

CHARACTERS (In order of appearance)

VYNCENT: Concert Violinist, extraordinaire; 'the Paganini of his age,' an antiquarian musician whose duty, at Eikodrome VI, MINERVA, is to preserve the music of the Lost World. Soloist and sometimes concertmeister of the Fleet Philharmonic, he also serves a secondary civic obligation as a military reserve officer in the Watch Corps, a division of UIMSACA (Ultra-Intelligent Mind-Simulator Access Control Agency). As a 'Watcher,' he periodically takes a shift in the 'Wheelhouse,' monitoring the operation of the mind-simulator, MINERVA, in 'her' continuous regulation of the entire Eikodrome; a city-in-flight.

Vyncent is a musical genius of the first rank; a loyal and seriously committed citizen of the Fleet. He was raised by a series of state appointed, 'hired' parents who discovered his talent at an early age. He takes his celebrity seriously as a preserver of Lost World art. His civic/military duties provide a closer than average association with the City's very nerve center and a sense of responsibility, yet he is a natural adventurer with a philosophic bent and a lust for life – including a robust sexual urge.

Marchaut: Antique keyboardist and Principal Pianist with the Fleet Philharmonic Orchestra; Vyncent's closest friend and his regular accompanist in recitals.

MINERVA: The UIM (ultra-intelligent mind-simulator); the super-computer Regulator of Eikodrome (City) No. VI, MINERVA is one of twelve such synthetic thought processors in this, the Second Fleet. Each Regulator is in charge of operating the complex and fragile life-support system of its namesake city or 'drome.' A self-improving tool of magnificent accomplishment, this electro-mechanical monster

brain is little understood by a still recovering, postwar civilization, but it seems to be completely self-regulating (as with the other eleven UIMS), despite the humans seeming propensity for self-eradication, MINERVA has been exercising due diligence in protecting and developing the bio-cultures, now thriving in their immense egg-like transporter as they speed on through the centuries.

HELENYA: Genetics Expert, highly motivated and cutting-edge, working on secret government projects at a remote and heavily restricted satellite laboratory called GenLab Prime, Morpheon. GenLab Prime is one of many relatively self-sustaining space-station communities that occupy the considerable void between the twelve major eikodromes. Helenya's work, in addition to expanding the theoretical envelope of her discipline, involves research into possible creation of part-human creatures that might be adjustable to (as yet uncertain) conditions at the approaching star-system, Azores. She is also a surprise, adjunct panelist in the Polylogue.

The TWELVE: The full compliment of UIMS (12 ultra-intelligent mind-simulators). Each UIM is 'Regulator' for the city (eikodrome) with which it shares its name: **IV/JUPITER; V/JUNO; VI/MINERVA; VII/VULCAN; VIII/MARS; IX/CERES; X/NEPTUNE; XI/VENUS; XII/DIANA; XIII/PROMETHEUS; XIV/MERCURY; XV/PLUTO** [I/SATURN; II/URANUS; and III; GAEA are not present because as they comprise a separate Fleet, which was much earlier to depart from the Solar System; lived life in a more severe mode; and had a different destination].
- see *Program Notes* for more detailed description and a timeometer – [click bottom button next to Polylogue cover image for 'Program Notes.'](#)

These superminds convene electronically, now and then ('Inter-UIM Data Exchanges'), whereby they share information by which to improve their efficiency and control over their respective 'dromes;' to make adjustments in course and synchronize clocks, etc.; and to ponder their role in the health and well being as well as the destiny of the Earthian life forms. Named after the planets (a memorial of the solar system, long gone from sight except through powerful telescopes), plus a few added names (also from the Roman version of the Greek Pantheon), they have searched through their digitally encoded Library of Humanity and, finding their namesakes, are beginning to display signs of those personalities in their comportment.

Sgt. Major Heize: UIMSACA top-kick; also overseer and instructor of Watch Corps training.

EQUINION: Star of the 2nd Magnitude, Captain of Eikodrome VI/MINERVA, and Emergency Fleet Commander.

A Priest: High Priest of the Kharmalenes, a small cult at a remote space monastery.

The Kharmalenes: The silent brotherhood at the monastery.

MYTHOKRATES: A favorite Elder (transferral); a time-skipper, or 'sub-sleeper;' a legendary historical figure and hero of the past, whose hibernaculum is stored at the monastery-colony, is reanimated for a jubilee to celebrate another thousand years of the voyage (as if we were to wake Aristotle for a conference on quark chromodynamics at CERN) Mythokrates is presented to the Fleet in a 'polylogue.'

(Click top button next to *Polylogue* cover thumbnail for brief description of the conference, and bottom button on the same side to read a small section called 'Guest of Honor,' which includes more about Mythokrates).

- Sentower:** Historian of the Fleet and Honorary Keeper of the Log. He appears in the *Polylogue* as the master of ceremonies and moderator of the panel discussion in which Mythokrates is guest of honor (See especially POLYLOGUE WITH MYTHOKRATES).
- Brahlli:** Genetics Professor and researcher from Eikodrome No. V, Juno. Helenya's science mentor and former teacher. Representing Drome & Sector V in the *Polylogue*.
- Habnor:** Post-Neoquantian physicist representing Drome and Sector VII/VULCAN in the *Polylogue* (defender of 'big physics and leader of the anti-Mythokrates members of the Polylogue panel).
- The PANEL:** Twelve of the most celebrated minds in the Fleet, (including Sentower, Brahlli and Habnor) assembled for the *Polylogue with Mythokrates* ([Click on the third button from the top, adjacent to the Polylogue cover thumbnail, to examine Introductions](#), as Sentower presents the Panel to a Fleetwide audience prior to the entry of Mythokrates.)
- Agnatha:* A tour assistant at NEPTUNE, The Aquadrome: a sea in a thermos bottle.
- Krustin:** Tour guide for Helenya's group at NEPTUNE.
- A Homocephalapod:* A highly intelligent, genetically engineered, giant squid-based, sea creature existing only at NEPTUNE.
- A Club Comedian:* Intermission attraction between acts at the Red-Eye, a subterranean, sub-intellect venue at BACCHUS: the vacation asteroid known as 'Pete's Planetoid (a kind of Las Vegas of outer space).
[[Excerpt on 'Mythokrates' website page](#)].
- Nibarnazus:** Exotic 'cockatrice' dancer at BACCHUS

A Tour Guide: Leader of Helenya's group for a visit to 'The Garden of CERES,' the Agridrome: farm in a can.

The Myrmidons: A group of coleopterons (beetle-folk) and waspyn, enormous bug-like beings created at the behest of a mad dictator, these are a small sample of a significant population of such creatures that live and work in the agri-vessel, CERES.

Queen of Hymanoptera: The matriarch of a hive of Ceresian waspyn.

Sgt. Hedik: Security patrolman in Eikodrome VI, RibQuad-3.

Maintenance man: A service repairman who arrives to fix a shutter malfunction at Vyncent's compartment.

Joyelle: Maintenance Department Supervisor.

Warden: UIMSACA enlisted man: security warden who roves through whatever drome segment he is assigned to by the Watcher of the Period.

1st Sgt. Lloyd: UIMSACA Intelligence, arrest detail leader.

Staff Sgt. Mazlord: UIMSACA Intelligence detail member.

Comet 1st Class Arck: UIMSACA Intelligence detail member.

Techno-Spec. Xorn: UIMSACA Intelligence detail member.

Astro-Colonel Avarroe: UIMSACA Commandant.

Major Szleysor: UIMSACA Intelligence; Top Interrogator in Tableau XVII, subchapter: 'Evasive Questions.'

Staff Sgt. Rhyne: UIMSACA Interrogator.

Tech. Sgt. Matrix: UIMSACA Interrogator.

CWO Marscenic: Interrogator representing AIR (Artificial Intelligence Research).

A Stenographer: UIMSACA records specialist.

Ensign Prospera: Administrative Aide to Star Equinion.

Captain Jahmyr: A Watch Officer, UIMSACA Watch Corps.

UIMSACA Officers and Crew: (Anonymous, trapped outside Wheelhouse).

Dromic Council: Minervan City Council; special meeting in Wheelhouse.

Sector Administrator: The 'regional manager' of satellites and colonies in Sector Six, beyond the eikodrome.

Drome VI Mayor: Eikodrome chief administrator.

DEMAN: A collective of several of the mind-simulators into a unit of imposing power.

Commodore Nexxon: UIMSACA Officer; messenger from Equinion to Secretary of Medicine, Sector VI.

MPs: Security police & various guard details.

Dr. Rhazhi: A neurosurgeon.

Dr. Eurmonides: Chief of Neural Surgery.

Dr. Hypok: A neurosurgeon.

Nurse: Cryonic recovery attendant.

Sergeant 1(M): UIMSACA espionage.

Sergeant 2(F): UIMSACA espionage.

Tylsynion : Conductor & Music Director, Fleet Philharmonic.

Norac, the Noah: Fleet Administrator: a mostly figurehead-type position during the era examined in this book – venerated but non-critical and officially impotent, as the several Eikodromes are staunchly independent (Office at Fleet Headquarters, JUPITER).

Committee of The Twelve: Special SAF (Superior Assembly of the Fleet) Senate committee, assembled to investigate and make recommendations concerning major problems with the UIMS. One member each Sector: Senator Jubil; Sen. Malgam; Sen. Istrion; Sen. Saltor, Sen. Ionia (Chair); Sen. Odeon; Sen. Ahntylis; Sen. Valkhyr; Sen. Maylanj; Sen. Hycese; Sen. Czyxt; and Sen. Clov (of BACCHUS, non-voting observer).

Dr. Yvette: Witness before the Committee of The Twelve;
Psychiatrist; Psychiatric Institute, Sector XV, PLUTO.

Sgt. at Arms: In hearing room of Committee of The Twelve.

A military doctor: On standby in Wheelhouse per Astro-Col. Avarroe.

Tiernyce: Rare active transfferential, Order of Mendel.