



Museum of Science Fiction
Washington, DC
USA: Earth: Sol: Milky Way

ESCAPE
VELOCITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Anderson Brings Firestorm to Escape Velocity

Washington, DC (Mar. 14, 2016) – The Museum of Science Fiction, the world’s first comprehensive science fiction museum, is very pleased to announce that Jamie Anderson, the son of iconic British science fiction television and film producer, Gerry Anderson is coming to Escape Velocity (July 1-3) to discuss his father’s legacy and his new project: *Firestorm*. *Firestorm* is a new television program which shares genetic material and the spirit of classic Anderson shows like *Captain Scarlet*, *Space: 1999*, and *Thunderbirds*, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year. In addition to *Thunderbirds*, Gerry Anderson created a series of epic British science fiction television programs and feature films, such as: *UFO*, *Thunderbirds Are Go*, *Fireball XL5*, and *Stingray*.

“Escape Velocity’s potential is truly impressive, blending science with art and engineering with imagination – I am honoured to be on the programme and look forward to bringing an international, multidimensional perspective to the event,” said Anderson, producer and writer of *Firestorm*, a project that his father began in 2001. “I think my father would be very pleased to know that the productions he started in the 1960s are proceeding in a most satisfactory direction with a new stage in their evolution – especially through the Museum of Science Fiction and its educational programmes.”

The vehicle designs used in Anderson’s work are just as iconic: *Space: 1999*’s Eagle-1, *UFO*’s Skydiver, and of course the ubiquitous, Thunderbird 2 – are a few good examples. “When I was young, I spent hours thinking about these vehicles, how they worked, how they were constructed, and what propulsion systems they used. Now that I’ve had the opportunity to work as a space systems designer and engineer, I recognize how these fictional ideas inspired me to push known limits,” said Mason Peck, PhD, former NASA Chief Technologist, Cornell University Professor at the Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Director of the Space Systems Design Studio, and Member of the Museum of Science Fiction’s Board of Advisors.

More information about this and other activities are available here:

www.museumofsciencefiction.org

escapevelocity.events

About the Museum of Science Fiction

The nonprofit Museum of Science Fiction will be the world's first comprehensive science fiction museum, covering the history of the genre across the arts and providing a narrative on its relationship to the real world. The Museum will show how science fiction continually inspires individuals, influences cultures, and impacts societies. Also serving as an educational catalyst to expand interest in the science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM) areas, the Museum uses tools such as mobile applications and wifi-enabled display objects to engage and entertain. For a full press packet on the Museum of Science Fiction's vision and other information, please visit:

www.museumofsciencefiction.org/presspacket

About Escape Velocity 2016

The Museum of Science Fiction and NASA are partnering to bring Escape Velocity 2016 to Washington, DC. The event will be like a micro futuristic world's fair to promote STEAM educational activities within the context of science fiction using the fun of comic cons and fascination of science and engineering festivals. Escape Velocity 2016 seeks to make a measurable positive impact to boost informal learning on the more conceptually challenging academic areas. Escape Velocity's mission is to re-invigorate the interest of our young people in science, technology, engineering, art, and math by producing and presenting the most compelling, exciting, educational, and entertaining science festival in the United States using science fiction as the primary engine. Escape Velocity will achieve orbit on July 1 - 3, 2016 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in Metropolitan Washington, DC. For a full press packet on Escape Velocity, please visit: escapevelocity.events/press-media

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