

[blood/index.html](#)).

On Saturday, July 23, “Fringe,” “[Vampire Diaries \(http://www.cwtv.com/shows/the-vampire-diaries\)](http://www.cwtv.com/shows/the-vampire-diaries),” “[Family Guy \(http://www.fox.com/familyguy/\)](http://www.fox.com/familyguy/),” “[The Simpsons \(http://www.thesimpsons.com/\)](http://www.thesimpsons.com/),” “[Chuck \(http://www.nbc.com/chuck/\)](http://www.nbc.com/chuck/),” and the highly anticipated show “[Terra Nova \(http://www.fox.com/terranova/\)](http://www.fox.com/terranova/)” — co-conceived by Steven Spielberg, took over Ballroom 20.

The success of many current television programs is a direct result of innovative story telling. With all the original story concepts and quality writing for TV drama/comedy/[animation \(http://www.examiner.com/animation\)](http://www.examiner.com/animation), more film talent than ever is transitioning to the small screen. Cable TV shows, and some network shows, have developed such a mass following that TV representation at Comic-Con has grown equally as popular/significant as film. Due to their likability, such film actors as Elijah Wood (Wilfred), John Noble (Fringe), Anna Paquin (True Blood), William H. Macy (Shameless), Danny DeVito (It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia), James Caviezel (Person of Interest), and Robert Carlyle (Once Upon A Time), have played instrumental parts in making many of these programs successful. Each of these actors who attended Comic-Con this year, and spoke on their programs' behalf, did their studios a great service in further promoting these shows.

Hall H — with its 6,000 plus capacity (the largest facility at the convention center) typically generates the longest lines. Not this year. With the exception of the line for “Twilight” on Thursday at 11:15am — where fans camped outside of Hall H for several days (as expected) — none of the other panels, for the remaining days of Comic-Con, were quite as difficult to get into. Once the “Twilight” panel ended, the average wait time for Hall H was about an hour and a half. The reason — many fans say they were disappointed with this year's film production and celebrity line up. In years past, when such mega films as “Iron Man,” “Battle Los Angeles,” “Watchmen,” “300,” “Captain America: The First Avenger,” “Thor,” “Cowboys & Aliens,” and “Pirates of the Caribbean 4: On Stranger Tides” were scheduled for sneak previews and panels; and actors and filmmakers such as Hayao Miyazaki, Tim Burton, Danny Elfman, Johnny Depp, Harrison Ford, Sam Raimi, and Ray Harryhausen were featured guests, spectators were overflowing with anticipation.

Comic-Con spectators and film-goers in general agree that 3D, remakes, and sequels aren't enough to turn a film into a blockbuster. For this reason, this year, most spectators in line were there to see specific actors and filmmakers rather than the films they were promoting.

On Friday, filmmakers Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson visited Hall H to promote their animated feature “[The Adventures of Tintin \(http://www.tintin.com/\)](http://www.tintin.com/)” — scheduled to open on December 23, 2011. Heightening this historic Comic-Con occasion was a brief surprise visit from Andy Serkis (Lord of the Rings) posing as a spectator asking a question.

The most anticipated film promoted in Hall H was “The Amazing Spider-Man” — due in theaters July 3, 2012. Early on in the panel, actors Andrew Garfield ([The Social Network \(http://www.thesocialnetwork-movie.com/\)](http://www.thesocialnetwork-movie.com/)), [The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1054606/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1054606/) and Emma Stone ([Superbad \(http://www.sonypictures.com/homevideo/superbad/\)](http://www.sonypictures.com/homevideo/superbad/)), [Zombieland \(http://www.zombieland.com/\)](http://www.zombieland.com/) won over the audience with their sincere gratitude for being involved in such a project — an endearing moment given the vast number of skeptics who have yet to fully embrace