

A promotional image for the FOX TV series 'War of the Worlds'. The scene is set on a wide, empty bridge in London, with the Gherkin visible in the distance. Two people, a man and a woman, are walking away from the camera down the center of the bridge. The sky is dark and cloudy, with a large, bright, fiery meteor streaking across the top. The FOX logo is in red, and the title 'WAR OF THE WORLDS' is in white.

FOX WAR OF THE WORLDS

BRAND NEW SERIES
STARTS 5TH MARCH 9PM

INTRODUCTION FROM HOWARD OVERMAN

"If aliens ever visit us, I think the outcome would be much as when Christopher Columbus first landed in America, which didn't turn out very well for the American Indians."

- Stephen Hawking

This quote from Stephen Hawking was as much an inspiration for this new version of *War of the Worlds* as H.G. Wells' original novel. I wanted to explore the idea that just like H. G. Wells' aliens, mankind has an almost limitless capacity to destroy those it views as inferior or different.

This fresh interpretation of the classic novel places the intricacies of human relationships at its heart, whether between parents and children, lovers, or strangers. The alien attack and subsequent fallout exposes the deepest vulnerabilities of the characters as they navigate a new, dangerous world.

But this isn't an adaptation without humour or light. The heightened circumstances of a planet under attack lends itself to the exploration

of universal themes of love, courage, hope, prejudice, accountability and blame. As the series unfolds, we will balance these opposing ideas, watching as the characters reveal themselves with growing complexity. Cinematic, with all the mystery and intrigue of the best science fiction, this adaptation is as much a character drama as it is an action piece.

Our War of the Worlds is, at its core, a story about humanity. If aliens attacked tomorrow and life as we know it was destroyed, how would we cope? What would it tell us about each other, and more importantly, about ourselves?

Howard Overman, Writer and Creator of *War of the Worlds*





SERIES SYNOPSIS

When astronomers detect a transmission from another galaxy, it is definitive proof of intelligent extra-terrestrial life. The world's population waits for further contact with bated breath. They do not have to wait long. Within days, mankind is all but wiped out by a devastating attack; pockets of humanity are left in an eerily deserted world.

As aliens hunt and kill those left alive, the survivors ask a burning question – who are these attackers and why are they hell-bent on our destruction? Emotional, cinematic and rooted in character, it is a unique marriage of human drama and the best science fiction.

This is a story of ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances - but they are more than just victims in a brutal war. For, as we will come to realize, the aliens' savage attack on earth is not arbitrary: its seeds are being sown before our very eyes.

Set in present-day Europe, War of the Worlds is a multi-faceted series, written and created by the BAFTA award winner Howard Overman (*Misfits*, *Crazyhead*, *Merlin*) based on the timeless story by H.G. Wells. It is being Executive Produced by Johnny Capps, Julian Murphy, and Howard Overman through their company, Urban Myth Films.



BILL WARD (60S)
PORTRAYED BY GABRIEL BYRNE

A dedicated neuroscientist determined to win back the woman he loves at any cost.

'I had to make a choice. I chose you...'



HELEN BROWN (60S),
PORTRAYED BY ELIZABETH MCGOVERN

As events unfold, Helen is forced to reconsider everything she once held to be true.

'I want you to find a way to kill every last one of them.'



CATHERINE DURAND (LATE 30S),
PORTRAYED BY LÉA DRUCKERW

Catherine's life is shattered when she discovers she is culpable for all that has come to be.

'I chose it... It's how they found us... We did this...'



COLONEL MUSTAFA MOKRANI (MID 30S)

PORTRAYED BY ADEL BENCHERIF

A disillusioned NATO colonel drawn into the heart of a battle he never wanted to fight.

'The things I've seen. The things people do to each other. You become numb to it, you have to. Then you know it's time to go.'



SARAH GRESHAM (40S)

PORTRAYED BY NATASHA LITTLE

If she is to survive, Sarah must rediscover an inner strength that years of guilt have obliterated.

'they're looking after themselves. Like we need to do... that's how it is now...'



EMILY GRESHAM (17)

PORTRAYED BY DAISY EDGAR-JONES

A fiercely independent teenager with a pivotal part to play in this brave new world.

'I know what I have to do... It's the only way to find out why this is happening to me.'



JONATHAN GRESHAM (MID 40S)
PORTRAYED BY STEPHEN CAMPBELL MOORE

Jonathan is forced to confront uncomfortable truths as he risks everything to find his family.

'I have to believe they're alive. It's the only way to keep going.'



CHLOE DUMONT (LATE 20S)
PORTRAYED BY STÉPHANE CAILLARD

A self assured mother whose strength masks a troubled past that's increasingly hard to hide.

'I love him so much...'



SACHA DUMONT (14)
PORTRAYED BY MATHIEU TORLOTING

A volatile and solitary teenager who finds solace in an unlikely ally.

'I have all these thoughts in my head, things I don't want to think...'



NOAH DUMONT (MID-THIRTIES)
PORTRAYED BY GUILLAUME GIOUX

A police officer whose charm masks a much darker truth ...

'You think I deserve it... Maybe you're right.'



KARIEM GAT WICH MACHAR (EARLY 20S)
PORTRAYED BY BAYO GBADAMOSI

A former child soldier who rediscovers humanity in the darkest of circumstances.

**'You have to live with the things you do...
It eats you from the inside.'**



ASH DANIEL (MID 20S),
PORTRAYED BY AARON HEFFERNAN

An unlikely hero who refuses to let his devastating losses destroy him.

**'Oh man. That was some intense, freaky shit.
Does someone want to tell me what the fuck
just happened?'**



GABRIEL BYRNE AS BILL WARD

Gabriel Byrne started his acting career with Ireland's renowned Focus Theatre group, later joining London's Royal Court Theatre and the Royal National Theatre, where he played leading roles before moving to the United States.

Byrne is currently filming the role of 'Bill' in television series *War of the Worlds* directed by Richard Clark and Gilles Coulier for Canal + and AGC Television. He has just completed filming the feature film *LOST GIRLS* directed by Liz Garbus and the TV Series *Zero, Zero, Zero* directed by Janus Metz, Stefano Sollima and Pablo Trapero for Amazon Studios.

Byrne's most recent film credits include *Hereditary* directed by Ari Aster, *Mad To Be Normal* directed by Robert Mullan and *Louder Than Bombs* directed by Joachim Trier.

On Broadway, he received a Tony nomination for his performance in Eugene O'Neill's *Moon For the Misbegotten* and won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Actor for his performance in another O'Neill play, *A Touch of the Poet*. 2016 saw Byrne return to Broadway after a ten year break, starring opposite Jessica Lange in O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night* directed by Jonathan Kent. For his performance as James Tyrone, Byrne has received the Best Actor nominations from The Tony Awards and Outer Critics Circle.

Byrne has worked with some of cinema's leading directors, including the Coen Brothers, Wim Wenders, Costa Gavras, Jim Jarmusch, Ken Loach, John Boorman, David Cronenberg and Bryan Singer. He has starred in more than 60 feature films including *Excalibur*, *Miller's Crossing*, *Into the West*, *The Point of No Return*,

Little Women, *Spider*, *The Usual Suspects*, *Dead Man*, *The End of Violence*, *The Man in the Iron Mask*, *Vanity Fair*, *Jindabyne* and *Wah-Wah*.

His television credits include the History Channels' *Vikings*, the three-part BBC miniseries *Quirke*, *Secret State*, directed by Ed Fraiman for Channel 4 and *Weapons of Mass Distraction* and *In Treatment*, both for HBO. Byrne was nominated for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for *In Treatment* at the 60th and 61st Emmy Awards, and he received a Golden Globe for Best Performance by an Actor in a Drama Series for the same role in 2008.

His producing credits include the Academy Award nominated *In the Name of the Father* and *Into the West*.

Byrne is based in New York.

ELIZABETH MCGOVERN AS HELEN BROWN

Elizabeth McGovern's career spans theatre, film, television, and music. Most recently she has played Lady Cora in multiple award-winning television show *Downton Abbey*, for which she was nominated for a Golden Globe and a Primetime Emmy and won a SAG.

McGovern can currently be seen in Bjorn Runge's Oscar and BAFTA nominated *The Wife*, with Glenn Close and Jonathan Pryce. She has just completed shooting *War of the Worlds*, with Gabriel Byrne for Canal + and Fox Networks Group, and can next be seen in the West End Premiere of Kenneth Lonergan's *The Starry Messenger*, with Matthew Broderick.

2017 saw McGovern produce her first feature, in which she also stars, *The Chaperone*, written by Julian Fellowes. The film will debut in March 2019 as PBS' first theatrically released film.

McGovern received an Academy Award and Golden Globe nomination for her role in *Ragtime*, her second feature film, following her debut in Robert Redford's *Ordinary People* whilst she was still a student at Juilliard. She has worked with John Hughes in *She's Having a Baby*, Curtis Hanson in *The Bedroom Window*, and Steven Soderbergh in *King of the Hill*. Other major film roles have included starring opposite Robert De Niro in *Once Upon a Time in America* and Sean Penn and Nicolas Cage in *Racing with the Moon*.

McGovern has performed in the theatre in America and the U.K., winning the 2013 Will Award from the Shakespeare Theatre Company. Other notable productions include Alexi Kaye Campbell's *Sunset at the Villa Thalia*, Lindsay Posner's *God of Carnage* last year in Bath, *The Misanthrope* at the Young Vic,

Three Days of Rain at the Donmar and David Mamet's *The Shawl* at the Arcola Theatre. 2017 saw her return to Broadway in J.B Priestley's *Time and the Conways*.

McGovern also fronts and writes the songs for the band 'Sadie and the Hotheads' and has performed globally with them. Her first solo album, *The Truth*, will be released by Universal on their Mi5 label in 2019.

LÉA DRUCKER AS CATHERINE DURAND

Trained at Véra Gregh and Ensatt, Léa Drucker began her theatrical career playing under the direction of Benno Besson, Roger Hanin, then Zabou Breitman, Macial Di Fonzo Bo, Edouard Baer, Bernard Murat, Claudia Stavisky, Hans Peter Cloos, Jean-Marie Besset, Didier Long and Michel Fau. She has been seen in several plays including, *Danny et la Grande Bleue* by John Patrick Shanley, directed by John Pepper, *84 Charing Cross Road* by Hélène Hanff, directed by Serge Hazanavicius and *Un amour qui ne finit pas* by André Roussin, directed by Michel Fau. In 2017 she starred in Agnès Joaui and Jean-Pierre Bacri's *Cuisine et dépendances* and *Un air de famille*. She will be back on stage this fall in *La dame de chez Maxim*, directed by Zabou Breitman

Drucker appears on the big screen, in the feature film by Philippe Galland *La Thune*.

She has also starred in films by Cédric Klapisch, Antoine de Caunes, Julien Rambaldi and Mathieu Amalric. In 2007, she won the Crystal Globe for best actress for her role in *L'homme de sa vie* by Zabou Breitman. In 2019, she received the César Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Jusqu'à la garde* by Xavier Legrand, a film selected at the Venice Film Festival and whose short film he was awarded the César Award for best short film in 2014 and was selected for the Oscar that same year.

In television, she has played the mother of the heroine in *La consolation* by Magaly Richard-Serrano and just finished the shooting of the British and French series *War of the Worlds*, directed by Richard Clark and Gilles Coulier, where she plays the lead role alongside Gabriel Byrne.





ADEL BENCHERIF AS COLONEL MUSTAFA MOKRANI

Adel Bencherif was born on May 30, 1975 in Saint-Maurice, Val-de-Marne, France. He grew up in Grenoble, France. When he was 20, he decided to leave for Paris where he took drama classes with Damien Acoca.

He first appeared in small roles in TV movies and then met Jacques Audiard, who cast him in *Un Prophete* in 2009. He portrayed Ryad, a young prisoner who has cancer and befriended Malik (Tahar Rahim) while he teaches him to read. For the role, he was nominated for the 35th César Award.

Bencherif has also appeared in other award winning films including *Des Hommes Et Des Dieux* directed by Xavier Beauvois and *La Fugue* directed by Jean-Bernard Marlin, winner of a Golden Bear at the 2013 Berlinale and nominated at the 39th Cesar Awards.

In 2015, he appeared in *Spectre* directed by Sam Mendes and *London has Fallen* by Babak Najafi. In 2018 director, Chgan-wook Park chose Bencherif to play 'Tayeh' in the BBC / AMC & Canal + mini-series *The Little Drummer Girl* with Florence Pugh.

NATASHA LITTLE AS SARAH GRESHAM

Natasha Little has appeared in numerous TV shows with her credits including, *Press* (BBC), *Black Mirror* (Netflix), *Thirteen* (BBC3), *The Night Manager* (BBC), *Wolf Hall* (BBC), *Any Human Heart* (Carnival), *Vanity Fair* (BBC), for which she secured a BAFTA nomination for Best Actress in a Drama Series, and most recently *Absentia* (Amazon Prime).

Little has featured in films including *Where Hands Touch* directed by Amma Asante, *Welcome to the Punch* alongside Mark Strong and *Another Life* for which she won Best Actress at Cherbourg-Octeville Festival of Irish & British Film.

Little is also a regular face theatre, starring in productions such as *The Novice* directed by Richard Eyre at The Almeida and *Vogage Round My Father* at Donmar Warehouse directed by Thea Sharrock.





DAISY EDGAR-JONES AS EMILY GRESHAM

Daisy Edgar-Jones trained with National Youth Theatre before landing her first role at the age of 17 as a series regular in the British Comedy-Drama *Cold Feet* alongside James Nesbitt for ITV. Her other TV credits include *Silent Witness* (BBC), *Outnumbered: Christmas Special* (BBC), *Gentleman Jack* (HBO/BBC). Edgar-Jones can next be seen in *War of the Worlds* (Canal +/Fox Networks Group) opposite Gabriel Byrne and Elizabeth McGovern.

Last year, she shot an independent coming-of-age feature film, *Pond Life*, which was directed by Bill Buckhurst and produced by Open Palm Films.

Edgar-Jones is currently filming the lead role "Marianne" in the adaptation of the Sally Rooney novel *Normal People* directed by Lenny Abrahamson.

TY TENNANT AS TOM GRESHAM

Ty Tennant attended Arts Ed in West London and was cast in Dome Karukoski's feature biopic, *Tolkien*, alongside Nicholas Hoult and Lily Collins when he was 16 years old. He has since appeared in *Casualty* and *War of the World*, which is his first leading role in television.



A close-up portrait of actor Stephen Campbell Moore, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. He has short, dark hair and light stubble. He is wearing a dark blue turtleneck sweater under a brown jacket. The background is dark and out of focus.

STEPHEN CAMPBELL MOORE AS JONATHAN GRESHAM

Stephen Campbell Moore is a British actor renowned for both stage and screen work. Moore was recently seen in the thriller, *Red Joan*, alongside Judi Dench. His other film credits include *Goodbye Christopher Robin*, *The Ones Below*, *Moonwalkers*, *Man Up*, *Complicit*, *Johnny English Reborn*, *The Children*, *A Good Woman*, *The History Boys* and *Bright Young Things*. Moore has most recently appeared on our screens in *Traitors* for Channel 4. His other television credits include the gripping BBC drama, *The Child In Time*, *The Last Post*, *The Go-Between*, *Stag*, *Titanic*, *Ben Hur*, *Wallis and Edward*, *Ashes to Ashes* and *Larkrise to Candleford*.

No stranger to the stage, Moore has performed in some of the most renowned London theatres with some of the most distinguished directors, including Michael Grandage in *Photograph 51* opposite Nicole Kidman, Rogel Michell in *Consent* at the Harold Pinter Theatre, Nick Hytner in *The History Boys* at The National Theatre, Josie Rourke in *Berenice* at The Donmar Warehouse and Dominic Cooke in *Clynbourne Park* at the Royal Court.

BAYO GBADAMOSI AS KARIEM GAT WICH MACHAR

Bayo Gbadamosi launched his career by starring in the central role in *Mad About the Boy* at The Bush and Young Vic Theatre directed by Ria Parry. He then went on to star in numerous hit stage productions in London including *I See You* (Royal Court), *Gloria* (Hampstead Theatre) and *Barber ShopCchronicles* (National Theatre). His screen work includes *Doctor Who* (BBC) and *This Time with Alan Partridge* (BBC). He most recently filmed Hulu pilot *The Great* by Tony McNamara.





AARON HEFFERNAN AS ASH DANIEL

Aaron Heffernan will next star as a series regular in Joe Gilgun's upcoming series for Sky, *Brassic*. He has just returned from shooting a role in the pilot episode of *The Dark Tower*, a TV adaptation of the Stephen King novel of the same name. Heffernan has just completed wrapping on the upcoming adaptation of *War of the Worlds* for Canal + and Fox Networks Group.

A talented puppeteer and sketch-performer, Heffernan continues to perform with his puppet theatre troupe "*Collapsing Horse*" and has also starred in multi-award winning RTE drama *Love/Hate*.

Heffernan features in *The Titan* opposite Sam Worthington and Taylor Schilling – currently available on Netflix. He also appeared in Ron Howard's Star Wars spin-off, *Solo: A Star Wars Story*. Prior to this, he starred in *Absolute Hell* at the National Theatre and in Caroline Byrne's acclaimed production of *The taming of the Shrew* at the Globe Theatre.

STÉPHANE CAILLARD AS CHLOE DUMONT

Stéphane Caillard has worked as an actress since her childhood. After a solid training in the theatre arts, she developed her carrier on stage, television and cinema. Caillard was last seen in Season Two of the series *Genius* (2018), alongside Antonio Banderas and Clémence Poésy, where she played 'Geneviève Aliquot'. She has worked on series such as *The Borgias*, created by Tom Fontana and was also a lead character on the first French original Netflix series *Marseille* (2016-2018) along with Benoit Magimel and Gerard Depardieu. She also had the leading part of the Arte series *Maroni* (2018).

She was seen in the action film *Bastille Day* (2016) directed by James Watkins alongside Idris Elba and Richard Madden and in Lucas Belvaux's feature film, *This Is Our Land*, alongside André Dussolier and Catherine Jacob.

In the upcoming months, Caillard will be seen in the lead role of Olivier Abbou's movie, *Furie*, starring Paul Hamy, as well she will be sharing the lead with Juan Diego Botto and Raul Arévalo in the Spanish feature film *Los Europeos*, directed by the twice Goya nominee, Victor Garcia Leon.





MATHIEU TORLOTING AS SACHA DUMONT

Mathieu Torloting started acting at the age of 10. He has appeared in both television and feature films, playing roles such as Guillaume Canet's son in *Le Grand Bain*, which received 10 nominations at the French Cesar 2019. Torloting has been seen in popular television shows such as *Bracelets Rouges* and *Leo Mattei* as well as *Encore Heureux* alongside Sandrine Kiberlain and Edouard Baer.

GUILLAUME GOUX AS NOAH DUMONT

Guillaume Goux started acting at 16 years old in the Arte Tv drama *DÉRIVES*. He then went on to study at Marseille Conservatory and to Cannes Actors' School. After graduating, he went on to play in Ursula Meier's *Des Épaules Solides*, the leading role in *Les Lionceaux* by Claire Doyon and the supporting roles in *Les Mauvais Joueurs* and *Chacun sa Nuit*.

On stage, he played a young corporal in Florent Emilio Siri's *L'ennemi Intime* and was in *Les Hauts Murs* alongside Carole Bouquet. For television, he appeared on Season Two of *Chez Maupassant* and in Canal Plus' *Mon Père, Francis le Belge*. In 2010, he starred in Richard Berry's film *L'immortel*, in *Réfractaire*, where he played a communist resistant fighter and in Rébecca Zlotowski *Belle Épine*.

In television, Guillaume acted in *Les Beaux Mecs* while also starring in the feature films, *Poupoupidou*, *Et Soudain*, and *Tout le Monde me Manque* and Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris*. The same year he directed his first short, *Alexis Ivanovitch Vous Êtes Mon Héros*, which was selected for the La Semaine de la Critique at the Cannes Film Festival.

In subsequent years, he has performed in *Hors les Murs*, *Mobile Home*, *Alyah*, *The Returned*, *Revenants* and *Attila Marcel*. In 2014, he directed his second short film, *Mademoiselle*, which was selected at the Venice Film Festival. He has also starred in *Sous les Jupes Desfilles*, *Les Pilules Bleues*, *La French*, *Les Enragés*, *Les Rois du Monde*, *Les Anarchistes*, *The Returned*, *Braqueurs*, *Chez Nous*, *Les Confins du Monde* and *Des Drapeaux de Papier*.



Alysson Paradis is shown in profile, looking off-camera with a serious expression. She is wearing a dark blue French National Police uniform jacket. On her right shoulder, there is a circular patch with the text 'POLICE NATIONALE' and 'SECURITE PUBLIQUE' around a stylized logo. On her left chest, a white patch with the word 'POLICE' in black letters is visible. Her blonde hair is tied back in a ponytail.

ALYSSON PARADIS AS OFFICER CLARA

Alysson Paradis first attended drama classes at the *Laboratoire de l'Acteur* in Paris. She was then revealed to the public's eyes in the movie *Le dernier jour* (2004) by Rodolphe Marconi, also starring *Gaspard Ulliel*, *Nicole Garcia*, *Mélanie Laurent*. In 2007, she was the leading role in the horror movie *À l'intérieur*, directed by Julien Maury and Alexandre Bustillo. She plays a young pregnant woman facing a terrifying killer impersonated by Beatrice Dalle.

Paradis had the leading role in the television show *Q.I.* (2012-2014) directed by Olivier de Plas. She was next seen in the comedy *Thelma, Louise et Chantal*, made by Benoit Pétré, *Camping 2*, by Fabien Onteniente and *Les yeux jaunes des crocodiles*, produced by Cécile Telerman (2014), and also starring Emmanuelle Béart, Julie Depardieu.

Paradis is also a theater actress and played in *La récompense* by Bernard Murat at the Théâtre Edouard VII, *Croque Monsieur* by Thierry Klifa.

She will soon appear in the movie *Andy* (Julien Weil), and recently played in the movie *Les Drapeaux de papier* produced by the 19 years old film maker Nathan Ambrosioni.

Last summer, she performed at the Festival Off in Avignon, in the play *Récréation* by Sam Azulys and Arnaud Bertrand, with Aurélien Recoing. She will be returning to the festival in 2019, as she will be performing in the play *Oh Maman* written by Stephane Guerrin and staged by Hélène Zidi. Most recently she played in a new television show called *Trauma* produced by Fred Grivois, and in the movie by Marie-Castille Mention Shaar.

A woman in silhouette stands looking up at a large, circular opening in a futuristic, metallic structure. The structure has a complex, grid-like pattern and a curved, tunnel-like appearance. The light from the opening creates a strong silhouette effect on the woman and the surrounding architecture.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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