

Utica College Performing & Fine Arts Department Presents:

# THE WAR OF THE WORLDS:

THE 1938 RADIO SCRIPT

Based on the Novel by H.G. Wells

By Howard E. Koch

Directed By: Rachel M.E. Wolfe

Premiering on WPNR Radio & Streaming Platforms on Friday, October 30th at 5:00PM

Produced by Special Arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.

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Utica College Performing & Fine Arts Department  
in Collaboration with WPNR Radio

Presnets:

# THE WAR OF THE WORLDS THE 1938 RADIO SCRIPT

Based on the Novel by H.G. Wells

By Howard E. Koch

Director  
Rachel M. E. Wolfe

WPNR Radio Director  
Douglas Croft

Stage Manager  
Seth Shaw

Asst. Stage Manager  
Evan Linen

Asst. Stage Manager  
Jessilyn Pereira

Sound Technician  
Charles Buckley

Sound Design  
Laura Salvaggio &  
Theatrical Production  
Class

Graphic Design  
Hannah DeStefano

Marketing & PR  
Hannah DeStefano, Douglas  
Croft, Laura Salvaggio,  
Gabiella & Isabella Hudziak

## Special Thanks

Ariel Gratch, Shad Crowe, David Dellecese, Cody Nonemaker, UC IITS, WPNR Crew,  
Cait Devon, JswaeZ, Atkins Riot, Shane Archer Reed, Utica College Choir, and to  
every helper/crew member/volunteer not listed here!

We appreciate you!

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# CAST LIST

Derek Corsner.....	Stranger & Ensemble
Gabriella Hudziak.....	Professor Pierson & Ensemble
Isabella Hudziak.....	Carol Phillips & Ensemble
Margaret Stephens.....	Ms. Wilmuth & Ensemble
Haleigh Vescio.....	Radio Announcer & Ensemble
Abigail Whitt.....	Understudy

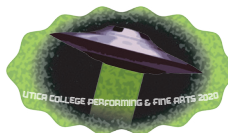
## CAST/CREW BIOS

### Derek Corsner (Stranger & Ensemble)

Derek Corsner is a junior political science major at UC with a minor in theatre. This is Derek's first year at UC and first show with the college. Previous to coming to UC Derek has starred in many high school productions, community theatre and also was involved in drama at Finger Lakes Community College. Derek's favorite role to date was playing Patsy in *Spamalot* where he won a Rochester Broadway Theatre League Stars of Tomorrow Outstanding Supporting Actor award. Derek has really enjoyed this show and meeting many new friends.

### Gabriella Hudziak (Professor Pierson & Ensemble)

Gabriella Hudziak is a junior communications and media major. She plays the role of Orson Welles, Professor Pierson, and operator one. She has been in other productions at Utica College, although she is very excited to be in her very first radio drama! Hudziak is no stranger to radio as she has participated in WPNR since she was a freshman. She had listened to the musical when she was younger with her sister (who is also in the cast), and she is very pumped to be in this show!



## Isabella Hudziak (Carol Phillips & Ensemble)

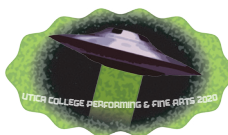
Isa Hudziak is a freshman at UC. Her major is English with a concentration in Adolescent Education. She plays reporter Carol Phillips, the Observer, and Operator 3. This is her first time acting in a show (ever!) She was Stage Crew Manager for her high school's production of *Footloose* in 9th grade, but other than that, she hasn't been involved in the arts. She is glad that her acting debut is primarily voice acting, because her lack of memorization skills and stage fright has prevented her from auditioning before.

## Margaret Stephens (Ms. Wilmuth & Ensemble)

Maggie Stephens is an eighteen year old singer, actor, and dancer from New Hartford, NY. Some of Maggie's favorite credits include Cinderella in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, Tanya in *Mamma Mia!*, Pepik in the Glimmerglass Opera Festival's *The Cunning Little Vixen* and participating in the 2017 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Maggie is so lucky to have been a part of this incredibly unique production and is so thankful for everything she has learned as a cast member of *War of the Worlds*! She would like to thank Rachel, Laura and the rest of the amazingly talented cast and crew.

## Haleigh Vescio (Radio Announcer & Ensemble)

Haleigh Vescio is a senior at New Hartford Senior High School. She is very active in the music community here in New Hartford as a vocalist. Her intended major is Music Education and Performance. This is her first ever Utica College Theater production she has ever been a part of; and she could not be happier. In Utica College's Theater productions of the *War Of The Worlds* Haleigh plays; Announcer two, a Scared Woman, and a Southern Commander. She would like to thank the entire cast, along with the crew and the directors, for making such a wonderful show possible.



## Abigail Whitt (Understudy)

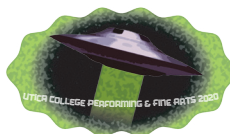
Abby Whitt is a freshman nursing major hailing from the west coast in Southern Oregon. This is her first production with the Utica Theatre company and she has had so much fun working with everyone involved in *War of Worlds*. She is serving as the understudy for all of the actors in the production, which has been both challenging and interesting. She would like to wish everyone a very Happy Halloween!

## Rachel M. E. Wolfe (Director)

Rachel M. E. Wolfe is an Assistant Professor of Theatre here at UC, where she teaches acting, dramaturgy, play analysis, and theatre history. Her professional work as a director and a dramaturg has been seen on stages in New York, California, and Seattle, WA, where she is a co-founder of the theatre company Hand-written Productions. At UC, she has directed *Arcadia*, *Ghost Stories at Yatsuya*, and now *War of the Worlds*. She has enjoyed the challenge of making socially-distanced theatre in the age of coronavirus, and wishes all the listeners safety and courage as we deal with our own life-changing invasion.

## WPNR (Utica College Pioneer Radio)

WPNR is Utica College's radio station that allows students to learn about broadcasting. The radio station came into existence in the 1940s as a radio workshop, and has been known by the call letters "WPNR" October 22, 1977. The station broadcasts Utica College sports, features local artists in indie, alternative, rap, and metal, broadcasts public service announcements and informational programs aimed toward younger people, and makes its own production in-house. WPNR won the Spirit of College Radio Award in 2016, and won two New York State Broadcasters Association awards in 2020.



## Seth Shaw (Stage Manager)

Seth Shaw is a Chemistry major with a minor in Theater at Utica College. This is the forth show that he has been involved with at UC. He has been the stage manager for this show *War of the Worlds* and the show *Arcadia*. This show has been absolutely crazy to be involved with due to the fact of COVID causing such a problem. This is the second time to be working with this director and it has been another great experience. Working with this young cast was a very new experience but it was still amazing to say the least!

## Jessilyn Pereira (Assistant Stage Manager)

Jessilyn Pereira is super excited to be an assistant stage manager in her first Utica show, *War of the Worlds*. She is a freshman here at UC studying to be a math teacher. She has been in her high school's productions of *Sister Act*, *Bring It On*, *Chicago*, and *The Addams Family*. She has previously stage managed productions of *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *She Kills Monsters*. Jess loves signing, anime, and hanging out with friends (safely!!!). Working on this show has been such a great experience and wishes the cast and crew the best of luck!

## Evan Linen (Assistant Stage Manager)

Evan Linen is an Assistant Stage manager for *War of the Worlds*. Previously in high school, worked as a Stage manager for the productions of *For Colored Girls*, and *Anonymous*. Now as a freshman at Utica College, I would like to thank Rachel Wolfe, Seth Shaw, and Laura Salvaggio for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful production. I would also like to give a big thanks to the entire cast and crew.

## Charles Buckley (Sound Technician)

Charles Buckley is a Communications and Media major with a minor in creative writing major concentration in creativity studies. He is the soundboard operator for *War of the Worlds*. He is a first year and here have to say that it was an honor working with this cast to produce this play. He looks forward to working with them more in the future.

## Hannah DeStefano (Graphic Design, Programs, PR)

Hannah DeStefano is a junior at Utica College who has performed in many roles on & off stage. Her favorite onstage credits include Penelope Pennywise in *Urinetown* & the Emcee in *Cabaret* at Utica College, Fantine in *Les Mis* & Catherine in *Pippin* at Proctors Theatre in Schenectady, Lady Macbeth/Hecate in *Macbeth* & Janet Van De Graaff in the *Drowsy Chaperone* locally, etc. Hannah can be seen in an upcoming production of *Twelfth Night* as Viola in the coming winter. She has been graphic designing for the Performing & Fine Arts Department for two years now, and has designed for various local theaters as well.

# FEATURED LOCAL MUSICIANS

## Atkins Riot

Atkins Riot is a groove rock band from Syracuse, NY. They've shared stages with national acts like, The Marcus King Band, Marc Rebillet, The Soul Rebels, and SIMO. Atkins Riot has also debuted at The Chevy Chase Stage during The Great New York State Fair with a record breaking attendance that day. With a 2019 SAMMY Award under their belts, the band is pumping out music consistently with a new album dropping in December of 2020. Check them out on Spotify, iTunes and many other streaming services for a look at all of the bands' energetic and clever tunes.

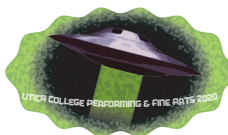
## Cait Devon

Indie/alt pop/rock singer songwriter from New York. With guitar being a key part of Cait's artistry, she is one to dabble in many styles, reaching a diverse range of audiences. Key influences include Paramore, Ed Sheeran, Taylor Swift, Incubus, Alice Cooper, Grimes, and the Weeknd. With a mix of 90's charm, modern contemporary sounds, and powerful, soulful vocals with guttural riffs to match, Cait Devin is ready to take on the music industry with a determined to succeed and positive mindset.

## Shane Archer Reed

Shane Archer Reed is a singer, songwriter, musician, and actor who has been active in the Central New York area for years. He recently released his 2nd full length solo album "Something To Say" and will release new music soon. Shane made his return to musical theatre in 2017 with shows such as *Beauty and the Beast* (Gaston), *Mary Poppins* (George Banks), *Dogfight* (Eddie Birdlace), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Barfée), *Jekyll and Hyde* (Henry Jekyll/Edward Hyde), *Cabaret* (Ernst.), and *RENT* (Roger). Shane is thrilled to have his music featured in Utica College's Radio Show and will continue to send his love and support for his friends involved in UC Theatre

Music from JswaeZ & The Utica College Choir is also featured in the radio production.



# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

Like Utica College Theatre & Utica College Performing & Fine Arts Department on Facebook to stay up to date on all department events and auditions!

In the unprecedented times of COVID-19, we are grateful that we still have the opportunity to create theatre and enrich student's lives with the arts. Thank you for helping us keep the arts alive!

As the Martians would have wanted, please continue to mask up so we can get back on stage soon.

