

The Worlds of Don Lawrence

Newsletter - Volume 22 - Issue 1 - May 2005



The Storm-
logo will turn
up many,
many times!

A Dream Come True

It could almost be the plot for a Boy's Own adventure. After having published books for the collector's market alongside the regular editions produced by Big Balloon (the long-time publisher of Don Lawrence's albums), Don Lawrence Collection has recently bought the rights to Storm along with the remaining archive of material owned by Big Balloon.

This deal was something Don and I dreamed of for many years and first discussed back in 2001 when Don was working on The Armageddon Traveller. Over the last couple of years we have been in careful negotiation and, finally, the contracts have been signed and the archive and stocks of old Storm albums transferred to our warehouse.

I'm sure you can imagine the excitement. Once the deal was confirmed glasses were raised in Rotterdam (by Martin Lodewijk), in Jevington (by Lis Lawrence) and in Oosterhout (at our offices). There is a lot of work still to be done but everybody is ready and willing.

So... what next? Some matters seem to us to be of the highest priority. A number of titles from the Dutch series are out of print and these will be reprinted during 2005. None of the books are available in the larger Dutch bookstores like Bruna and AKO any more which has affected sales. We need to promote the books back into the top ten with a whole new marketing campaign as we have done with the promotional trading cards we give away with each newsletter. We are also considering an alternative softcover series reproducing Don's original artwork with no text which - because the original publisher was called Big Balloon - we're planning to call the No Balloon series.

One of the best things about this transfer is that we now have access to the archive of old foreign publications, albums which have been out of print for many years, a stock of Storm and Trigan posters signed by Don, colour slides, film, translations, lay-outs... too much to mention here.

The best news of all is that we are thinking about continuing the Storm series. Martin Lodewijk still has many stories to tell and we are currently looking for new artists.

Of course, we want fans of the series to join us on this adventure - your input will always be appreciated and we will keep everyone informed about everything that is going on!

IT'S STORMING AGAIN!!!

Rob van Bavel

Sales catalogue 2005-2006

It has been two years since our last edition of the Don Lawrence Original Artwork Sales Catalogue, so we thought it was time for a new edition. The Catalogue will be published as a Pandarve Special and will be free to all members of the Fanclub.

Amongst the delights on offer are pages from Commander Grek, The Secret of the Nitron Rays, City of the Damned, The Seven of Aromater, The Slayer of Eriban, The Twisted World, The Return of the Red Prince, The Von-Neumann Machine, The

STORM



The DLC will soon be offering a deal involving two posters first issued in 1995 and 1997.



Cover of the new sales catalogue, featuring a page from The Return of the Red Prince.

Genesis Equation and The Armageddon Traveller. Also, for the very first time, we have pages of Carrie, covers for both Storm and Trigan Empire and 20 of Don's sketches for sale. It's a wonderful collection of art, as you would expect, and the Catalogue will be available through our website next month. Members can order in advance by sending an e-mail to collecti-on@donlawrence.nl.

Valiant

In April the DLC got our hands on a copy of the Valiant Annual of 1968. For over twenty years we have been looking for all kinds of magazines and annuals containing Don's artwork and

somehow this one – for which Don drew the cover – was overlooked. Recently we have also located a few illustrations in early issues of Look & Learn magazine and we are currently on the trail of a story illustrated by both Don and Ron Embleton.



VALIANT



ANNUAL 1968



All About Evil

On December 18, 2005, KIT Tropenmuseum in Amsterdam opened the largest immersive exhibition of the eternal struggle between Man and Evil, a struggle that has blighted all times, countries, cultures and religions. The tale of Evil is told in a spectacular setting filled with devils and demons, seductive women and evil objects from around the world. The various sections of this exhibition cover Adam and Eve, Satan and Legba, Cruella de Vil and Rangda, Kali and Darth Vader. Our main interest is the Dante's Hell exhibit based on an image drawn by Don Lawrence for the Von-Neumann Machine.

KIT Publishers have produced a book by the creators of the exhibition entitled All About Evil. The book is illustrated with over

100 full colour images (including the page from the Von-Neumann Machine) connected with different aspects of human and supernatural evil. The explanatory text and thorough coverage make this a superb book in its own right and whilst the mystery of Evil may not be solved it does offer some fascinating insights.

The packaging of All About Evil is also very special, the title literally burned into the cover. The DLC has picked up a few copies for members which can be purchased through our website with the regular discount. The exhibition is really worth visiting and runs until September 12, 2005.

Scheffersplein

Het Stripfestijn op het Scheffersplein is one of the nicest outdoor conventions in Holland. It is held every two years but it



Trigan -the collection-

Volume three of Trigan Empire— The Collection – entitled 'The House of the Five Moons' – will be released as planned in week 23. This book contains five stories, previously published in Look & Learn in 1973: 'The Secret of Castle Doum', 'The House of the Five Moons', 'The Outlaw Planet', 'The Glass-Palace' and 'Terror from Tarron'.

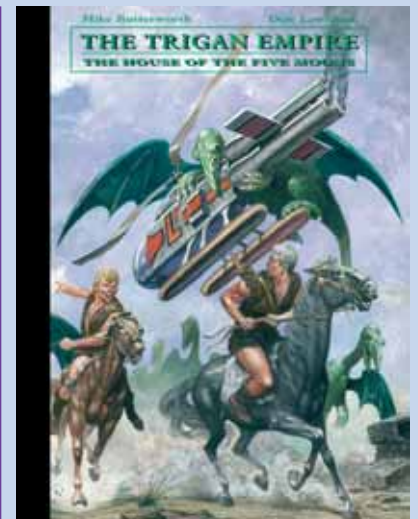
This book also contains an extensive introduction and dossier about the animal wildlife of Elekton. Over 40 animals from Apes to Zargots are covered in this eight page, heavily illustrated essay.

The publication schedule for the Trigan Empire Collection

series is now set as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Trigan - volume 4 | 'The Curse of King Yutta' / Oct. 2005 |
| Trigan - volume 5 | 'The Three Princes' / February 2006 |
| Trigan - volume 6 | 'The Rallu Invasion' / June 2006 |
| Trigan - volume 7 | 'The Reign of Thara' / October 2006 |
| Trigan - volume 8 | 'Revolution in Zabriz' / February 2007 |
| Trigan - volume 9 | 'The Five Labours of Trigo' / June 2007 |
| Trigan - volume 10 | 'The Red Death' / October 2007 |
| Trigan - volume 11 | 'The Invaders from Gallas' / May 2008 |
| Trigan - volume 12 | 'The Green Smog' / September 2008 |

Cover of The House of the Five Moons, which will be released in June 2005.



has been a while since the Don Lawrence Collection attended; we were there in 1997 when heavy showers spoilt the day and we've not wanted to risk angering the rain gods since. However, this year we're back and ready to rumble with offerings like the Special Edition of *The Legacy* and the latest volume of the *Trigan Empire* Collection, 'The House of the Five Moons'. The convention will be held on Sunday June 5 but there will be a lot happening on the day before. You can find more details via the website www.stripfestijn.com.

Storm volume 4

The fourth volume of the U.K. edition of *Storm—The Collection* was published last month and can be ordered from our webshop (www.donlawrence.co.uk). Work is now in progress on the fifth volume.



In 1993 the DLC presented the book 'Het verschrikkelijke wapen' at the 'Stripfestijn op het Scheffersplein.' The first copy was presented to Don Lawrence by Rob van Bavel.

The Legacy-SE

The *Legacy* was published last year as a deluxe hardcover but this is a unique collection: a beautiful slipcased set containing the book *Don Lawrence: The Legacy – Storm*, a portfolio of all the illustrations in the book, together with six extra illustrations, and an original piece of artwork of your choice from the book.

Only 50 sets will be available worldwide of which 23 have already been sold. The first sets will be handed over to subscribers at the convention in Dordrecht. The remaining sets are available priced eur 750 or eur 850 depending on the size of the original sketch chosen. Subscribers have the choice between a Dutch or English language edition of the book and the remaining 40 pieces of artwork available will be shown on our website shortly.

One of the extra illustrations from the portfolio of The Legacy SE.



Update volume 3

This volume could not have been produced without the contributions from the private collections of:

Elisabeth Lawrence, Rob van Bavel, Joanna Foley, Michael Kivits, Ton van Erp and Leonie van Alphen.

If you have artwork which could be used in the series, please contact us at collection@donlawrence.nl or call +31(0)162-461651.



It is still possible to subscribe to the series. You will receive three albums a year and pay eur 49.95 (approx £33.40) instead of eur 55.00 (approx. £36.75).

You also receive a limited edition portfolio of The Trigan Empire for free!

For further information please visit our website www.triganempire.co.uk.

Documentaries

Whilst Don was still alive, two documentaries were made. In 1987, Dominic Dyson of Photon Video produced *Storm Over Jevington*, a 45-minute documentary giving fans an inside view into the working day of Don Lawrence. Ten years later, Rob Crawford filmed Don for the series *Videoballoon*. This film was over three hours long and included interviews with Martin Lodewijk, Frits van de Heide, Chuff Lawrence and Rob van Bavel as well as the master of colour himself, Don Lawrence.

Both productions appeared on video (VHS-PAL) and were released in very low numbers (100 to 200 copies). They are almost impossible to find and the last remaining copies can be found at our website under 'Collectibles'. *Storm Over Jevington* is in English without subtitles; *Videoballoon* is partly English and partly Dutch without subtitles.



Jigsaws

The jigsaws of *City of the Damned* and *The Slayer of Eriban* we announced last year were produced as planned in February 2005. The price is eur 14,99 (approx. £10.31) but Fanclub members will receive a 10% discount. These 1000-piece puzzles can be ordered through our web shop. We also managed to pick up some uncut copies of the puzzles which can be ordered through our web shop at www.donlawrence.co.uk.



On-line from july 1 STORM.NL

*The Worlds of
Don Lawrence*
Volume 22 • Issue 1
May 2005

Editors:
Rob van Bavel
Steve Holland

Production:
Studio D&I

Special thanks to:

Big Balloon
EC Druk Oosterhout
Judith van den Ende
Dick Heins
Elisabeth Lawrence
Martin Lodewijk
Isabel Vermeeren
Meerten Welleman
Max & Floor

© 2005 - DLC Publishers

P.O. box 4191
4900 CD Oosterhout
The Netherlands

t. +31 (0)162-461651
f. +31 (0)162-461675

e. service@donlawrence.co.uk
i. www.donlawrence.co.uk