STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE
Season 1 Episode Guide, Part 1

Catherine Schell as Maya in SPACE: 1999
Fantasy Flashback to PLANET OF THE APES

Directing BABYLON 5
News
Our acclaimed round-up of news and events affecting the TV Zone...

Babylon 5
Director Richard Compton takes us to the Space station Babylon 5 and the pilot of a possible new series

Letters
Comments, ideas and criticisms from our postbag

Space: 1999
From Germany, Catherine Schell remembers her time as the shape-changer Maya

TV Reviews
Channel 4’s Avengers repeats, Doctor Who’s Revelation of the Daleks and BBC’s Dracula

Planet of the Apes
Our Fantasy Flashback this issue travels back to the first episode

New Doctor Who Adventure
We hear about the writing of the Doctor Who: New Adventure, Lucifer Rising and include a review

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine
Season One, episodes 1 to 9 are under the episode guide spotlight this month

Survivors
As Survivors is about to be released on BBC Video we hear from Carolyn Seymour who played Abby

Reviews
Books: Red Dwarf’s Primordial Soup, Doctor Who’s Deceit and The Mark of Mandragora graphic novel, and Next Generation’s The Star Lost graphic novel
Videos: Space: 1999’s Vols 11, 12, Doctor Who’s Terror of the Autons and Silver Nemesis, Next Generation: Vols 64, 65

The Next Generation
As Season Six takes a break in its US transmission we visit the set during the recording of Lessons

Editorial
Phew, another issue finally off to press. I didn’t know there was going to be so much in it! We’ve our usual favourites of course, with a wide range of other programmes being covered.

Thanks to your letters we are now pursuing a number of series and ideas for future issues. Who knows what might be turning up...

Now, though, we are reviving up to production of the next Special, focusing on the theme of Supervillains, a subject open to a certain amount of interpretation, so there will probably be some surprises on the way...

The Supervillains Special will be published mid-May, with the next regular issue 27th May (including more on Quantum Leap and Blake’s 7).

Jan Vincent-Rudzki

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The Plot

Two astronauts, Virdon and Burke, are the only survivors of a three-man spaceflight from Earth to Alpha Centauri. Emerging from the ruins of their space capsule, they find themselves on an Earth-like planet. The crash of their spaceship has been witnessed by an old man called Farrow, who tells them that they are on Earth, but a world where the apes have evolved to take control from human kind as the dominant species. The astronauts realize that the turbulence they experienced before the crash was due to a time-warp, and that they have been thrown forward in time to a nightmarish future world. But Farrow tells them that the apes have no idea of the history of their planet, and warns them that the gorillas will never believe that the spaceship is man-made. Unfortunately, they know that a young chimpanzee who was taunting Farrow has also witnessed the crash landing, and alerted the nearby village. As the gorillas investigate the area, Virdon and Burke hide out with Farrow in his lair, an ancient bomb shelter.

Sure enough, controversy rages in the ape village over where the spaceship could have come from, and what the young chimp actually saw. The Head Councillor of the ape community is Zaius,
Yet the struggle continues...

PLANT OF THE APES
ESCAPE TO TOMORROW
The apes start their hunt for the humans

In the cells, Virdon and Burke beg Galen to help them escape and search for fellow humans who can help them repair their ship and get home. Virdon is convinced that the existence of the grenades means that intelligent humans with technology exist somewhere on the planet, if only they can find them. Galen refuses, but then discovers that Urko is planning a phony prison escape that will allow him to kill the astronauts, and so lets them get away.

The astronauts escape, but Galen is captured, and Virdon and Burke take Zaius captive and force him to free Galen. Now a traitor and fugitive, Galen is forced to go on the run with Virdon and Burke, and join them in their adventures on the planet of the apes as they attempt to find fellow humans and get back home.

Credits

Dr. Zaius (Booth Colman)

Alan Virdon .................. Ron Harper
Peter Burke ............... James Naughton
Galen ...................... Roddy McDowall
General Urko ............ Mark Lenard
Doctor Zaius ............ Booth Colman
Farrow ..................... Royal Dano
Turvo ........................ Ron Stein
Veska ........................ Woodrow Parfrey
Ullman ..................... Biff Elliot
Proto ....................... Jerome Thor
Grundig ...................... William Beckley
Arno ......................... Bobby Porter
Gorilla Guard ............... Eldon Burke
Man ........................ Alvin Hammer

Writer ....................... Art Wallace
Make-up ..................... Dan Striepeke
Executive Producer ......... Herbert Hirschman
Producer .................... Stan Hough
Director ..................... Don Weiss
Background

The Planet of the Apes tv series was produced in 1974, and sprang from the popular series of movies which started with Planet of the Apes in 1968 and finished with Battle for the Planet of the Apes in ’73. Although they vary in quality, the films form a time-loop, with the sequels leading back to the original. The television series, although not strictly part of the cycle, must occur sometime between the fifth and second features.

Planet of the Apes was a huge hit in Britain, where it enjoyed a primetime slot on Sunday nights, attracting audiences of up to twelve million. However, in the all-important US market it was cancelled mid-season after fourteen of its planned twenty-four episodes. Planet of the Apes went out on the same night and year, but a different network, as Kolchak: The Night Stalker — Fridays — and neither survived the season. The all-important youth audience was out on the town.

The only hold-over from the movies was Roddy McDowall, now in his third Apes rôle. In the films he had played Cornelius, and then Caesar. Now he was Galen, another good guy. Playing the two astronauts were Ron Harper, formerly the lead on the popular Garrison’s Gorillas series, and stage actor James Naughton. Cast as Dr Zaius, a rôle played in the films by Maurice Evans, was Booth Colman, whose other credits include the Irwin Allen pilot for Voyage to the Bottom of The Sea, and playing General Urko was Mark Lenard. Although best known as Spock’s father Sarek on Star Trek, Lenard has often found himself cast as a militaristic heavy on series such as Mission: Impossible.

Although made in the 1970s, the series hasn’t aged at all due to the Science Fiction setting: no fashion victims here. Given the continued popularity of the Apes movies on tv, which frequently show up on ITV, although rarely in each other’s company or in any chronological order, along with the original ratings success of the series, it’s really quite extraordinary that the show has never returned (other than on Sky cable five years ago).

Jon Abbott

Roddy McDowall as Galen

Apes Series Trivia

Familiar faces in the series that followed were plentiful, although a number of them were obscured by the claustrophobic ape make-up. They included Marc Singer of M and Beastmaster fame in The Gladiators, along with SF veteran John Hoyt, who appeared in the feature film When Worlds Collide as well as appearing more than once in classic episodes of The Twilight Zone, The Outer Limits, and The Time Tunnel; he was the first ship’s doctor on the Enterprise in the original Star Trek pilot. Another SF veteran appearing on the show — in The Legacy — was Jon Lormer, an elderly, silver-haired fellow who invariably appeared in bit-parts as scientists or miniasts. He appeared three times in Star Trek, as well as showing up in episodes of The Twilight Zone (Execution), The Invaders (Valley of the Shadow), and Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (Fatal Cargo) among many others. Familiar screen villain David Sheiner (Voyage, The Invaders) appears in The Cure, as does Clint Eastwood’s future co-star and lady friend Sondra Locke in an early acting role as a human girl with fae in The Virdon. Michael Strong, Star Trek’s Dr Corby, turns up in The Surgeon, while Morgan Woodward of the Logan’s Run series and Star Trek’s Dager of the Mind and Omega Glory appears in The Horse Race. The Interrogation features Corman film veteran Beverly Garland alongside Harry Townes, another SF television regular with credits in Star Trek, Outer Limits, Thriller, Twilight Zone, Invaders, Hulk, and many more. Joseph Ruskin (with other Fantasy credits in Twilight Zone, Star Trek, Time Tunnel, Land of the Giants, and Airwolf among others) appears in The Tyrant, as does former tv heavy Michael Conrad, best known as Sgt Esterhaus of Hill Street Blues. Conrad actually has the honour of being one of the first people to put on the stifling ape make-up, having worn a similar appliance as the alien Creech in the Lost In Space episode Fugitives in Space. The ape masks provided one useful benefit to the series’ producers which they exploited to the maximum. Not only could they use the same stunt-men and bit-players repeatedly — sometimes even in the same episodes — but they could appear as humans and apes! Two of today’s stunt-men turned occasional directors, Craig Baxley and Frank Orsatti (who directed the classic Hulk episode The First Guest starring Dick Durock) also had early acting assignments on the series, and — real insignificant trivia here — one of the gorillas in The Tyrant (apparently behind a wheel) is Gary Combs, the former horse wrangler on Westerns who wore the Gorn suit on Star Trek’s Arena!

There are interesting writer credits too. Art Wallace, who wrote the pilot and other episodes, scripted the back-door pilot Assignment: Earth for Star Trek, as well as other episodes of Star Trek and The Invaders, while Robert Hammer was story editor on Wonder Woman and a contributor to Lost In Space, Star Trek, The Time Tunnel, and Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. Robert Lenski also wrote for Voyage, Anthony Lawrence for The Outer Limits, Edward Lakso for Airwolf, and Robert Collins and Barry Oringer for The Invaders.