

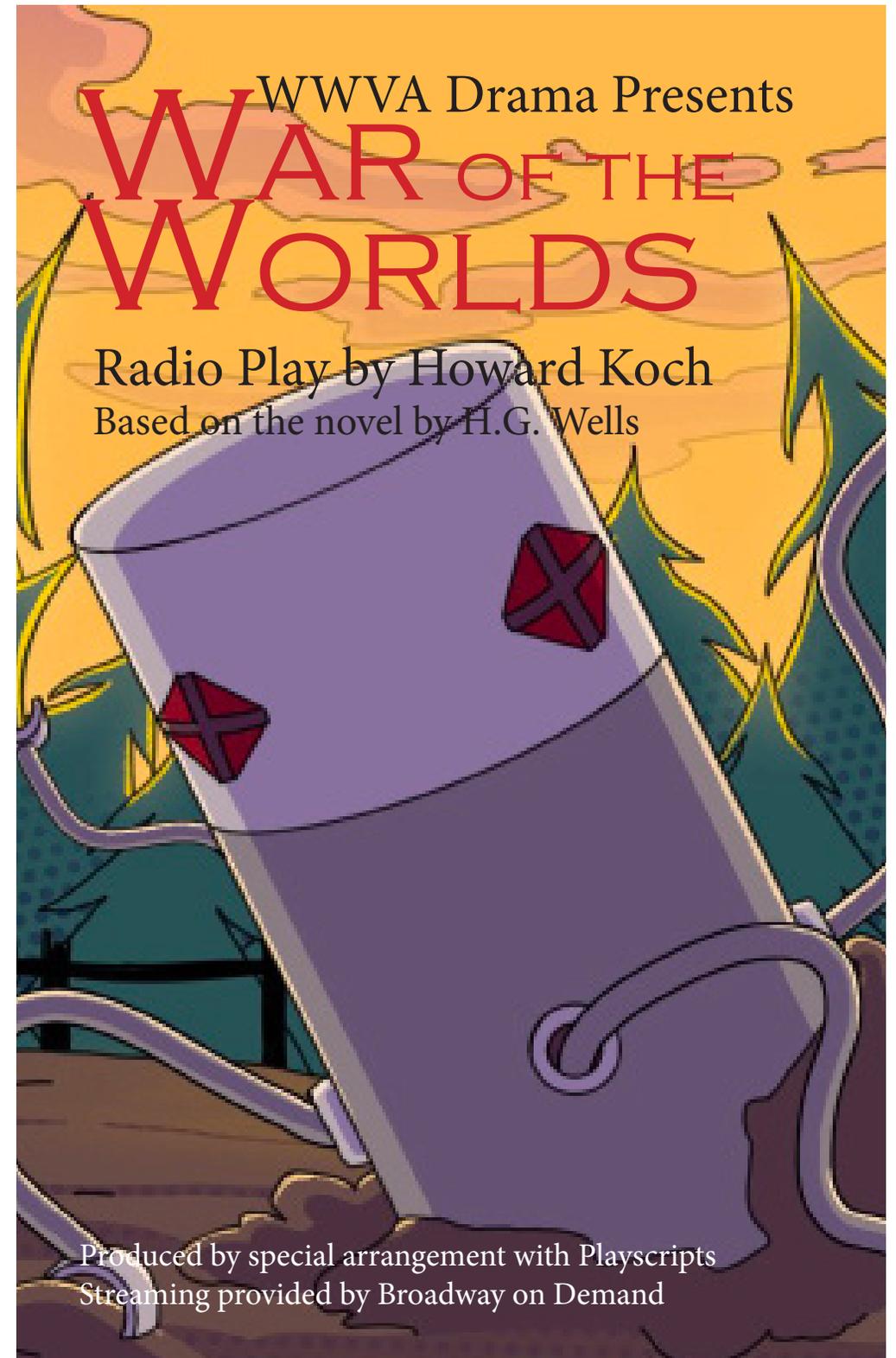
Notes

We now know that there is no life on Mars (though it would seem there may have been water at one point). We probably knew that in 1938 too, but human beings can be pretty easy to mislead. So when Orson Welles brought the novel *War of the Worlds* to the radio that year in a production that mimicked a crisis (invasion from Mars) unfolding in real time, there was some...panic. It wasn't probably as widespread as we sometimes imagine, but there were quite a few calls to the police and to local news outlets from people who mistook the broadcast for genuine news.

Our goal in putting on this play isn't to recreate that panic. I chose it because, as a radio play, it lends itself to performing for a remote audience. The reason that audience (you) are remote is because we find ourselves in a crisis of our own, not as cataclysmic as the one in this story, but serious nonetheless. *War of the Worlds* explores the human response to crisis—our tendencies toward denial, arrogance, disintegration, and sometimes heroism. It exposes the limitations of science and affirms the resilience of life.

But I'm maybe getting too serious. The original radio broadcast was the night before Halloween. It was a "holiday offering." We offer it in the same spirit, a shot of fun to inoculate us against the dreariness of the year we've just been through, and a celebration of the spring that is coming, literally and metaphorically. Enjoy.

-Cliff Dolph



War of the Worlds

Radio Play by Howard Koch
Based on the novel by H. G. Wells

The play is set in 1938 in New Jersey and New York.
Staged in the auditorium of Walla Walla Valley Academy
Approximate run time: 65 minutes

Cast (in order of appearance)

Announcer	Zoey Brenes
Radio Announcers	Kloe Carambot Bella Griffin Lauren Ellis Kailani Larson Silas Tupper Lillian Schwarz Quinn Hinshaw Seth Huxel Audrey Bryan Alexi Manley Eli Stanciu Seth Huxel Claire Eslinger Gabrielle Huxel Carsten Wallace-Bailey Quinn Hinshaw Lillian Schwarz Audrey Bryan Bella Griffin Claire Eslinger
Carla Phillips	
Professor Pierson	
Mrs. Wilmuth	
Network VP	
General Smith	
Captain Lansing	
Secretary of the Interior	
Artillery Commander	
Gunner	
Observer	
Lieutenant Voght	
Radio Operators	
Stranger	

Crew

Director	Cliff Dolph
Technical Director	Rudy Scott
Artistic Director	Chloe Congleton
Sound Effects	Reagan Peterson
Background Art	McKenna McMackin Elle Anderson Hailey Werner Ray Trees
Sound Technician	
Cameras	Amelie Patzer Cason Butcher Samantha Beard Sarah Palmer Marty Scott Christy Scott
Stagehands	
Green Screen	

Acknowledgements

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