

73

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BORG

RENEGADES' SHIP

ROGUE BORG

LAUNCHED: 24th C

PROPULSION: TRANSWARP

WEAPONS: BEAM, TORPEDO

BORG RENEGADES' SHIP

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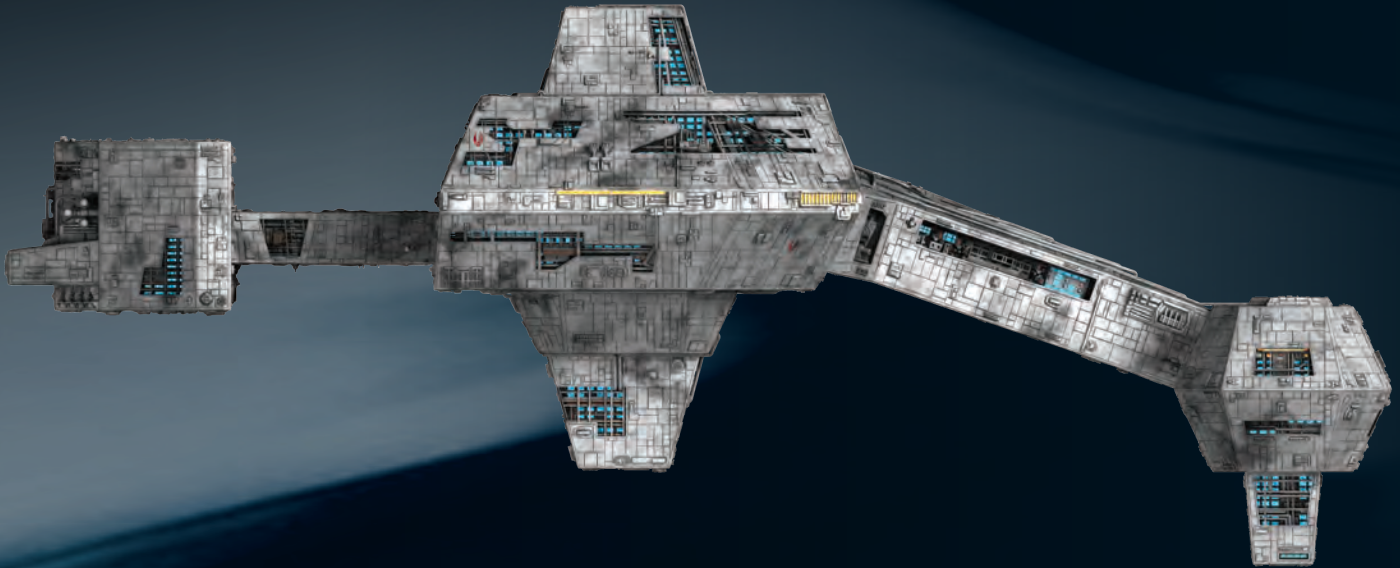
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BORG RENEGADES' SHIP

SPECIFICATION



AFFILIATION: BORG FACTION

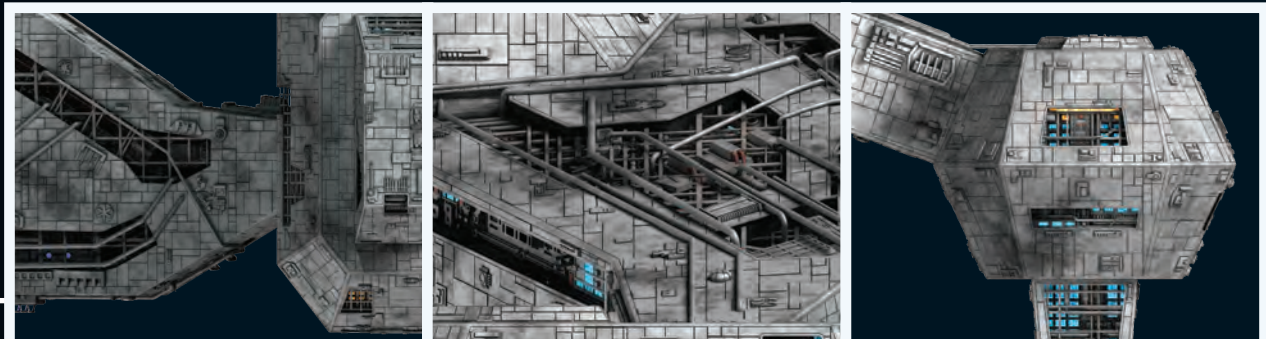
IN OPERATION: 2369-2370

HEADED BY: LORE

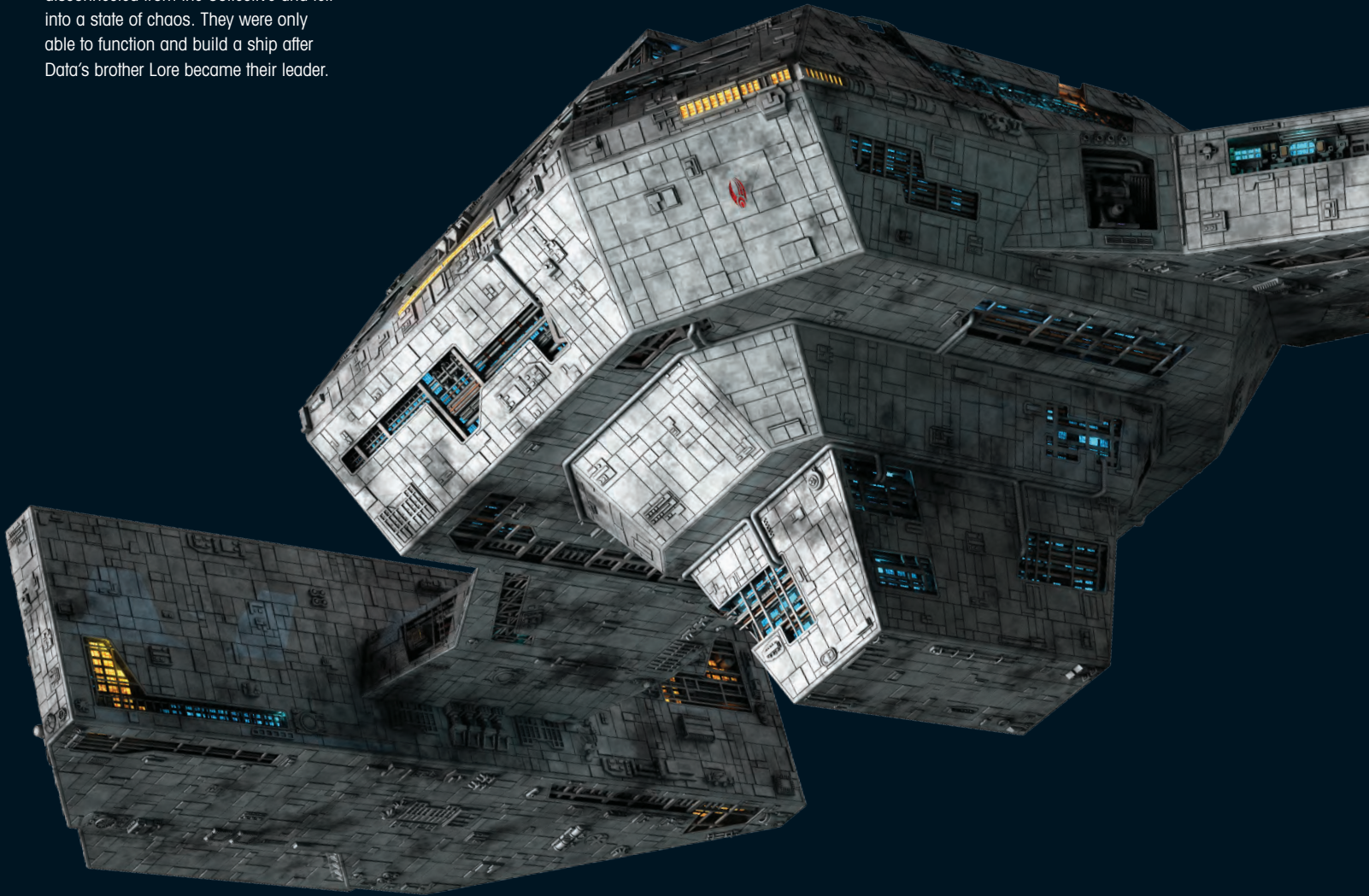
PROPULSION: TRANSWARP

WEAPONRY: PARTICLE BEAMS,

TORPEDO MISSILES

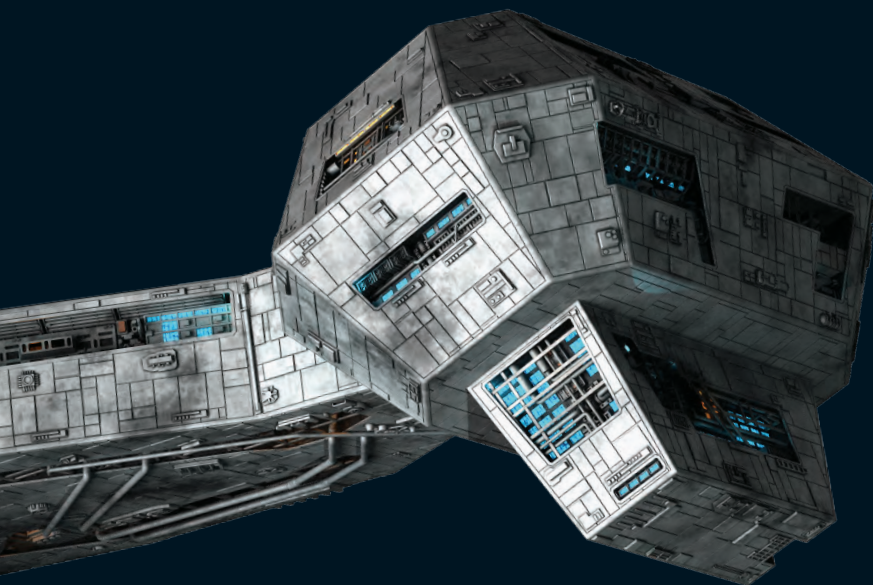


▼ The Borg Renegades' Ship was so bizarre and haphazard in shape that it appeared to have been built by defective drones. In fact, this is precisely what happened after a group of drones were disconnected from the Collective and fell into a state of chaos. They were only able to function and build a ship after Data's brother Lore became their leader.



BORG RENEGADES' SHIP

This unique Borg ship was built by a group of drones who had been disconnected from the Collective.



The Borg Renegades' Ship was constructed by a group of Borg drones who had been disconnected from the Borg Collective after regaining a sense of individuality. All Borg ships had previously been of a regular geometric shape, but the vessel built by these disconnected drones was wildly asymmetrical. Starfleet gave it the designation 'Borg Type 03' according to a display console.

It was unclear whether the ship had been built from scratch or been 'Borgified' from an existing vessel of an unknown alien species. It was certainly huge, much larger than the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D, but probably smaller than a standard Borg cube. It appeared to be constructed from similar

materials to other Borg vessels, but also included windows, something that had previously been lacking in Borg craft.

Despite its highly irregular shape, the Borg Renegades' Ship appeared to be just as powerful as other Borg craft. Its weapon systems included a green energy beam, similar to a particle beam, that could severely deplete the shields of a *Galaxy*-class ship with one blast.

It also used conventional Borg methods of propulsion, and was capable of opening transwarp corridors by generating a high energy tachyon pulse. When the vessel entered a transwarp corridor it accelerated to an extremely high velocity, at least 20 times faster than a Starfleet vessel was capable of achieving.

The Borg Renegades' Ship was first detected in 2369 after it attacked the Ohniaka III outpost, killing all of its 274 personnel. The *Enterprise-D* was sent to investigate and they learned that a rogue group of Borg were responsible.

DISCORDANT DRONES

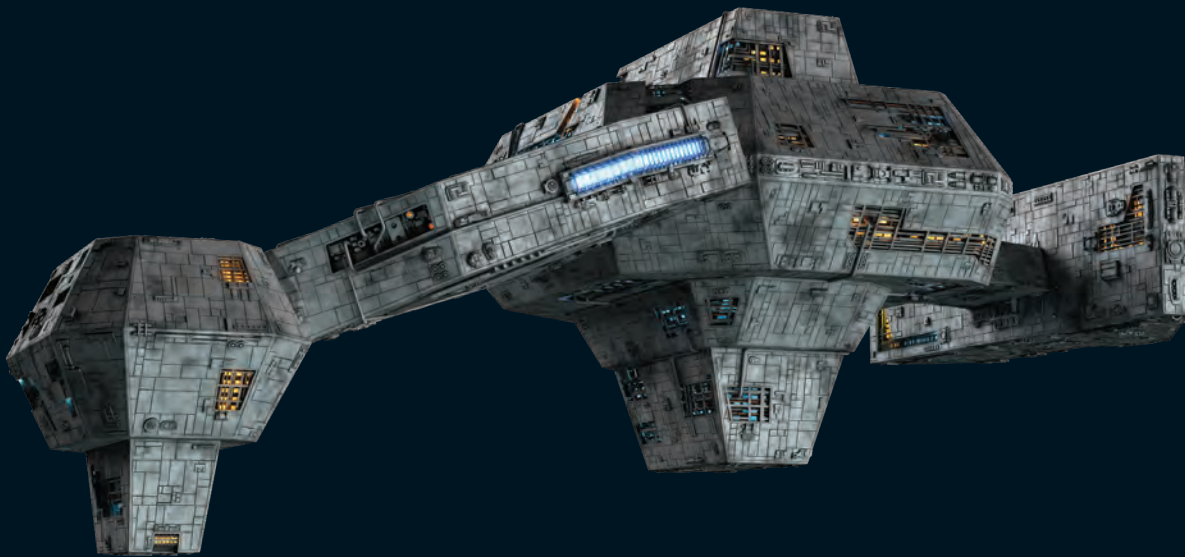
The previous year, the crew of the *Enterprise-D* had captured a critically injured Borg drone. As he was nursed back to health, he regained a sense of individuality and was given the name 'Hugh.' He was offered asylum aboard the *Enterprise-D*, but he knew that the Collective would not stop looking for him, so he decided to go back. His newfound sense of self was passed onto the rest of the drones on his ship, and this broke down their ability to function and caused chaos. Some Borg fought



DATA FEED

Fifteen Starfleet ships were deployed to try and track down the Borg Renegades' Ship. These included the *Gorkan*, the *Crazy Horse* and the *Agamemnon*.

◀ The Borg known as Hugh gained a sense of individuality after spending a brief time aboard the *Enterprise-D*. When he returned to a Borg vessel, his newfound sense of self was passed on, causing anarchy. These drones were then cut off from the Collective before they encountered Lore, who helped them build their own ship.



◀ The Borg Renegades' Ship was made up of a series of regular shapes, but assembled in a random fashion. It was highly decentralized, like other Borg vessels, which made it highly resistant to damage.

▶ The *Enterprise-D* came under attack while waiting for the away teams to conduct a search on the planet for Data. The *Enterprise-D* was forced to retreat before all the crew could be beamed up.



▶ Lore modified the emotion chip designed by his father Dr. Noonian Soong to remotely instill anger and hatred in Data. With his ethical subroutines disabled, Data joined Lore along with his small army of drones at their base.



▲ The Borg Renegades' Ship may not have looked like any other Borg vessel, but it was just as deadly. It featured weapons of huge destructive power and easily outgunned the *Enterprise-D*, whose own weapons caused almost no damage to it.

each other, some disconnected themselves, and many even starved to death.

These drones were still in a state of extreme confusion when they encountered Data's unstable brother Lore. They were so lost and frightened that they were willing to listen to any voice that offered them clarity of purpose and a way out of their confusion. Lore became their leader by promising to make them into the perfect artificial life forms.

Lore, however, had an ulterior motive as he wanted to lure Data to his side, and eventually he was manipulated to join him. The crew of the *Enterprise-D* tracked the Borg to a remote planet where they had set up a base. This planet had an unusual EM field that prevented the *Enterprise-D*'s sensors from working, so most of the crew beamed down to the surface to begin a search. Meanwhile,

a skeleton crew was left on the *Enterprise-D* with Dr. Beverly Crusher taking over as captain.

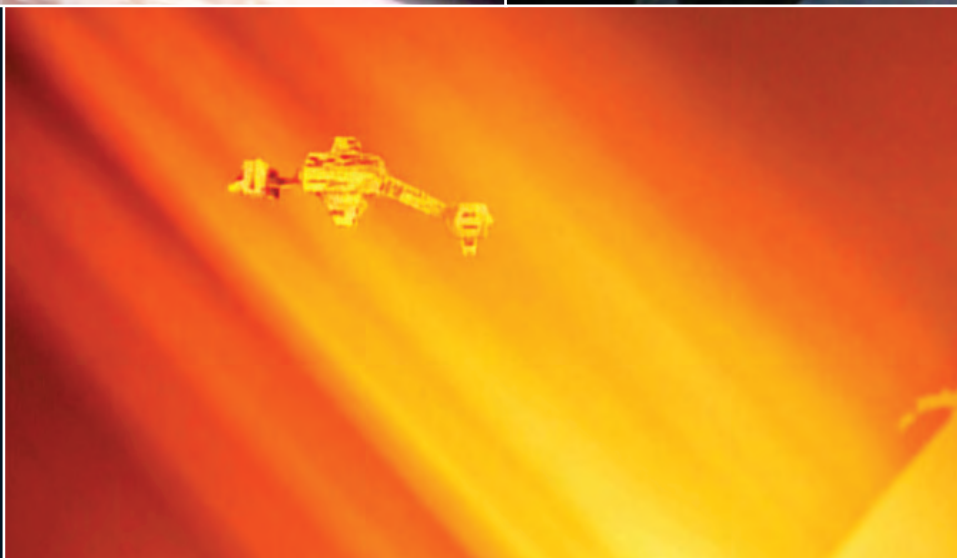
RESCUE PLAN

While in orbit of the planet, the *Enterprise-D* was attacked by the Borg Renegades' Ship. They were forced to retreat, leaving 47 members of the crew on the planet. Together with the reserve bridge crew, Crusher formulated a plan to return, entering orbit from the other side of the planet, hoping that they would not be immediately detected.

The *Enterprise-D* bought enough time to beam up all but the senior crew before the Renegades' Ship located them and fired. The *Enterprise-D*'s port nacelle was hit, taking out the warp drive. Unable to escape, Crusher ordered a highly-experimental technology known as metaphasic shielding to



► Dr. Crusher was forced to implement metaphasic shielding, an untested technology, to hide from the Borg inside the corona of a star. When the shielding began to fail, they aimed a particle beam into the sun that caused a solar fusion eruption to reach out and engulf the Borg ship, reducing it to ashes in seconds.



▲ Ensign Taitt was a junior officer who served as part of the bridge crew when Dr. Crusher took command. Despite her inexperience, she came up with the plan to create a solar flare that they hoped could be directed towards the Borg Renegades' Ship.

be brought online. In theory, it would allow the *Enterprise-D* to safely enter a nearby sun's corona, but prevent the Borg ship from following.

This solution only worked temporarily, as the ship would soon be consumed by the intense heat of the sun. Fortunately, Ensign Taitt, who had done a senior honors thesis on solar dynamics, came up with an idea. Using the tractor emitter to create a particle beam, they fired at a precise point of the sun that caused a superfluid gas eruption to burst from the corona and engulf the Renegades' Ship.

With the Borg ship destroyed, it allowed the *Enterprise-D* to return to the planet, where Captain Picard, with the help of Hugh, had defeated Lore. Data deactivated Lore, while the rest of the Borg drones hoped they could learn to function as a separate group with Hugh as their leader.

DATA FEED

The renegade Borg called Lore 'The One,' and he gave them individual names. Under his tutelage, the drones became more deadly than ever. They did not move slowly any more, nor react only if something became a threat to them. Emotion and death were no longer irrelevant, as the loss of one of their fellow drones elicited a vengeful response. According to Commander Riker, these Borg were fast, aggressive and almost vicious.



TRANSWARP TECHNOLOGY

As with other Borg vessels, the Borg Renegades' Ship was capable of achieving transwarp speeds. First, the ship emitted a tachyon pulse, which opened a transwarp corridor. The ship then entered this conduit and was immediately accelerated to an extremely high warp velocity. In the words of Lieutenant Commander Geordi La Forge it was "like falling into a fast-moving river and getting swept away by the current." The *Enterprise-D* found that it could open a transwarp corridor by using the main deflector to emit a tachyon pulse and then alternating its frequencies. When they entered the conduit they emerged 65 light years from their previous position in a matter of seconds. They were, however, unable to control their direction of travel using this method, and it caused severe shaking of the ship, with power levels dropping by 67 per cent.



▲ The crew of the *Enterprise-D* watched their viewscreen as the Borg Renegades' Ship opened a subspace distortion, allowing it to enter a transwarp conduit and travel tens of light years in seconds.

DATA FEED

The Borg Renegades' Ship destroyed several Federation outposts, including a research station at Ohniaka III where all 274 personnel were killed, and the MS-1 Colony, although this time the *Enterprise-D* arrived in time to save some of the colonists.



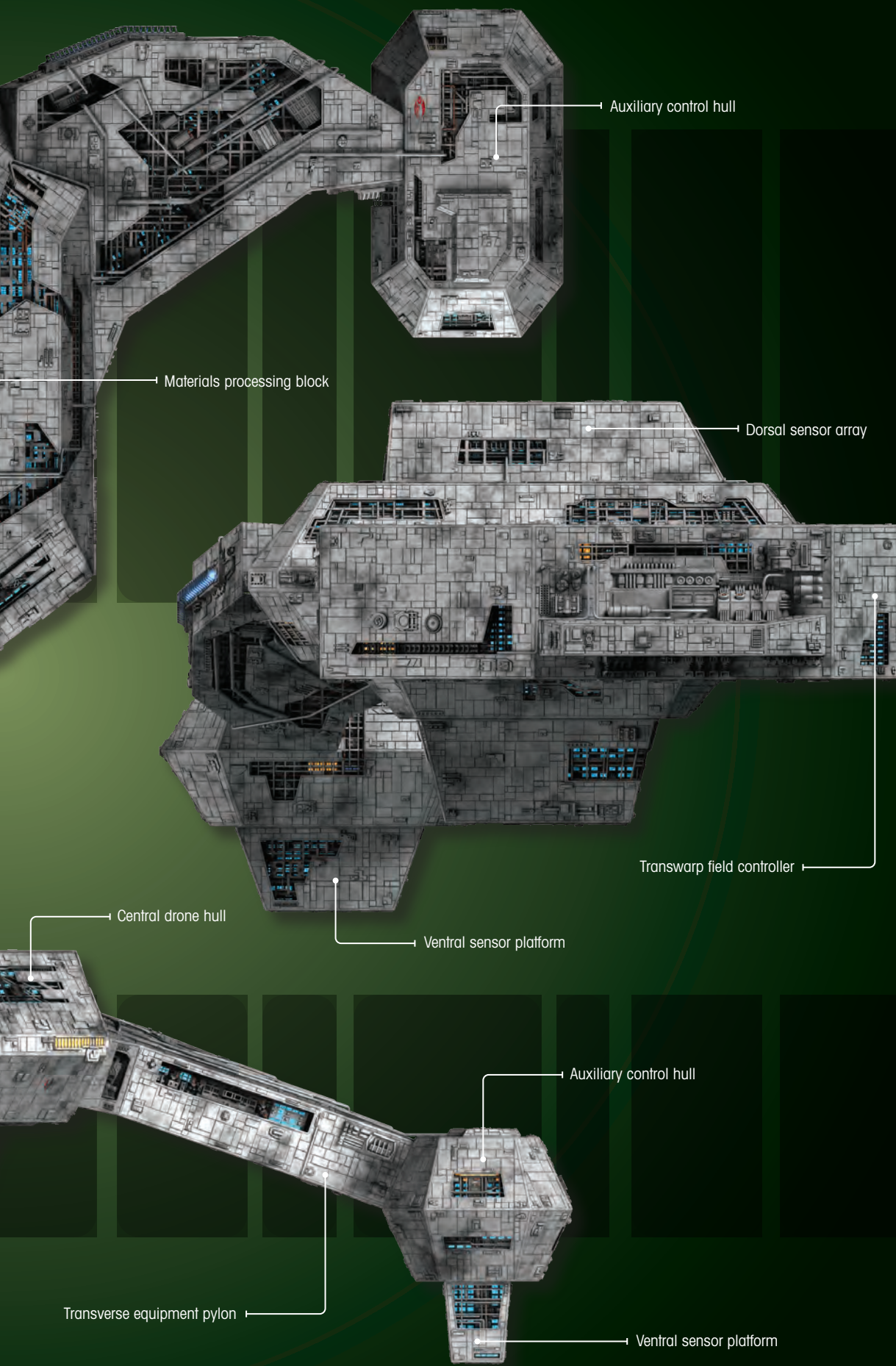
Transwarp field controller



Dorsal sensor platform

Transwarp propulsion housing

Materials processing block



BORG NAMES

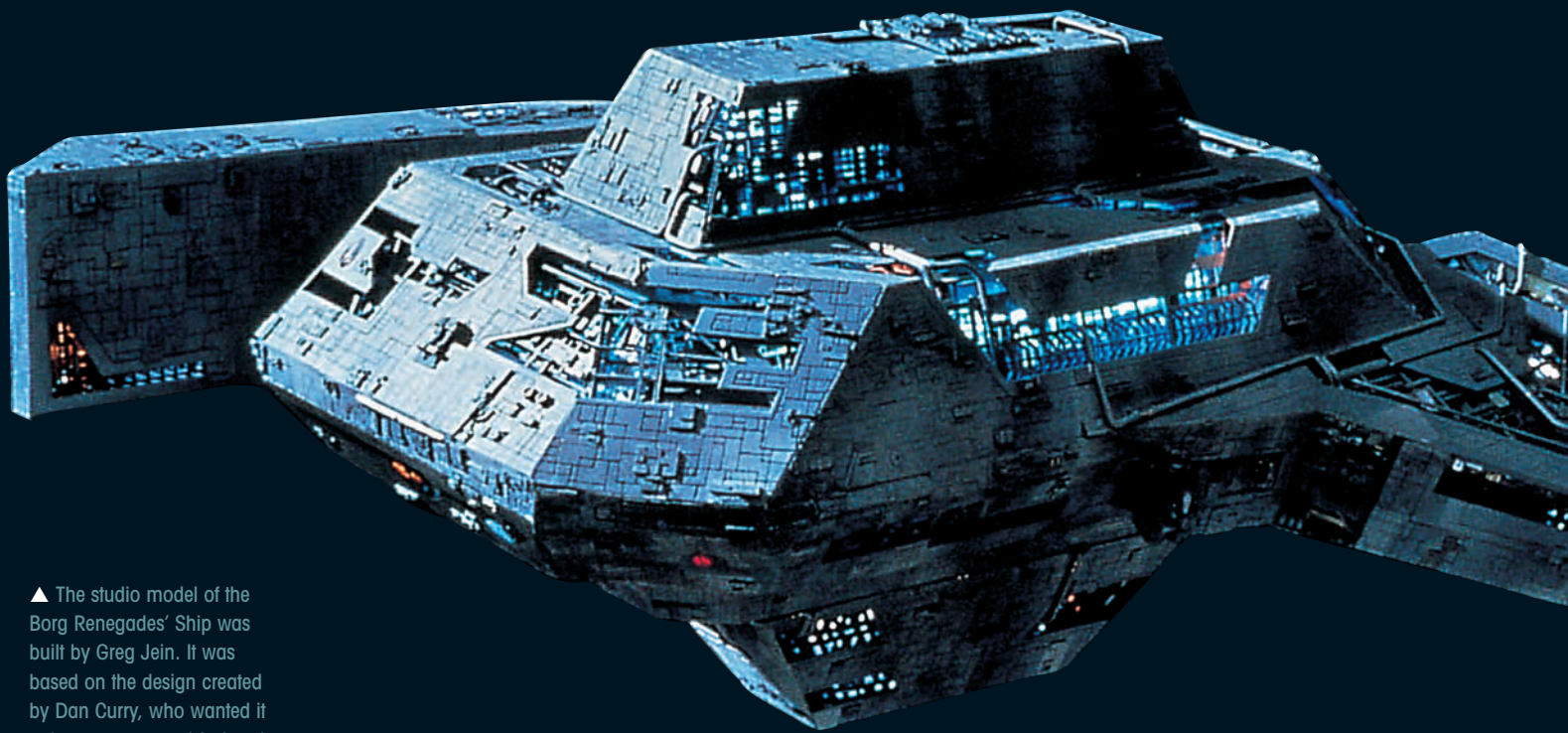
Lore gave names to all the Borg drones that were infected with Hugh's sense of individuality. These included Croxis, Goval and Torsus. Croxis acted as Lore's second-in-command and made sure all the other drones remained connected.

FAMILIAR SHAPE

The Borg Renegades' Ship was the same shape as the multikinetic mine deployed by the Borg as an attempted defense against Species 8472 in 2374.

SUN SHIELD

Metaphasic shielding was a form of subspace shielding technology invented by Dr. Reyga, a Ferengi scientist. It was capable of withstanding the pressure, radiation and energy of a star's corona. In 2369, Dr. Crusher demonstrated the shield's effectiveness by piloting the *Justman*, a type-6 shuttle, into the corona of the star Veytan.



▲ The studio model of the Borg Renegades' Ship was built by Greg Jein. It was based on the design created by Dan Curry, who wanted it to have an armored feel and include a lot of surface detail.

DESIGNING THE BORG

RENEGADES' SHIP

Visual effects supervisor Dan Curry designed the Borg Renegades' Ship to look as if it was an arm and a fist, delivering a knockout left hook.

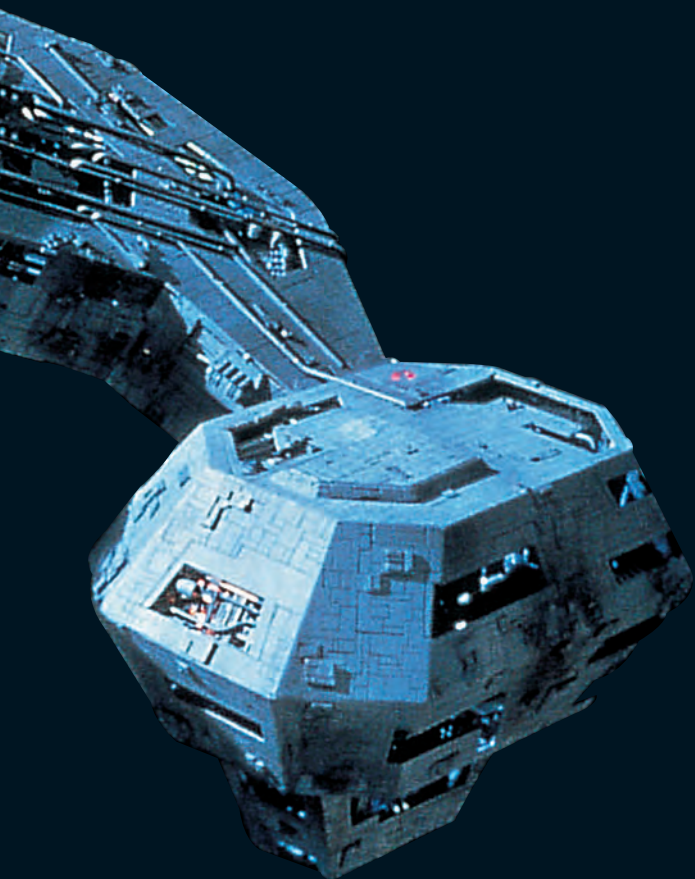
Most *STAR TREK* ships started out in the hands of the concept illustrators in the art department, but the Borg Renegades' Ship was unusual in that it was designed by Dan Curry, a senior member of the special effects team.

"*STAR TREK* was unique in that a

lot of production companies have strict divisions between different departments," said Curry. "I was good friends with the people in the art department, so they were cool with it when I took it upon myself to design this ship. We had such a degree of mutual trust and respect for each other that

the normal medieval fiefdoms of each department were non-existent. The guys in the art department knew I was a good artist and they had no issues. It was one less burden they had to bear."

Rather than sketch out a concept with pencil and paper, Curry carved a study model out of Styrofoam, covered



▲ Rather than draw a concept, Dan Curry designed the Borg Renegades' Ship by carving this study model out of Styrofoam and covering it with black tape.

it with black photographer's tape, and then painted in a suggestion of detail to give it scale. Curry said that he had a general idea of the design he wanted, but the process was organic, and it evolved as he worked on it.

"I wanted something asymmetrical to contrast with the Borg cube," said Curry. "Aesthetics in the normal human sense were irrelevant to the Borg, they just wanted what worked. Somehow they just stacked things on and attached them as needed. This was the result of that process, and I wanted to do something that was really different than what we'd seen before."

In fact, Curry was initially inspired by an old warplane. "I remember seeing a World War II plane that was asymmetrical," said Curry. "I think it was one of the planes from Germany that

never quite made it into production. I think it was asymmetrical because the bombardier would ride in one fuselage while another one was for the bombs, and it was kind of interesting. I wanted to do something weird."

BOXER'S PUNCH

As Curry carved away at the Styrofoam, his ideas for the ship came more into focus. "I started with a coffin-like shape and then added another block over to one side," said Curry. "I wanted it to look like it was about to punch you. When I put this on, it felt like it wasn't balanced enough, so I ended up putting an extra bit of mass over the other side."

Once Curry had finished the study model, which was about eight inches across, he sent it off to Greg Jein, the

model maker who was tasked with building a larger studio model that would be used for filming.

"Greg Jein is one of the legendary model makers, so his input cannot be underestimated," said Curry. "There were gaps in the hull where you could see some of the pipes. Also, that cool detail in the cut-outs on the front of the main part were done by Greg - I didn't paint anything on the front. It's important to me, when you're working with someone as talented and creative as Greg, that they need to have ownership of it too. They have to have their creative contribution."

Once the studio model was complete, it was filmed at the motion control stage at Image G, the visual effects company that filmed most of the models for *STAR TREK*.

◀ Jonathan Del Arco starred as the Borg drone 'Hugh' in three episodes: 'I, Borg' and 'Descent, Part I and II.' He was given his name by Geordi La Forge through a mispronunciation of the word "you."

JONATHAN DEL ARCO

Jonathan Del Arco looks back on his appearances as Hugh, the Borg who was rescued by the crew of the *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D and later helped to defeat Data's evil 'brother,' Lore.

THE image of the implacable Borg that we had seen in *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION* was overturned when a young drone was befriended by Captain Picard's crew and became aware of his individuality.

Jonathan Del Arco was thrilled to be cast in the role. He said, "The rumor I heard was that they had a name actor who was going to do it, and then something happened and the role became available, so I went in to read for it. I was pretty much new in town; I'd been acting on Broadway for many years, and I moved to Los Angeles at that time. I got a script the night before, and something inside me immediately clicked with it."

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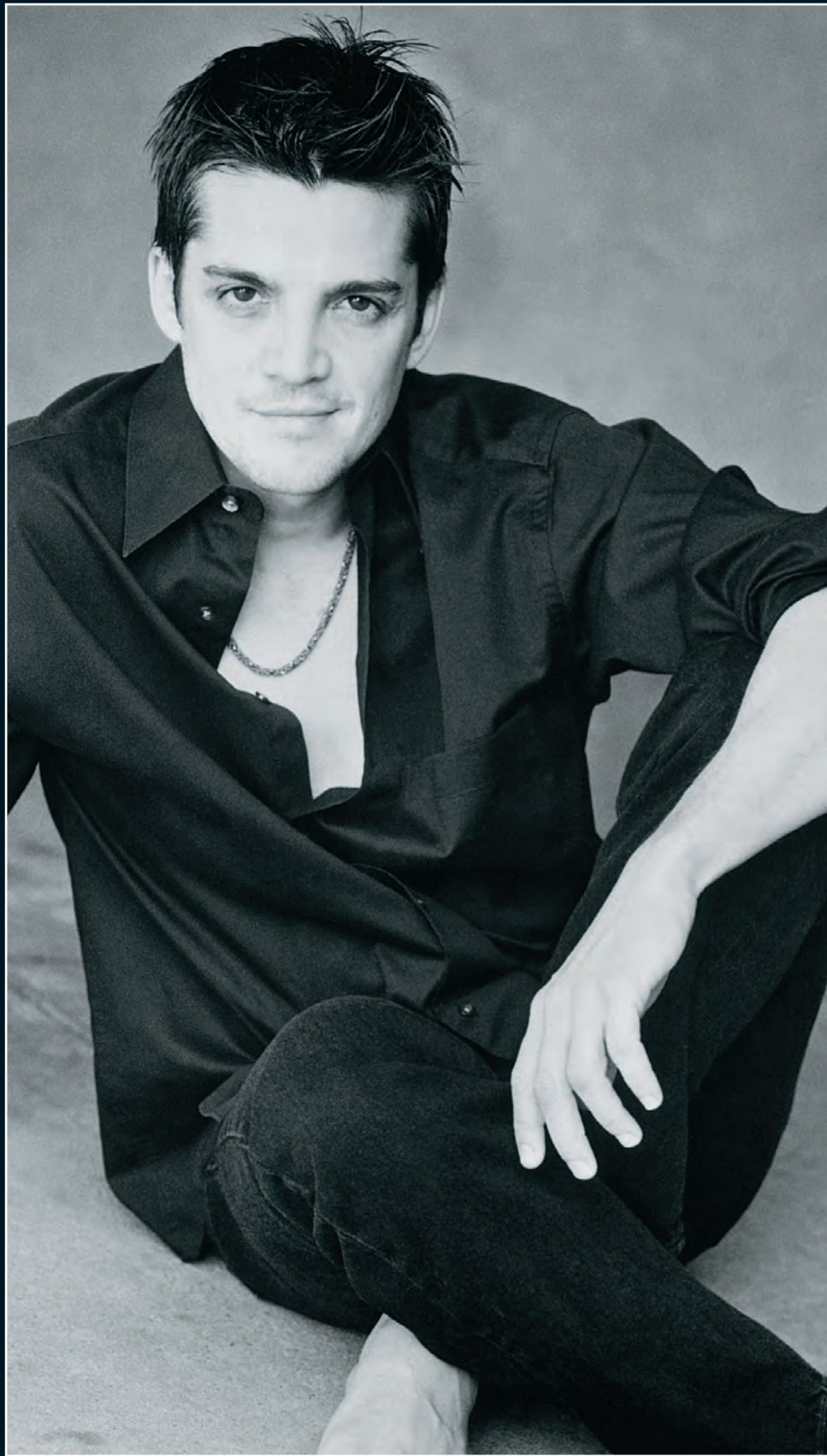
Del Arco hadn't seen the earlier Borg shows, and came to the role with no preconceived ideas. "I went in very much in the dark about it," said Del Arco. "I hadn't really watched *NEXT GENERATION*. I was a fan of *THE ORIGINAL SERIES* when I was a kid, and when *NEXT GENERATION* came on I just never tuned in to it, so I didn't have any preconceptions at all. When I got the job, I asked if I could view some of those tapes and they didn't want me to, because what I was going to be doing was different in that I was becoming an individual. They wanted me to do exactly what I did at the audition."

Portraying a Borg whose individuality was being reawakened meant that Del Arco had to play him almost as a childlike figure. "The striking thing about it was that it was a beautifully written episode," said Del Arco. "When I was reading it, I literally heard the voice in my head – it was that visceral for me – and the voice was inquisitive. I don't even want to say young, necessarily. Hugh just had the innocence of someone who doesn't know what the world is about, and who's trying to question and find and explore."

GROWING IDENTITY

"As the episode progressed, his relationships progressed, and he understood what friendship was, and that aspect of self-discovery was really fun to do. You almost have to strip away everything you know about life and be open and vulnerable to what's being given to you.

"The director (Robert Lederman) was terrific. He



▲ Del Arco is a Uruguayan-born actor who spent five years training with the Howard Fine Theatre in Los Angeles. He portrayed Armand Assante in Antonio Banderas' first Hollywood film 'Mambo Kings,' and has appeared in many well-known TV shows, more recently playing the deputy medical examiner Dr. Morales in 'The Closer' and 'Major Crimes.'



was a first-time director, and an editor, so he knew exactly what he wanted it to look like. Not a single shot was wasted. He was very concerned that when you watched the episode it should be seamless – you shouldn't see the exact moment

▲ Dr. Crusher treated Hugh after he was injured when his ship crashed. Slowly, he regained a sense of individuality. His character proved to be a prototype for Seven of Nine.

◀ As they spent time together, Hugh placidly handed over his eyepiece, allowing Geordi La Forge to examine it. They soon became friends, and Hugh learned that other species did not want to be assimilated.

that this person begins consciousness. So, because we were shooting out of sequence, we developed a kind of scale of one to 10; 10 was when Hugh was being the most Borg, and one was when he was the most human, and we plotted where I would be in different scenes, like a barometer to figure out exactly where I was at. In fact, the first scene we shot was the one where I got to choose whether to stay or go, and that was one of the last scenes in the show.”

INNER TRUTH

The fact that Hugh was an alien didn't come into Del Arco's thinking. "I think the way to be effective as an actor is to find similarities," said Del Arco. "You always try to find something about the character that is like you, or someone you know, because people watching will only identify with people that they feel they know. No one that

I actually know of has met an alien, and we don't really know what they're like – so to have that preconception would alienate me from the character. What I thought was that he's lonely, he's disconnected, he's wanting affection, he's wanting connection with someone and something, and he's scared.

“Those are the things that are most appealing to people because that's what they've felt themselves. If you go to any of the *STAR TREK* conventions you see some people that are on the outside of society; extremely intelligent people who don't fit in or who are handicapped. I think the show appeals to people who don't fit into the mainstream because it says to them that there will come a time when none of that will matter. What you look like won't matter, where the fact that you're intelligent will matter, and the fact that you have a handicap, such as blindness, will be dealt with in a scientific manner, so you'll be able to see like Geordi. That's why I didn't want to play Hugh in an alien way that would disassociate him from that aspect of humanity.”

WORKING WITH THE CAST

Del Arco relished the chance to work with LeVar Burton (Geordi). “I had such admiration for him because I grew up in the generation that saw him star in ‘Roots,’” said Del Arco. “He's a great actor. It was really fun to work on the show. The cast were so good to me, which was very striking because when you go in as a guest they're all strangers – they don't know you, but they all know each other, and sometimes in other shows it can not always be the friendliest environment.

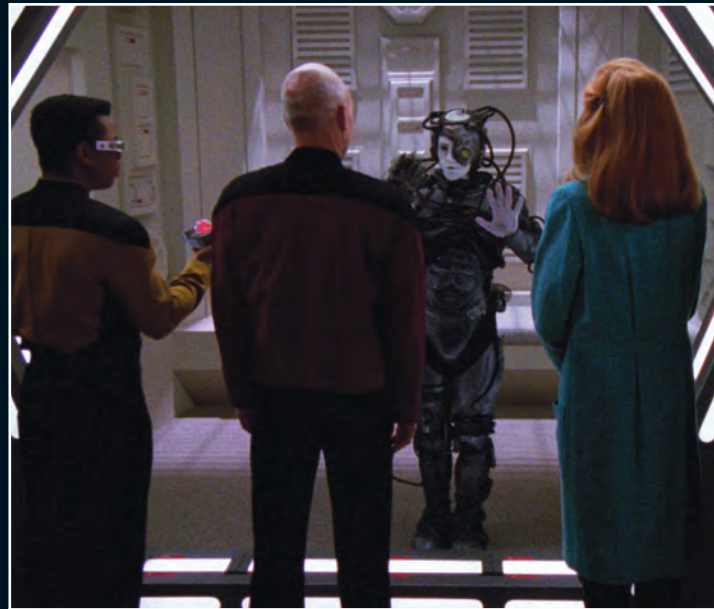
“Gates McFadden was wonderful to me, Whoopi Goldberg was wonderful to me, Patrick Stewart, all of the people I actually got to work with were very kind. Because I was wearing all that stuff, they were very generous about letting me get the first shots. Whoopi in particular was incredibly gracious about letting me get my closeups before hers, because I was in a hot costume and she wasn't. She was terrific.”

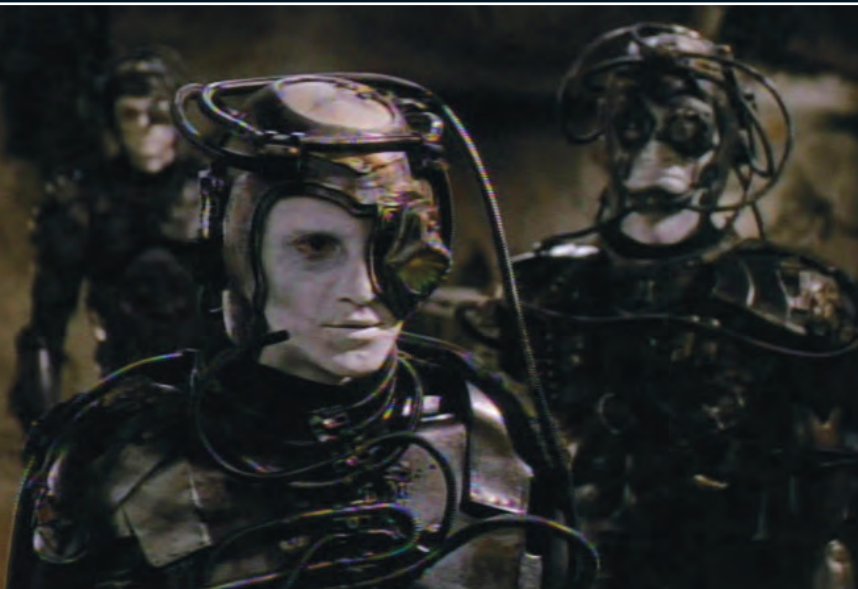
Hugh was seen again in ‘Descent, Parts I and II.’ By now the other drones on his ship had been ‘infected’ with his sense of individuality. Unlike him, they hadn't been able to cope and had fallen under the sway of the evil android Lore, who was

► At first, Hugh was kept in the brig where the crew could keep a watchful eye on him. Captain Picard wanted to infect Hugh with a virus that would be passed onto the rest of the Collective when he was returned to them. Dr. Crusher felt that Hugh seemed to be scared as he was alone. She did not want to proceed with Picard's plan as she believed it to be pure genocide.

► Hugh provoked very different reactions in the crew, ranging from hatred to pity. Guinan reluctantly visited him and explained how few of her people were left after they were all but wiped out by the Borg. Processing this, Hugh told Guinan, that like him, she was lonely. This interaction forced Guinan to change her mind about Hugh.

► When it became clear that the Borg would stop at nothing to reclaim him, Hugh made a heroic sacrifice. Rather than risk his new friends' lives, he chose to be returned to the planet where he was first rescued, so the Collective could find him. He hoped that the Borg would leave the crew of the *Enterprise-D* alone and that he would retain his individuality.





▲ Hugh led a small group of drones that resisted Lore. They were forced into hiding in an underground lair on the planet where Lore had set up a base of operations.



▲ Hugh was upset with the *Enterprise* crew, as he believed that they must have known that his sense of individuality would cause chaos among his fellow drones.



▲ Lore preyed on the Borg's confusion, offering to make them into perfect artificial life forms, but his experiments on some individual drones left them severely damaged.



▲ Riker and Worf were clearly troubled by what they saw, but they pleaded with Hugh to show them a way into Lore's compound so they could rescue their friends.

determined to destroy the Federation. Hugh and a few other drones had formed another group that was resisting Lore's leadership. "It was so different," said Del Arco. "As an actor you have to play what you're given, and sometimes that's really difficult, because you may not necessarily be happy with the way a character's developed. They took the character to a place of a lot of anger and disappointment, and a feeling of betrayal, so the second time was not as enjoyable. There weren't as many colors for me as the first time, so it wasn't as pleasurable to do it."

The level of makeup for the Borg was increased for *STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT* and was used in that form from then on, but even in Del Arco's day being a Borg was quite an ordeal. "For me, the actual makeup job was not so difficult, but the costume was just unbearable," said Del Arco. "It was like Goodyear tires! It was heavy, hard-to-bend rubber. I couldn't imagine being a series regular in a costume like that.

"I had some pretty long days," continued Del Arco. "The hardest shoot was the second part of the two-parter. It was summer and it was really hot,

and I remember there were a lot of stuntmen and extras who were playing Borg. Instead of me being the only one in a rubber suit, this time there were maybe about 20 of us, so I was one of the many pathetic people struggling to cope. One of them passed out and had to be taken out of his costume, and I had a little panic attack at one point because of the heat and they had to come and rip it all off me! But you do what you have to do, and you find little ways of surviving.”

TOO BUSY

Despite his early interest in *STAR TREK*, Del Arco had little time to keep up with the show. “I have to be honest – there’s very little television that I actually do watch. As I’ve gotten older I’ve become a fanatic about politics and I watch every news program, but I didn’t really watch much *STAR TREK*. Every once in a while, if I had an actor friend that was on, I’d look at it, and I knew everybody on *VOYAGER* because we saw each other at conventions and most of us had the same manager.”

Del Arco doesn’t feel the role of Hugh necessarily helped his career, but it did have other effects. “It did funny things for me careerwise,” said Del Arco. “It didn’t help me get other jobs, but it helped me make friends when I was in other jobs, and they found out who I played on *STAR TREK*. Every technical person loves *STAR TREK*, so I think I became friends with all the crew members. It gave you a kind of respect from people.”

CONTINUING GIFT

The continuing interest of the fans is also a phenomenon that surprises the guest actors. “*STAR TREK* is the gift that won’t stop giving,” said Del Arco. “There are conventions, and the fact that the show reruns keeps interest high. The fact that I still get tons of fanmail based on something I did years ago is incredible. It’s a real blessing for an actor. Even people who are series regulars in other shows may not necessarily have the same kind of attention that a *STAR TREK* character had. We’re very lucky that we have that. My great fortune is that I got to work with amazing actors. Patrick Stewart is a brilliant actor, and Whoopi Goldberg is one of our greatest, so I’m very proud of it. It was a great experience: just fantastic.”



◀ After initially refusing to help Riker and Worf, and despite his reservations, Hugh led a small group of drones loyal to him against Lore and his followers. Hugh wanted to help his friend Geordi, who had been captured and tortured. He also realized that Lore was the true enemy and had to be stopped before he caused more devastation.

◀ With fighting going on all around him, Hugh bravely rushed forward and prevented Lore from killing Data. His actions not only saved Data, but ultimately led to the deactivation of Lore and the defeat of his drones. Hugh changed his mind and helped because his encounter with the *Enterprise* affected him more than he realized.

◀ With Lore disabled, the crew of the *Enterprise* encouraged Hugh to step up and become the leader of the rogue Borg. Hugh realized it was time for them to learn to function as individuals within a group and take charge of their own destiny. This was the last time that Hugh was heard of or seen in *STAR TREK*.

ON SCREEN



TRIVIA

The *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION* episode 'Descent, Part I' featured a guest appearance by one of today's greatest minds, the theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking. This made it the only episode of any *STAR TREK* series to feature a guest star appearing as himself. During the filming of the episode, Hawking was taken on a tour of the set. When they paused in front of the warp core in engineering, he said, "I'm working on that."



As well as playing Hugh in *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION*, Jonathan Del Arco also portrayed Fantome [pictured below], the mute, nervous alien who was in the *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* episode 'The Void.'



While not immediately recognizable, the building used by the Borg faction under Lore's leadership was the Brandis-Bardin Institute. This building had previously been used to depict Camp Khitomer, the location of peace talks between the Klingons and the Federation, in *STAR TREK VI: THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY*.

FIRST APPEARANCE:

'DESCENT, PART I' (TNG)

TV APPEARANCE:

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

DESIGNED BY:

Dan Curry

KEY APPEARANCES

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
'Descent, Part I'

The *U.S.S. Enterprise* NCC-1701-D responds when a research outpost comes under attack from a bizarre, but ominous-looking vessel. An away team beams down and is attacked by a group of Borg, who act as individuals rather than mindless worker ants. Data also feels anger, followed by pleasure when he kills one of the Borg. Later, during another Borg attack, a Borg drone named Crovis is taken prisoner. He tells Data how he might experience more emotions. They steal a shuttle and head off to a planet where Data's brother, Lore, has set up a base.

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION
'Descent, Part II'

Dr. Crusher is left in charge of the *Enterprise-D*, while Picard, Geordi and Troi are imprisoned by Lore. He has taken charge of the rogue Borg, and also persuaded Data to join him. When the Borg ship appears, Crusher is unable to beam up all the crew. She later returns, and when the Borg vessel attacks, she is forced to use metaphasic shielding to hide in a sun's corona. With time running out before they are burnt to a crisp, they must find a way to defeat the Borg ship. Meanwhile, Riker and Worf attempt to rescue their colleagues with help from an old friend.

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