

- Hello..?

MARS MELLOW

A Noble Space Comedy

MARS MELLOW

An un-astronaut-like group of space enthusiasts are selected to run a mission to Mars with one goal only
- to claim the red planet before anyone else gets there.

The revered sense of history-in-the-making is reduced to an endless string of human error. This group is by no means fit for space travel. As they slowly undermine each other - and the mission, the cowardly heroes have second thoughts. But there is no exit clause, they just have to bite the dust, put on their diapers and get ready to fly on their one-way trip to the outskirts of our solar system.

MARS MELLOW transforms mankind's glorious quest to an exposé of humankind's flaws and space will never be quite as prestigious again.

Mars Mellow is a sitcom 8x22 minutes developed by Emma K Dixgård & Lovisa Inserra

- It looks like an asparagus.

- Are you serious?





Story

A team of enthusiasts embark on a covert operation to colonize Mars. Their objective is to beat a glamorous, rival Mars mission and claim the extraterrestrial territory first. The group gets their orders from a defector of North Korea's rocket program, an eccentric man called **MR.LEE**. Under his supervision a strange group of misfits are selected; people with one thing in common – they are very easily fooled (a selection prerequisite because the mission's secret investor is determined to remain unknown).

The revered sense of history-in-the-making is reduced to an endless string of human error. This group is by no means fit for space travel. Small details like naming the mission take center stage, and the crew has neither the patience nor the skill to deal with the scientific preparations for the actual mission.



VALENTINA, clearly the smartest of the group, wants nothing more than to join the rival team on their much 'classier' mission.

TIM BOCKENBOCHER is an actor with no intention of ever setting his foot on Mars, he is just doing an in depth character study in hope of landing an audition for the next James Cameron space film.

MELVIN has a death wish and has decided the most spectacular way to go would be in a glorious space explosion. A stunt that would surely make his ex-girlfriend regret leaving him.

Poor **ROSIE** is the youngest of the group and is treated like an intern. Stoically she picks up the pieces after her self-absorbed teammates manage to flip the purpose of each exercise, turning every hurdle into an entirely new dilemma.



The team is monitored by **BLANCHE** and **DAPHNE**. Two aging women who refuse to retire. They are a Statler-and-Waldorf-like duo who spend their days in a control room surveying the group and commenting viciously on their mishaps.

Never have so few, done so little, with such an extraordinary opportunity.

Mars Mellow is a story about the petty, pointless and trivial details of the first manned mission to Mars.

*"No one will recognize it's me in this suit.
I mean, what's the point then? "*

Vision

Ever seen **SOLARIS** ?
Then imagine something different.



"Zero gravity doesn't scare me. I've tried parkour."

Background

The idea for **MARS MELLOW** came from the **MARS ONE** expedition. An organization with the goal of creating a human settlement on Mars. The expedition might be on the back burn but the idea was that it would be partially financed by a reality show where the audience helps chose the astronauts. They got over 200,000 applications.

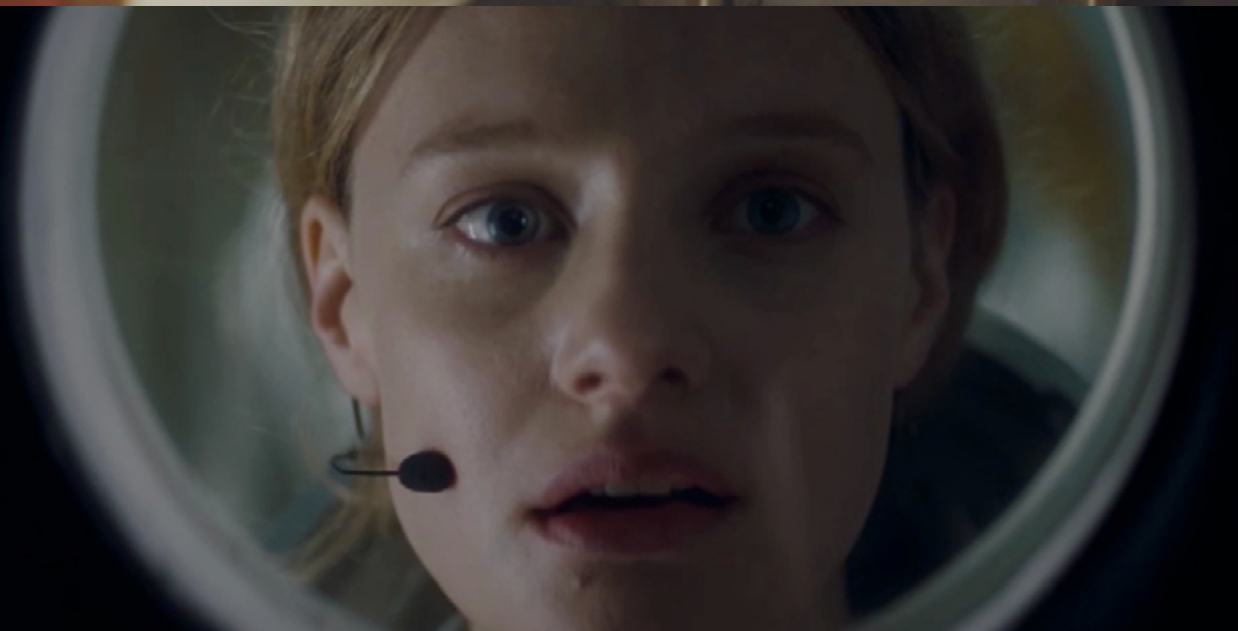
The Guardian and Stateless Media talked to three finalists about why they were willing to leave earth for a one way ticket to another planet. The result is a rather sad story about solitude and maybe even finding the meaning of life - in death.

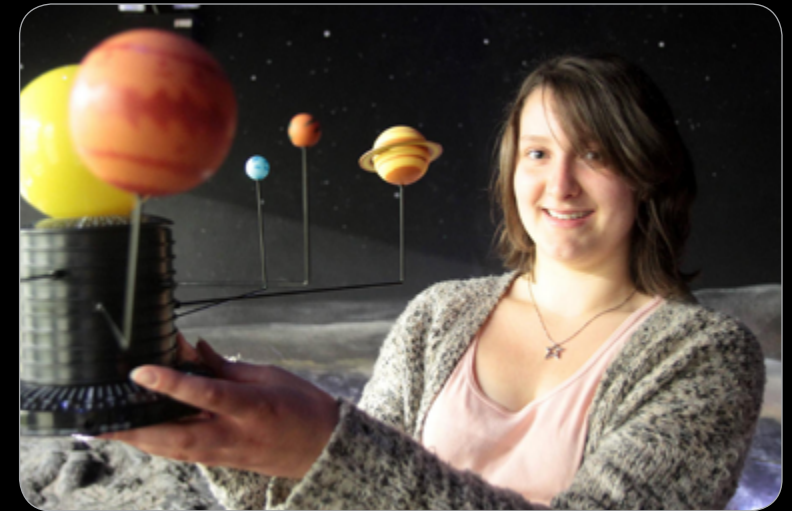
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8na3oQzcwCk>

Read more about **MARS ONE** here: <http://www.mars-one.com>

To explore space is the grand adventure, but since NASA stepped to the side and made way for a privatized space industry something has changed... Commercial space means space tourism, reality TV and gold-diggers and a lot less pristine version of the actual mission. Astronauts might be the best and the brightest but they fart too, and they do so in a pressurized suit... All of this stands in contrast to our vision of the noble journey that Neil Armstrong once embarked on. The high to lowbrow, epic to primal nature of space is what caught our eye and that is where the idea for **MARS MELLOW** was born.







Teasers

The series could be launched with a series of fake application videos posted online.

There is inspiration to be found from reality...

<http://www.redsister.se/mars/teasers.html>



Episodes

1. CHALLENGER

2. EXPLORER

3. DISCOVERY

4. HERMES

5. ENDEAVOR

6. ENTERPRISE

7. X37B

8. VOYAGER



Characters

1. Mr. Am Sam Suu Lee
2. Valentina Huddleston
3. Melvin Wilcox
4. Tim Bockenbocher
5. Rosie Malala
6. Blanche Abbott
7. Daphne Abbott
8. The Financier
9. The Rivals



Mr. Am Sam Suu Lee

Mr. Lee is the manager of the Mars expedition. Hired by an “angel investor” whom he’s never met, his only directive is to make sure that they arrive at their final destination before anyone else. Having spent a lifetime in North Korea his leadership style is... different. Autocratic. Although it is hard to verify the accuracy of his resume, his career in the small dictatorship is spectacular. Chief Technical Officer of the NRK Rocket Program, Master Space Sergeant at the department of defense and President of the NRK Innovation Team.

Mr. Lee is obstinate, cheap and greedy and his feelings are very easily hurt. He wants to be a supreme leader of something but since it doesn’t come naturally he plows through leadership books where he picks up advice that he then uses in the wrong context.

Being used to working on the side of the underdog warmonger he’s no stranger to foul play and he does what he can to sabotage the rival missions. All is fair in love, war and space travel!



Inspector Clouseau meets Kim Jong Un





Lara Croft meets George Costanza

Valentina Huddleston

Valentina is named after the first woman in space. Her parents are radical space fanatics and raised her to be an astronaut. She fits the part perfectly. Space is practically embedded in her DNA. Being so darn perfect, she finds it very hard to collaborate with ordinary people. Also, she happens to be claustrophobic and has a stash of beta-blockers that she needs to smuggle with her on the journey.

She is first and foremost interested in her own success but pretends it's cause she's a feminist that she, a woman, should be first to plant her foot on Mars.

What separates Valentina from the rest of the group is that she actually is a cut above the rest. A true alpha. When she realizes she won't be able to get to Mars on her own she reluctantly becomes part of the team and collaborates with the misfits to conquer the galaxy!





Jim Morrison-wannabe meets Michael Bolton, Office Space

Melvin Wilcox

Melvin is a troubled romantic with a death wish. He was going to join his rock star suicide idols on his 27th birthday but never quite got around to it. Pushing 37 he would still love to leave a legacy behind him as he takes his final journey. He can find no more glorious way to go, than exploding in a rocket on his way to Mars...

His girlfriend recently left him for her yoga instructor – a joyous, charming and insanely agile bon vivant. He's everything Melvin is not. Melvin is more like Jim Morrison, a very sensitive man who often turns his back on the world in protest. The only difference is that when Melvin turns away - nobody notices. No one at all.

Melvin is a hypochondriac and a conspiracy theorist with a mind full of useless details.





Tim Bockenbocher

Tim Bockenbocher is an actor waiting for his big break. He's in his 40s it's now or never. He has to do something extraordinary to succeed! 2020 James Cameron will allegedly shoot an epic space saga and Tim just has to get a part. He's got no intentions of ever leaving earth though. It sounds way too dangerous.

Tim has got a vivid imagination and scripts his own dialogue as if he was the mission's leading man. His motivational monologues inspires the team and sometimes he even moves himself to tears.



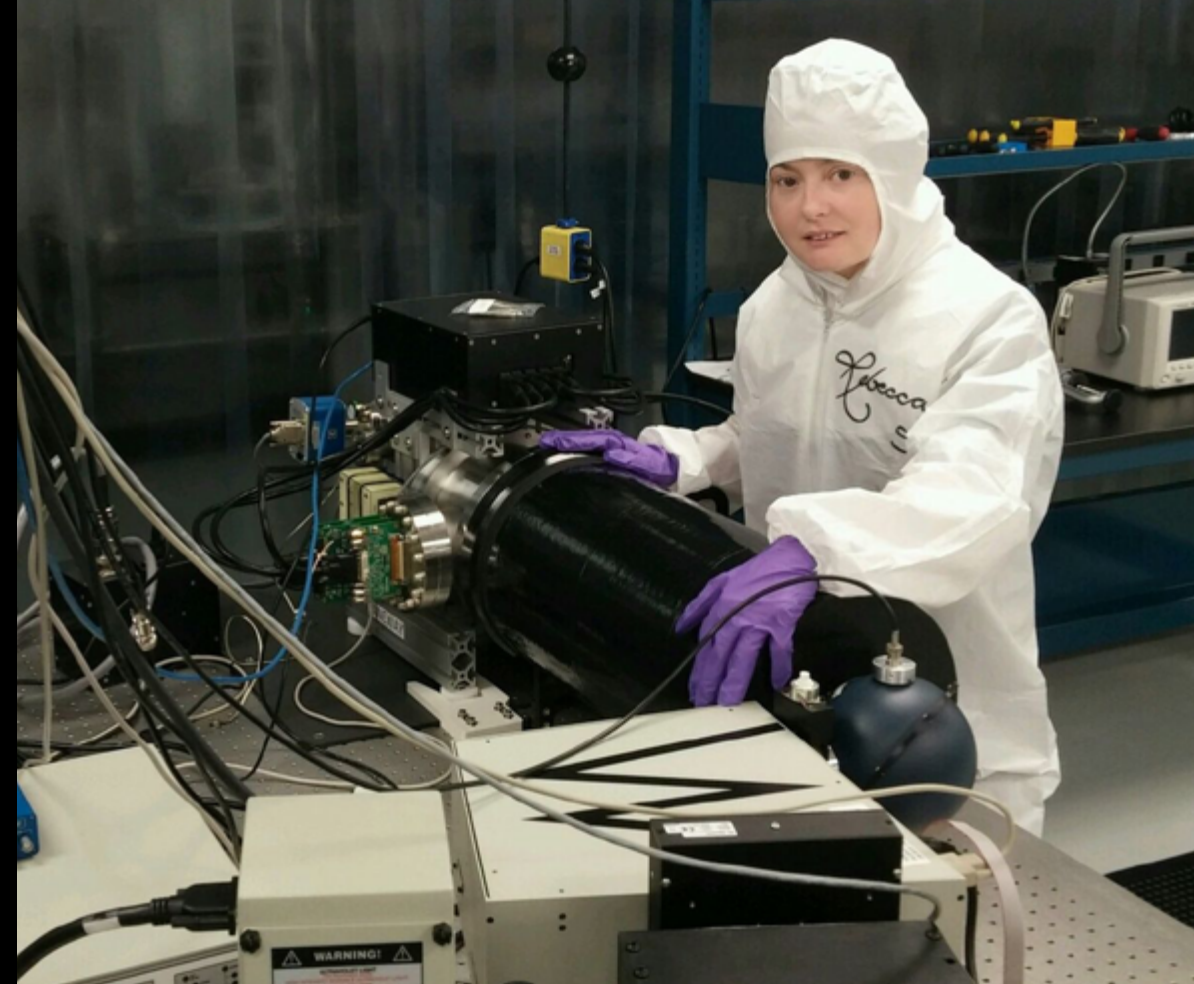
Lisa Simpson meets Saffron, Absolutely Fabulous

Rosie Malala

Rosie is the youngest in the group and they all use her as their personal assistant. She takes their orders in stride because she is certain that one day soon, she'll be in charge. After all, she's a little bit smarter than the rest of them.

Rosie is Muslim and Mr. Lee uses her as their diversity card. After an accident during an exercise Rosie loses all sensibility in her legs. Mr. Lee wants to fire her at first but then he realizes he can use her to fill every diversity quota imaginable and he starts to see her as an even greater asset. Rosie who now is incapable or slaving for the rest of them is quite fine with her new situation. Who needs legs in zero gravity? Mr. Lee suggests they chop them off to lose the extra weight in the capsule! Luckily enough Rosie regains control over her legs before that happens.

Rosie is very often our center of sanity, as the rest of the group live in other worlds.



Blanche & Daphne Abbott



Statler & Waldorf meets Violet Crawley, Downton Abbey

These two sisters are hidden from the rest of the crew. They are hired by the angel investor to monitor the team and their progress. Mr. Lee is the only one who knows they exist. In private these two ladies are devilish and unfiltered but to the naked eye they are two sweet ladies a decade or two past their prime. They sit in a control room and have camera view over the entire habitat. Nothing escapes them or their dry wit.

Financier

The team members fantasize about who their mysterious secret investor could be. Is it Beyoncé and Jay Z? Or maybe Putin? There are enough signs for them to guess but they never realize that it is the Church of Scientology financing their conquest of Mars. Nor that the cylinder shaped time capsules they are asked to bring, are vials of L. Ron Hubbard's sperm.

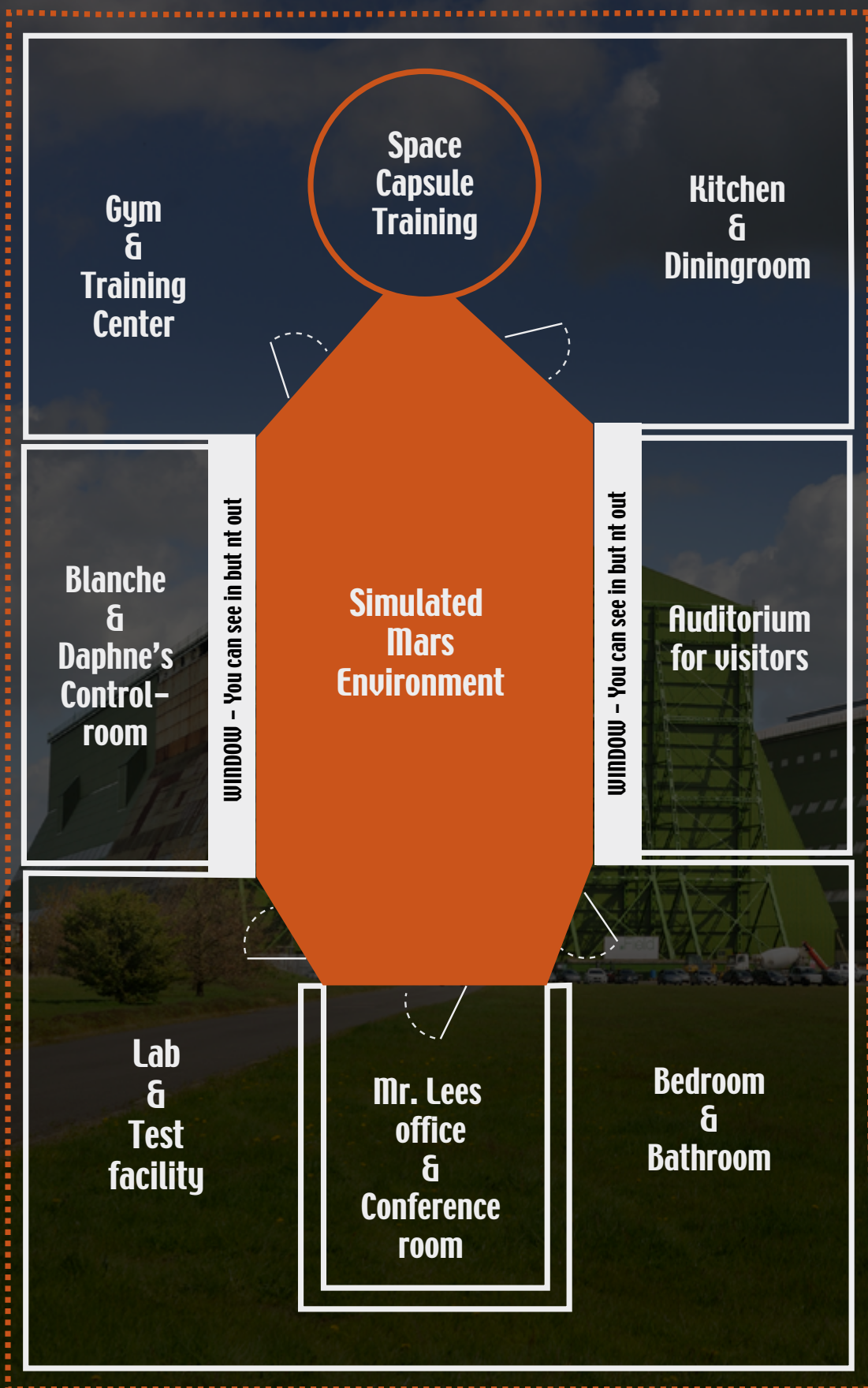


The Rivals

The rival expeditions have both more talent and more money and the **MARS MELLOW** expedition hates them passionately.



Location



Space travel is epic but our characters and the situations they find themselves in, are the opposite. We find them in an office max decorated office located in an old airship hangar. Most of the series takes place here apart from a couple of disastrous field excursions. Mr. Lee who likes to cut corners hasn't exactly made their habitat look cool. Where the rival mission's headquarters look like a futuristic movie set, the interior of Mars Mellow's home-base looks more like the local parish' assembly hall.

Part of the base is covered in red sand. It's their Mars-simulating- environment. The room is surrounded by windows so that people from the outside, local schools and such, can come and look at the astronauts as they simulate the poor gravity conditions of the red planet.



*"Space expeditions are like sex – Size doesn't matter,
the important thing is to come first."*



Season 2

Season two opens with a map of earth and shows us the team's journey through lower orbit before the last booster that was supposed to catapult them in to space fails and the capsule falls back to earth. The capsule lands in the desert and tumbles down a dusty road past a sign leading to their arch-nemesis' space habitat.

The nauseous crew climb out of the capsule and have a hard time orienting themselves. They were out cold during most of the flight, due to the massive amount of tranquilizers they took.

Believing they have landed on Mars they become furious when they find out that their enemies got there before them! Mr. Lee – no stranger to evil tactics - decides they need to do a hostile take-over.



Contact

Emma K Dixgård
46 (0) 707 75 05 01
emma@redsister.se

