

NASA's silly sci-fi film list -- 2012 the most flawed (w/ Video)

January 7 2011, by Lin Edwards

(PhysOrg.com) -- At a conference held at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California, NASA experts have voted *2012* the most scientifically flawed and absurd science fiction film ever made.

The 2009 disaster film named *2012* was directed by Roland Emmerich and written by Emmerich and Harald Kloser and grossed almost \$800 million. The story is set on the date the Mayan calendar supposedly ends (21 December 2012), which is believed by some to be the day the world will end. The story revolves around a marital reconciliation, which takes place as the world begins to collapse as strange neutrino particles cause global devastation.

NASA's Donald Yeomans, who headed the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous mission, called the film an "exceptional and extraordinary" example of bad science in Hollywood movies. He pointed out that neutrino particles cannot interact with physical substances, and there is no possible way neutrinos carried to Earth by solar flares as depicted could cook the planet's core and cause hurricanes or earthquakes or produce tsunamis big enough to overwhelm Mount Everest as shown in the film.

NASA has received a massive amount of mail as a result of people's concerns about the world ending in 2012, and has set up a [website](#) to debunk the myths, which is something they have never needed to do with previous disaster films. This is a major reason for their list of bad science films — because they do worry many people.

Other films on NASA's silly list include *The Day After Tomorrow*, about accelerated global warming, *Volcano*, in which a volcano appears in Los Angeles, the supposed documentary *What the Bleep Do We Know*, *The Sixth Day*, *Chain Reaction*, and *The Core*. Another film on the hit list is *Armageddon*, a film about a massive asteroid being blown up by a nuclear bomb to save the Earth. The film was originally supported by NASA.

The [NASA](#) scientists also voted on scientifically accurate sci-fi [films](#) and this list included *Gattaca*, *Metropolis*, *Jurassic Park*, *Contact*, and *Blade Runner*.

© 2010 PhysOrg.com

Citation: NASA's silly sci-fi film list -- 2012 the most flawed (w/ Video) (2011, January 7) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2011-01-nasa-silly-sci-fi-flawed.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.