'm sorry **Tricia Helfer** (who plays Cylon "Six") can't be here tonight. Unfortunately, she's washing her hair... inside of my head!"



**Robert Picardo** respectfully mused with tongue firmly in cheek, "'Star Trek' turns 40 years old this year, so my advice is to start thinking about that first colonoscopy—to boldly go...!" Then, Mr. Picardo announced a tie in the Best Special TV Presentation category. Accepting for Sci-Fi's mini-series "The Triangle" was executive producer **Dean Devlin** who said, "I



**From top: Tim Burton; Craig Baxley and Dean Devlin; William Katt and daughter; Ray Park; Catherine Bell; Jennie Garth and Peter Facinelli; William Atherton; Jenna Fischer and James Gunn; Jeffrey Ross; Doug Jones; Irwin Keyes and his "late date."**



want to thank **Robert Holguin** and the Academy as well as **Bryan Singer**, my wonderful producers, cast and crew... and our director **Craig Baxley** who did an amazing job with very little money and very little time. I'm very pleased to see that the legacy of **Dr. Donald Reed** is here tonight."

"Masters of Horror" creator **Mick Garris**, commented, "I love horror! I always have... And I love this Academy of which I've been a member since the 1970s, proudly. This Academy affords horror the respect that it doesn't get anywhere else."

Accepting the Best TV Actor Saturn for **Matthew Fox** in "Lost" was **Greg Grunberg**, who joked, "I'm sure that after thanking ME, Foxy would thank...everyone involved with Lost."

This year's Filmmakers Showcase Award was presented to **Shane Black**, for his directorial debut "Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang." In a clever, yet sincere speech, Shane said, "I want to thank the Academy for honoring my 'crime film.' But hey, hey, come on, man, I'll take it. I was in the audience... for the...Saturn show when **Mr. William Shatner** did his star turn with **Rocket Man**... I prepared a similar thing tonight, but I could only get the rights to the Hanson song 'Doo-Bop.'"

Accepting the Best Supporting Actress Award for "Serenity's" **Summer Glau**, writer/director **Joss Whedon** said, "Summer's one of the most extraordinarily-gifted performers I've ever worked with."

Presenting the Award for Best Horror Film, "Hostel" director **Eli Roth** exulted, "What a year for horror! We're kicking ass at the box office. It's awesome." Accepting for "The Exorcism of Emily Rose" was producer **Paul Boardman**, who said, "I'd like to thank this Academy for recognizing our sort of unusual hybrid courtroom horror film." Director **Scott Derrickson** added, "...a big thanks to **Jennifer Carpenter** for doing such an amazing job and making everyone involved in the film look good."

Last year's Saturn winner for "Open Water," **Blanchard Ryan**, presented this year's Best Actress Award to **Naomi Watts** for "King Kong." In a video message, Naomi said, "You've probably noticed by now that I'm a little bit of a fan of this genre, so thanks for the encouragement. What a gift to be able to go the set everyday and explore **Peter Jackson's** mind and journey and vision. And thank you **Andy Serkis**, for giving Kong all that heart and soul."

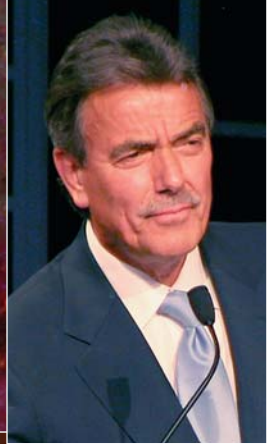
Accepting Best Actor for "Batman Begins" **Christian Bale** was his director, **Christopher Nolan**. "I know Christian's extraordinarily pleased about this," Nolan said, "I know that he was... concerned to know what the genre fans would think of the choices he made and I know he finds this a very welcomed vindication."

Presenting the Best Direction and Best Writing honors were **James Gunn**, director of "Slither," and star **Michael Rooker**. In one of the night's most entertaining Saturn presentations, the two had fun at each other's expense.

**From top: Scott Derrickson, Jennifer Carpenter and Paul Boardman; Susan Ward and Greg Grunberg; Rick McCallum; Shane Black; Michael Rooker; Ernie Hudson; Jon Favreau; Bruce Davison, James Callis and Lou Diamond Phillips; David Naughton, Howard Berger and Greg Nicotero..**







In his acceptance for director *Peter Jackson* ("King Kong"), *Eli Roth* joked, "I know what you're all thinking... why didn't the guy from *Battlestar Galactica* come up to accept this?" He continued, "to get to see him make his dream projects really inspires all of us in this room to keep dreaming."

Accepting for "*Batman Begins*," co-writer *David Goyer* commented, "... I would love to thank my collaborator Christopher Nolan... from the time I was a geek in a comic book store in Michigan [I dreamed] to be involved in a "*Batman*" film. He made my dream come true."

Christopher Nolan thanked his cast, crew and producer/wife *Emma*, then returned Goyer's praise, "David's an extraordinary collaborator and also someone whose knowledge of comics really just stopped me from driving everything off a cliff."

"*Batman Begins*" next garnered the Saturn for Best Fantasy Film. Producer *Emma Thomas* spoke of the production's respect for the character, "Everyone has their own idea of how Batman's story should be told. Chris's thing was always that we had to make the best film we could ...one that we would enjoy seeing. And thankfully everyone enjoyed it."





Presenting the George Pal Memorial Award to *Ray Harryhausen* was director of "*Zathura*" and the highly-anticipated "*Iron Man*," *Jon Favreau*. "I remember watching '*Jason and Argonauts*' with my dad on a black and white TV," Jon said, "and I just [took] my four-year-old son to watch [it] at the Arrow Theater and he loved it!" *Tim Burton* also paid tribute to Harryhausen as a man who inspired a whole generation of filmmakers, "I remember being about five years old and seeing '*Jason and Argonauts*' on the big screen and it changed my life... When you saw Ray's name on a film you knew you were about to see something special..."

An energetic Ray Harryhausen took the stage and spoke fondly of working with *George Pal*, "...then I worked with *Willis O'Brien* which was what I was more interested in after seeing '*King Kong*' at the tender age of 13. And I haven't been the same since. So, that shows how effective a film can be. '*King Kong*' changed my life!"




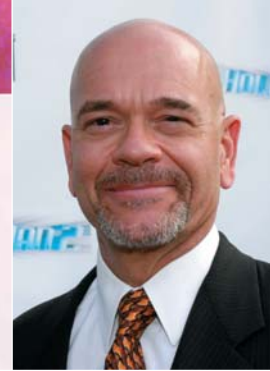
The final award—the Best Science Fiction Film—was presented by the veteran star of the classic Science Fiction film "*Colossus: The Forbin Project*," *Eric Braeden*, who reminisced "We did '*Colossus*' on Stage 12 in 1968, next door here at Universal Studios. And I saw a retrospective of it a few months ago. And I was deeply moved because it's a damn good picture and [we] never realized it at the time that we made it."

Accepting for "*Star Wars: Episode 3-Revenge of the Sith*," producer *Rick McCallum*, said, "Oh my God, it's an amazing honor. This is probably the most important award for us. ...I want to thank the Academy not just for the award but more importantly for the incredible support and loyalty that we've had... On behalf of George and I and everyone on the crew, our fantastic artists at ILM, I can't thank you enough."

The Academy thanks its members and staff, the selfless volunteers, presenters and honored guests for making the 32nd Annual Saturn Awards such an overwhelming success. The legacy started by the Academy's founder and former President *Dr. Donald A. Reed* will live on when the 33rd Annual Saturns celebrates the Academy's 35th Anniversary.



**Top to bottom-left: Eric Braeden; Michael J. Anderson and Blanchard Ryan; Danny Trejo; Laura Regan.**



**Top to bottom-right: Robert Picardo; Joss Whedon; Mick Garris; Allison Abbate.**

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