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Subject: Re: Why does the BBC do SF and not Hollywood

Posted by [lon](#) on Tue, 18 Apr 2006 03:11:13 GMT

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What might be more to the point is why has Canada become so good at it? I believe Stargate SG1 and a few others of my favorites like Babylon 5 and Earth Final Conflict (not on my fave list) originated in Canada. OTOH I don't buy the notion that all or any Brit science fiction is good either because it looks cheap or sounds literary. Even such attempts at class such as LeGuin's "Lathe of Heaven" or Dick's ... wait I lost it... all of them look dreadful. And Red Dwarf. There's one by Neil Gaiman too. Piffle, every bit of it. They did do The Prisoner way back when. But as I said earlier, the Prisoner is in a class by itself. Some may wonder why I spend any amount of time with Stargate SG1. It's directed by Dom DeLouise's son for the most part, the stories are trite and melodramatic, the acting is operatic on the part of most of the god-like aliens and... well the list is quite long such as the fact that projectile weapons never have ricochets inside the alien spacecraft. Jeez. But what show has lasted 10 seasons with such outlandish characteristics besides this one? I think the answer is that it's a propaganda show sponsored by the military to make enlisting look glamorous. After all, the SG1 team can defeat superior firepower and technology with handguns and C-4 explosives. It's sort of a variation on the video game-referenced ads on tv for "Be all you can be" with the A-Team being the primary source material. If you have any doubt about these speculations, I suggest a documentary called "Operation Hollywood." It shows how the military has strict control over any production in which its properties such as uniforms, vehicles or arms are used. SG1 had full Pentagon approval. Even though I'm a peace activist, I'm looking forward to the next dvd box.

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