

■ **Movie review**

# Special effects send movie out of this 'world'

*"War of the Worlds" is recommended for action fans but not those who want a thought-provoking film*

BY URSULA EVANS-HERITAGE  
FREELANCE REPORTER

Ugly, hairless, super-intelligent beings from outer space have invaded the Earth with only one purpose — to kill us all! Can the emotionally absent Ray Ferrier (Tom Cruise) save himself and his two children, in addition to experiencing some much-needed personal growth?

Maybe a more appropriate question to ask is: Why do the aliens want to destroy all human life? It seems like maybe they could reach some sort of agreement with our world leaders, perhaps a trade of resources. But apparently this is not the case. Another question this movie brings up is: Why are aliens always depicted as being hairless? Star Wars' friendly ewoks and wookies are the only big-screen extraterrestrials I've ever seen with hair. But I digress.

Steven Spielberg's "War of the Worlds" is the latest adaptation of H.G. Wells' classic science fiction novel. The story is best known for the Orson Welles radio broadcast in 1938, which caused a lot of listeners (my grandfather included) to panic, believing that aliens really had

landed in New Jersey. Of course, anyone thinking rationally should have realized that if the aliens were really so intelligent, they would never have chosen to land in New Jersey.

This adaptation centers on Ray, his 16-year-old son Robbie (Justin Chatwin). By the way he's actually 22, only four years younger than Cruise's new fiancé) and 10-year-old daughter Rachel (Dakota Fanning). The two kids have just been dropped off for a weekend with dad while their mom (Miranda Otto) and stepdad go to Boston. It is evident from the beginning that Ray is not a very responsible father, and the kids aren't entirely thrilled to be spending the weekend with him. Little do they suspect that their weekend is about to get a lot worse. Bad weather is on the horizon, so to speak.

All of a sudden, lightning strikes in the same place, not far from Ray's house, repeatedly. And then total chaos ensues. Huge machines emerge from the ground and begin incinerating people left and right. "This came from someplace else," says Ray. "Like Europe?" asks Robbie. No, not Europe. Europeans

wouldn't go to war unless they had a good reason, such as if someone insulted one of their soccer teams.

This movie is packed with special effects and constant suspense. In fact, maybe a little too much energy went into the special effects and not enough into the plot development. But "War of the Worlds" did exceed my expectations. The movie held my

attention the whole two hours, and the acting was mostly believable. Dakota Fanning's performance as 10-year-old Rachel is especially convincing. I recommend this film for fans of action, sci-fi and/or Tom Cruise. I do not recommend this film for fans of artistic, thought-provoking movies or anyone suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Premier Travel**  
• Airfare Specials! •  
Orlando - \$198.00\*  
Cancun - \$342.00\*  
San Juan - \$507.00\*  
Tokyo - \$567.00\*  
\*tax and fees not included, restrictions apply. Subject to change without notice.  
Eurail Passes issued On-Site!!!  
E-mail: fares@luv2travel.com  
**1011 Harlow**  
**747-0909**  
Student Travel Experts

**www.SquarePegConcerts.com**



**Melissa Ferrick & Justin King**



**Friday July 22**  
77 West Broadway  
8:00pm Doors · 21 & Over  
Tickets At All TicketMaster Outlets  
Charge By Phone 866-866-4502  
ticketmaster

---

**AIMEE MANN & Kathleen Edwards**

(S) TicketWest

**McDONALD THEATRE**

**Tuesday August 9**  
1010 Willamette Street · 7:00pm Doors · All Ages  
Tickets At TicketWest · Charge By Phone 800-992-TIXX


**Kate Clinton**

**McDONALD THEATRE**

**Thurs Oct 27**  
1010 Willamette Street  
7:00pm Doors · All Ages  
Tickets At TicketWest  
Charge By Phone 800-992-TIXX  
(S) TicketWest

**Have you seen this girl before?**  
If you know where she's from, guess & win a prize

2841 Willamette • 484-1727



**MULLIGAN'S**  
IRISH PUB

**Monday**  
Free pizza with a pint 6pm - 12am

**Friday**  
Free pool

**Everyday**  
Large PBR pitcher \$5.00  
Hot food 25c pool

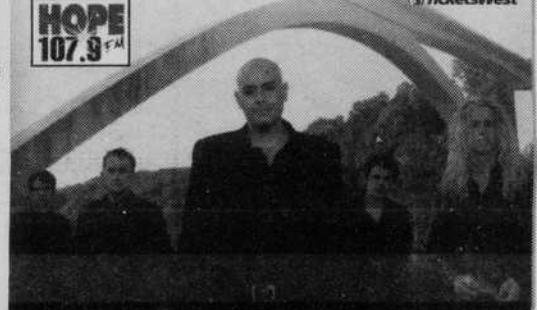
**newsboys**

**McDONALD THEATRE**

**Saturday October 29**  
1010 Willamette Street · 6:00pm Doors · All Ages  
Tickets At TicketWest · Charge By Phone 800-992-TIXX

**HOPE 107.9 FM**

**On Sale THIS MON 10:00am**



**JORDAN SCHNITZER MUSEUM OF ART**

**Advocates for the Land Photography in the American West**

**July 9 to September 18, 2005**

**Free Opening Reception: Friday, July 8, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Hear remarks by writer Barry Lopez and photographers Mary Peck and Mark Abahamson

1430 Johnson Lane on the University of Oregon campus  
(541) 346-3027 • <http://jsma.uoregon.edu>

Also visit *Color Photographs by Christopher Burkett* on display in the Photography at Oregon gallery.

This exhibition is supported by the Oregon Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Additional support has been provided by Collis & Monaco Wealth Management Group at Merrill Lynch, Photography at Oregon, Tim and Lisa Clevenger, and Selco Community Credit Union.

EO/AA/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity

**O** UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

**SECRET HOUSE VINEYARDS**

**Indigo Girls & Girlyman**

**Friday July 15**  
4:00pm Doors · 6:00pm Show · All Ages

**ROCK 101.9 FM**

**Moater & Very Special Surprise Guest!**

**Sat Aug 6**  
4:00pm Doors · 6:00pm Show  
All Ages Welcome  
Tickets For This Show Also Available At WOV Hall




**15TH ANNUAL WINE AND BLUES FEST**

**Linda Hornbuckle · DK Stewart Quartet**

**Norman Sylvester**

**Oonie Egghen And His Bag Of Tricks**

**Hosted By Brad "The Dudeboy" Rogers**

**Saturday Aug 27**  
2:00pm Doors  
3:00pm Show · All Ages

**ANI DIFRANGO**

**MICHAEL FRANTI AND SPEARHEAD**

**Mofro & Toshi Reagon**

**Friday Sept 2**  
3:00pm Doors · 5:00pm Show  
All Ages

ticketmaster

88324 Vancouver Lane · Rainier Club Main  
Tickets At TicketMaster  
Charge By Phone 866-866-4502

**NEWS 6 weekly**

**KOPT 1600**  
Country's Original Station

Vendors Please Contact Us At:  
[vending@squarepegconcerts.com](mailto:vending@squarepegconcerts.com)



**OREGON DAILY EMERALD.**

A campus tradition--over 100 years of publication.