

February 23, 2001

**“FARSCAPE,” SCI FI’S HIGHEST RATED ORIGINAL SERIES,
RETURNS FOR A THIRD SEASON ON FRIDAY, MARCH 16 AT 9PM**

Third season premiere kicks off with “Farscape Special” at 8PM

The dramatic season two cliffhanger finale of SCI FI’s *Farscape* in January saw two star-crossed lovers lose their trust, their love, and their lives. Aeryn Sun and John Crichton have been praised as the best TV couple since *Moonlighting*’s Maddie and Dave, but now with Aeryn drowned and Crichton incapacitated, their future looks grim. “Season of Death,” *Farscape*’s third season premiere episode promises to answer our hopes and fears — to resurrect the dead and restore the living — but at a terrible price. Find out if love can truly conquer all when **Farscape’s third season premieres Friday, March 16 at 9PM (ET/PT) on SCI FI.**

SCI FI, **the largest provider of original scripted series in primetime on cable,** launches *Farscape*’s third season on Friday, March 16th as part of its revamped “Friday Prime” line-up. That night will also mark the launch of 22 all-new episodes from the 7th season of the cult classic anthology series *The Outer Limits* at 10PM — now a SCI FI original series. *The Invisible Man* joins the Friday Prime lineup starting Friday, March 23rd at 8PM.

Additionally, Monday Prime morphs into Saturday Prime beginning Saturday, March 24. The new Saturday Prime lineup includes a two-hour Scinema feature film at 7PM, *First Wave* at 9PM, *The Secret Adventures of Jules Verne* at 10PM, *Black Scorpion* at 11 PM and closes with another two-hour Scinema feature film at midnight.

To introduce new viewers to the world of *Farscape* and launch the third season, SCI FI has created the one-hour **“Farscape Special” which airs Friday, March 16 at 8PM (ET/PT).** Think of it as a ‘*Farscape* 101’ for the uninitiated, a “Cliff Notes®” for the remote-toting populace, or even a “*Farscape* for Dummies®” if you will. This special will introduce viewers to John Crichton’s wild ride in the Uncharted Territories, the major players aboard Moya, and the villains who stalk them. If you thought it was too late to get “into” *Farscape*, then this clever, witty hour was made especially for you.

The world of *Farscape* is a phenomenon all its own. In just two years, *Farscape* has claimed almost one million viewing households nationwide; internationally, it can be seen in over twenty countries on six continents, and has spawned hundreds of fan-operated websites and bulletin boards on the Internet. Last year, the first ever ***Official Farscape Convention*** was held for thousands of fans calling themselves “Scapers” who traveled from the four corners of the world to attend the convention in Burbank, California. Now, with DVDs, soundtracks, books, action figures, collectibles, trading cards, key chains, computer games and even Halloween costumes available to the public, *Farscape* has become the hottest sci-fi franchise since the demise of *Star Trek*.

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But what is in store for our heroes this year? *"In a year of transition and growth, the third season of **Farscape** promises shocking personal revelations for the crew of Moya, great fun, and heart-rending tragedy"* says Executive Producer David Kemper. *"In short — situation normal. For astronaut John Crichton, the upcoming episodes are marked by his determined quest to reach an elusive goal. An obsessive goal. A self-destructive goal. We promise surprise twists in plot and character that will take the series to a new level, because... this is the year it all comes together. And this is the year it all falls apart."*

With performances, special effects, makeup, scripts, and production crews from the talents that worked on *The Matrix*, *Star Wars: Episode 1*, and *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, **Farscape** rewrites the book on sci-fi entertainment. Created by **Rockne S. O'Bannon** (*Alien Nation*, *Seaquest DSV*, *The Twilight Zone*), **Farscape** is the story of American astronaut John Crichton (played by **Ben Browder** - *Party of Five*). Thanks to a freak accident during a low-orbit test flight, Crichton is catapulted through a wormhole, landing on the far side of the universe. Now he is part of a band of renegades and living the adventure of a lifetime.

The crew of the living ship Moya includes American astronaut John Crichton (**Browder**), estranged military Peacekeeper Aeryn Sun (**Claudia Black**), brutish alien warrior D'Argo (**Anthony Simcoe**), mystical high priestess Zhaan (**Virginia Hey**), the exiled Hynerian Royal Dominar Rygel the Sixteenth (voice by **Jonathan Hardy**), mercurial Chiana (**Gigi Edgley**), the sympathetic Pilot (voice by **Lani Tupu**) and the capricious Stark (**Paul Goddard**). Unwillingly thrown together, this motley band of renegades traverse the Uncharted Territories in Moya — working toward an uneasy alliance with their old enemy Crais (**Tupu**) and avoiding the evil Scorpious (**Wayne Pygram**) at all costs.

Produced by the multi-award-winning creative teams from The Jim Henson Company in association with Hallmark Entertainment, **Farscape** showcases feature film quality special effects and technologically innovative animatronic creatures from the Academy Award®-winning Jim Henson's Creature Shop™. Filmed in Australia, **Farscape** was created by executive consultant Rockne S. O'Bannon, and is executive produced by David Kemper, Brian Henson, Richard Manning, Robert Halmi, Jr. and Juliet Blake, produced by Anthony Winley, and Sue Milliken is the consulting producer.

The Jim Henson Company, an established leader in family entertainment for more than 40 years, is a multimedia production company; one of the top character licensors in the industry; a leading publisher of children's books; and home to Jim Henson Television, Jim Henson Pictures, Jim Henson Interactive and Jim Henson's Creature Shop™. The Company is headquartered in Los Angeles with offices and production facilities in New York and London. The Jim Henson Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of EM.TV & Merchandising AG based in Munich, Germany. The Jim Henson Company website is located at: www.henson.com.

SCI FI Channel, owned and operated by USA Cable, a division of USA Networks, Inc.'s (NASDAQ: USAI) Entertainment unit, transmits fantastic images to over 67 million human homes. Launched in 1992, SCI FI features a continuous stream of cinematic hits, new and original series, and special events, as well as classic sci-fi, fantasy, and horror programming. Check out SCIFI.COM®, the SCI FI Channel's award-winning Web site, at www.scifi.com.

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