

## Out of This World



The costume exhibit demographic includes elderly museum patrons who frequent every traveling art show, fashion students, hen-pecked husbands listening to the game on headphones and a few jubilant gay men making obscure references from the Golden Age of Hollywood, “*Oh my God! Look at this rag! Belinda Lee wouldn’t have worn it to her own car accident!*”

While septuagenarians, clothes horses, and the more flamboyant representatives of the homosexual community are my people, a novel exhibit at the Oshkosh Public Museum will entrance a whole new audience: the sci-fi-reading-Dungeons-and-Dragons-playing-beer-belly contingent.

Slap on your Spock ears! The Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame in Seattle has amassed a traveling wardrobe collection that will debut in Oshkosh (this Fox River Valley community will be the only Midwestern venue for a display of 49 original outfits). The exhibit “Out of This World: Extraordinary Costumes from Film and Television” is a dungeon master’s delight of vestments from iconic films such as *Blade Runner*, *Batman*, and *Indiana Jones*, as well as classic shows like the *Star Trek* series.

Grab a twelve sided die and roll major charisma points by taking a date\* to this one-of-a-kind event. Finally, your need to gratuitously quote movie lines as a mode of communication will not only be acceptable, it will be appropriate. Saying, “I’ll be baaack!” in that dopey Schwarzenegger voice is almost required as you stand before *Terminator* memorabilia (not so much when you’re going to the bathroom). Screaming “I’ve been slimed!” in front of Dan Aykroyd’s proton pack from *Ghostbusters II* is equally proper (again, not to be uttered when returning from the restroom).

Please observe a moment of silence in respect of *Stars Wars* fans genuflecting before Darth Vader's helmet and lightsaber.

Another highlight of the exhibit is the black pointed hat worn by The Wicked Witch of The West from *The Wizard of Oz*. A relic from 1939, this is the oldest piece in the collection. It is a symbolic image of evil incarnate, a token of viciousness, and an emblem of pure unadulterated malice. Which reminds me, this exhibit is a great place to bring your mother-in-law.

“Out of This World: Extraordinary Costumes Form Film and Television” will be presented at the Oshkosh Public Museum Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Come see some amazing costumes and mingle with fantastic Frazetta-style large-busted, broad-hipped fantasy women in tiny fur bikinis. Ok, maybe just amazing costumes.

\* Stop being mean! I believe gamers can get dates. Someone has to squire around Renaissance Fair maidens, white witches, and those who commune with the faeries.