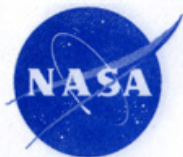


National Aeronautics and  
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PO Box 5001  
SE-202 26 Malmö  
Sweden



Mr. James Mullighan  
Creative Director  
"Shooting People" Independent Film Network  
8 Hoxton Street  
London N1 6NG  
UNITED KINGDOM

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



July 14, 2009

Reply to Attn of: Space Operations Mission Directorate

Mr. James Mullighan  
Creative Director  
"Shooting People" Independent Film Network  
8 Hoxton Street  
London N1 6NG  
UNITED KINGDOM

Dear Mr. Mullighan:

Thank you for the interest that you and your members have shown in the film viewing habits and wellbeing of our crewmembers onboard the International Space Station (ISS). We agree that films provide a much needed source of entertainment and social connection to the ground for crews engaged in long duration spaceflight. Films and other entertainment media are important for their psychological welfare, and will continue making a significant contribution to human exploration as we venture further out into space, creating a permanent presence on the Earth's Moon, as well as journeys to Mars and beyond.

ISS crewmembers have their own tastes and preferences as do each of us. They individually request and select films and other entertainment media which they either carry with them to orbit in their personal belongings, or on occasion, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will uplink requested video or audio files. The on-orbit ISS film library is a result of such individual film selections, compiled during twenty ISS expeditions with over 60 crew members since permanent human presence was established on November 2, 2000.

The films suggested by your members, listed in your letter and on the [ShootingPeople.org/station](http://ShootingPeople.org/station) website, are thoughtful and varied. These films and others, including independent films, are generally available to crewmembers at their request. Your letter and suggestions have been forwarded to the crew office for further consideration.

I appreciate the time and consideration that you and your members have placed in assessing the diversity of films and entertainment available to the ISS crew. Let me assure you that NASA shares your interest in assuring that a broad selection of entertainment is available for crewmembers' selection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William H. Gerstenmaier".

William H. Gerstenmaier  
Associate Administrator  
for Space Operations

May 28, 2009  
[Mr Christopher Scolese,](#)  
[The Acting Administrator,](#)  
[The North American Space Administration,](#)  
[300 E St. SW,](#)  
[Washington, D.C.,](#)  
United States of America

Dear Sir,

My name is James Mullighan.

I am the Vice-President and Creative Director of Shooting People, the world's largest network of independent filmmakers. Recently, Ms Cath Le Couteur, our Co-Founder and Senior Vice-President, happened upon a document online while researching her new feature motion picture. This document listed all the books, motion pictures, television shows and recorded music housed on the International Space Station.

As spokesperson for the beating heart of the independent film industry, I felt behoved to interrogate your list of motion pictures to ensure your Astronauts were getting an appropriate motion picture education. Whilst I felt works such as 'Apollo 13', 'Armageddon' and 'Star Wars' could be deemed apposite, I felt that 'Caddyshack', 'Cheaper by the Dozen' and - heaven forefend - 'Beverly Hills Cop' might weaken the critical faculties of those on board, possibly even putting their lives and ours in danger.

I recently surveyed our 35,000 members: What did they think should be in the International Space Station motion picture library. Suggestions included: 'The Ice Storm', 'Me and You and Everyone We Know', 'Freaks', 'Swingers', 'The Third Man', 'Total Recall', and 'The Man Who Fell to Earth'. Our members would like to see 'Harold and Maud' rather than 'Harold and Kumar', that 'Man on Wire' replace 'Man on Fire'.

I and my Membership sincerely believe that a broad cultural education is as important outside earth's perimeters as it is within. To take only Hollywood films onto the International Space Station is to slight all the independent films that deserve an intergalactic outing. At Shooting People, we feel there is an indelible link between filmmakers and astronauts - both set out on a mission with the hope of broadening minds and bettering society. With Members on both sides of the Atlantic, a global union can be formed to push forward humanity's cultural advancement - NASA and Shooting People, side-by-side, hand-in-hand, changing the world one movie at a time.

We hope you'll take this proffered hand and join us in, what could be, the biggest leap forward in the history of cinema in space.

Looking forward to your response, I remain, yours faithfully,

James Mullighan

Creative Director, Shooting People

[shootingpeople.org/spacestation](http://shootingpeople.org/spacestation)