

THE FARTHEST

TCA Bios for Film Participants and Producers

Listed Alphabetically

Timothy Ferris

Golden Record Producer

Timothy Ferris is the best-selling author of a dozen books – among them *The Science of Liberty*, *The Whole Shebang*, and *Coming of Age in the Milky Way*—and more than two hundred articles and essays. His three PBS documentary films—“The Creation of the Universe,” (1986), “Life Beyond Earth” (1999), and “Seeing in the Dark” (2007)—have been seen by over twenty million viewers. After starting his career as a newspaper reporter, Ferris became an editor at *Rolling Stone* magazine. He produced the Voyager Golden Record, an artifact of human civilization containing music, sounds of Earth and encoded photographs which was fastened to the side of the twin Voyager spacecraft to serve as an introduction to Earth’s culture for any being that encountered the spacecraft. He recently published an article in the August 2017 issue of *National Geographic* entitled *Fantastic Voyage*, which looked at the beginnings of the twin Voyager space probes and their significance in space exploration. Ferris has served as a consultant to NASA on long-term space exploration policy, and was among the journalists selected as candidates to fly aboard the Space Shuttle in 1986. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science a Guggenheim Fellow, and has twice received the American Institute of Physics prize. His works have been nominated for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. Ferris has taught in five disciplines—astronomy, English, history, journalism, and philosophy—at four universities. He is currently an emeritus professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

Carolyn Porco

Planetary Scientist

Carolyn Porco is an American planetary scientist known for her work in the exploration of the outer solar system, beginning with her imaging work on the *Voyager* mission during the 1980s. She is currently the leader of the imaging team on the Cassini mission at Saturn. She and her team have been responsible for many discoveries at Saturn, including lakes of liquid hydrocarbons on the surface of Saturn’s moon Titan, new phenomena within the rings of Saturn, and geysers erupting from a sub-surface global ocean within the small icy moon Enceladus, as well as many beautiful images of Saturn and its moons and rings over the last 13 years. Carolyn played instrumental roles in the taking of three iconic photographs of planet Earth from the outer solar system, including her participation in the planning and execution of the 1990 *Pale Blue Dot* image of Earth taken by the Voyager 1 spacecraft, and the *Day the Earth Smiled* event, in which she invited the people of the world to participate in the July 19, 2013 imaging of Earth and Saturn from the Cassini spacecraft. Carolyn has co-authored more than 125 scientific papers on subjects ranging from Uranus and Neptune, the interstellar medium, planetary rings, Neptune’s moon Triton, the interior of Jupiter, and a large suite of results on the atmosphere, satellites, and rings of Saturn from the *Cassini* imaging experiment. Recently, she has been deeply involved in the study of Enceladus, which she believes is one of the most promising places in our solar system to search for extraterrestrial life.

Carolyn has won a number of awards and honors for her contributions to science and the public sphere including being named by the New Statesman as one of 'The 50 People Who Matter Today' in 2009. In 2010, she was awarded the Carl Sagan Medal for Excellence in the Communication of

Science to the Public by the American Astronomical Society. In 2012, she was named one of the 25 most influential people in space by Time magazine. In addition to her role in THE FARTHEST – VOYAGER IN SPACE, Carolyn is also featured in SECOND GENESIS – both of which we air on PBS in August.

John Rubin

Executive Producer

John Rubin turned to documentary production after completing his PhD at MIT in cognitive science. Rubin is the winner of a Peabody Award and three Emmys. His films often explore the intersection of natural history and science. Rubin has made films for the flagship series *American Experience*, *NOVA*, and *Nature*. Early in his career, Rubin was hired by National Geographic Television as its first staff producer in the Natural History Unit. His first two films there earned Emmy nominations, including *Savage Garden*, for which Rubin wrote the script for its star Leslie Nielsen. After leaving National Geographic, Rubin headed Rubin Tarrant Productions, which delivered 14 hours of primetime programming. In 2002, Rubin founded John Rubin Productions, Inc. There he produced films for *National Geographic Explorer*, including *Climbing Redwood Giants*, and *Lost Mummies of New Guinea*, which won an Emmy for cinematography. Rubin also made six films for the PBS series *Nature*. For *NOVA*, Rubin's *Ape Genius*—a film that explores the cognitive gap between humans and other apes—earned Rubin two Emmy nominations and a Peabody Award. Rubin won another Emmy in 2008 for research on *The Living Weapon*, a history of the U.S. biological weapons program. On loan to Sea Studios in California, Rubin worked as producer and head writer on the acclaimed 2005 PBS environmental series *National Geographic's Strange Days on Planet Earth* presented by Edward Norton. Joining HHMI's Tangled Bank Studios in 2014 as executive producer, Rubin develops and oversees a slate of productions including a YouTube series about the microbiome, *I Contain Multitudes*, based on the book by Ed Yong.

Ed Stone

Voyager Chief Scientist

Ed Stone is an American space scientist, professor of physics at the California Institute of Technology, and former director of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). As project scientist for the unmanned *Voyager* spacecraft missions to the outer Solar System since 1972, he is the longest serving NASA project scientist on any space mission to date. Aside from his role on *Voyager*, Professor Stone has since been principal investigator on nine NASA spacecraft missions and co-investigator on five more. Stone served as JPL director from 1991 to 2001, during which time a number of new missions were launched, all while *Voyager 1* and *2* soared beyond planets and headed toward the boundary of the solar system. After stepping down as JPL director, Stone continued his leadership role with *Voyager*. He is currently active on several projects including acting as Vice-Chair of the Thirty Meter Telescope Board of Directors. In recognition for his unparalleled contribution to space exploration, Stone was awarded the NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal in 2013, and in 2014, the Howard Hughes Memorial Award.