

# WAR OF THE WORLDS

## Influences, Sources & References

Want to go deeper? Here's a list of books, films, TV shows, visual art and other references that have informed the creative choices made in this production.



# BOOKS

## Primary text:

**The War of the Worlds** (1898), H.G. Wells (PDF of First Edition with original illustrations)

## Graphic Novel Adaptations:

**The War of The Worlds** (2021), Aaron Moran: [Sample](#)

**War of the Worlds** (2024), Chris Mould (Children's Version)

## Other literary versions and sources informing our adaptation:

**The Massacre of Mankind** (2017), Stephen Baxter

**The London Pen: A Sequel to the War of the Worlds Defeat** (2018), Jean Pierre Guillet

**Pincher Martin** (1956), William Golding (Key in terms of storytelling structure and thematics of redemption)



**'Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came'** (1855), Robert Browning. Makes great use of the quest narrative. Its use of spatial disorientation and desolation is an influence.

### **Public and Academic Books & Articles:**

**'What The War of the Worlds Means Now'** (2018), Philip Ball, New Statesman

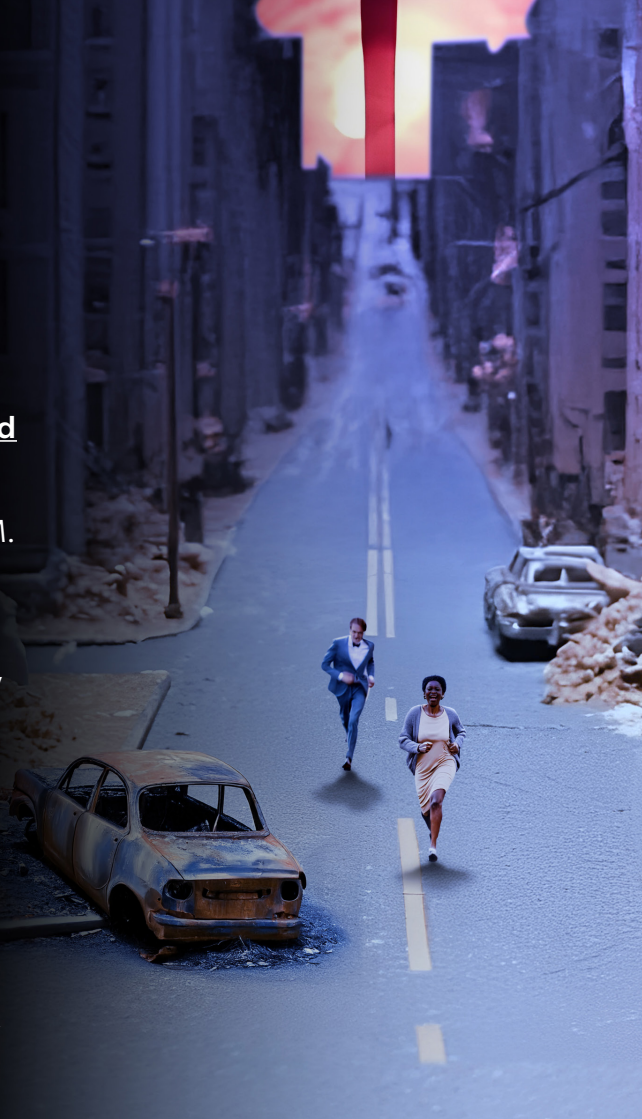
**'The Timely "Why" of The War of the Worlds – From Wells and Welles to Pal and Spielberg'** (2024), Dan Persons, Reactor

**'H.G. Wells, The War of the Worlds, [1898]'** (2009), Booker, M. Keith, and A. M. Thomas, The Science Fiction Handbook

**'Indiscriminate and universal destruction'? Warfare and nature in H.G. Wells's The War of the Worlds'** (2020), Withers, J. and Tyrrell, B., The Wellsian: The Journal of the H.G. Wells Society, 43.

**'The War of the Worlds: From H. G. Wells to Orson Welles, Jeff Wayne, Steven Spielberg & Beyond'**, (2016), Peter J Beck, Bloomsbury, London

**'Ruins and Wastelands: Technology's Influence on Everydayness in H.G. Wells's The War of the Worlds and TS Eliot's The Waste Land'** (2017), Patterson, Jonathan, Watermark (vol.11), p.99.



# RADIO, TV, FILM, & VIDEO GAMES

The War of the Worlds (1938), Orson Welles: [Full audio recording](#) and [script](#)

## Adaptations of the novel:

The War of the Worlds (1953), directed by Byron Haskin: [Film](#) (rent or buy) and [script](#) (free)

War of the Worlds (2005), directed by Steven Spielberg: [Film](#) (stream - subscription required) and [script](#) (free)

The War of the Worlds: The True Story (2012), directed by Timothy Hines: [Film](#)

The War of the Worlds (2019) - Three-part BBC adaptation, directed by Craig Viveiros: [Rent or buy](#)

## Sources informing the adaptation:

[Threads](#) (1984), directed by Mick Jenkins ([watch free on BBC iPlayer](#))



**The Martian** (2015), directed by Ridley Scott

**Jacob's Ladder** (1990), directed by Adrian Lyne  
(Again, important in terms of storyline structure and thematics)

**Point Blank** (1967), directed by John Boorman  
(Key in terms of journey narrative and storyline structure)

**Film Noir** (2005), short film directed by Osbert Parker

**Eraserhead** (1977), directed by David Lynch

**Silent Hill** (1999), video game developed by NeoBards  
Entertainment, dir. Al Yang

**Limbo** (2010), video game developed by Playdead, dir. Arnt  
Jensen

## THEATRE, VISUAL ART & ARCHITECTURE

The photography of **David Levinthal**

The paintings of **Simon Stelenhag**



The work of Dutch theatre ensemble Hotel Modern, particularly **The Great War**, **Our Empire** and **The Passage**

Andy Warhol's **Electric Chair** (1971) prints

Jeremy Bentham's **Panopticon** prison architecture, and Foucault's writing about it in **Discipline & Punish: The Birth of the Prison**, (1995)



Friman, 2005: Inside one of the prison buildings at Presidio Modelo, Isla de la Juventud, Cuba.



**O Magic Power of Bleakness** Mark Lecky, (2019)

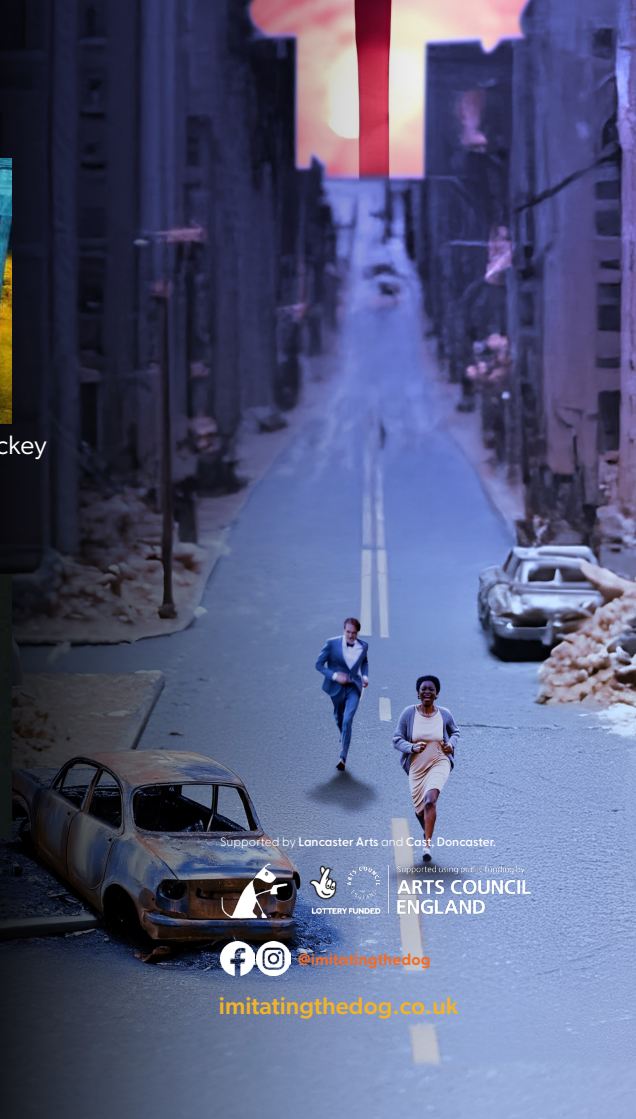


Dream English Kid, 1964–1999 AD 2015 (still) Courtesy of the artist © Mark Lecky

**Light Sentence** Mona Hatoum, (1992)



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