

Jan Sherrell Gephardt  
Biography, 2008

Jan S. Gephardt has entered a “new era” in her life as an artist, with 3-D mixed-media and paper sculpture artwork. She also should be a “master” (that is, with a completed Master of Arts degree) by the time this convention happens, if all goes according to plan!

She has been involved with science fiction fandom since 1982. In the intervening years, she has filled a variety of roles. She enjoyed her “first art career” as a fantasy/sf artist who received an assortment of awards for her artwork during the 1980s. Most notably, she was the Artist Guest of Honor at NeoCon III, and was included in a museum show of fantasy art in 1988. During that period she was known for her detailed pen-and-ink drawings of fantasy subjects, and her acrylic “astronomical” paintings.

In the 1980s she became involved as an officer (Central Region Director and Vice President) in the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA). She worked with Richard Pini and Teresa Patterson to create the original version of the ASFA Art Show Guidelines. She received a Chesley Award for Contributions to ASFA in 1991. Starting in the late ‘80s, she began working as an art agent with her husband Pascal Gephardt, and then became involved as a promoter of fantasy art, partner (with Randal Spangler) in a fantasy art publishing company, and webmaster of a web site devoted to showcasing the work of a group of fantasy artists.

Jan is a writer, as well as an artist. She has had several fantasy stories published online, and is the author of two, as-yet-unpublished, complete sf novels. She belongs to a long-established local writers’ group originally drawn from KaCSFFS members in Kansas City.

Since 2001, she has worked as an art and journalism teacher, and has conducted many panels at sf conventions on topics related to the business of art, art conservation, and art techniques. She also has nurtured the interests of two enthusiastic sf/anime fen and dedicated “Rennies”—Ty and Signy Gephardt.