

THE BIG FINISH MAGAZINE

VERTX

ISSUE 179
JANUARY 2024
BIG FOR THE LOVE
OF FINISH STUDIES

VICTORY

THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR
AND VALARIE ARE SET FOR AN
ENCOUNTER WITH HIS ARCH FOES...

MASTER!

PLANET DOOM

THE MASTER AND VIENNA SALVATORI
FORM AN UNLIKELY ALLIANCE.





BIG FINISH | FOR THE LOVE OF STORIES

BIG FINISH

WE MAKE GREAT FULL-CAST AUDIO DRAMAS AND AUDIOBOOKS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO BUY ON CD AND/OR DOWNLOAD

FOR THE LOVE OF STORIES

Our audio productions are based on much-loved TV series like **Doctor Who**, **Torchwood**, **Dark Shadows**, **Blake's 7**, **The Avengers**, **The Prisoner**, **The Omega Factor**, **Terrahawks**, **Captain Scarlet**, **Space: 1999**, **UFO** and **Survivors**, as well as classics such as **HG Wells**, **Shakespeare**, **Sherlock Holmes**, **The Phantom of the Opera** and **Dorian Gray**.

We also produce original creations such as **Graceless**, **Charlotte Pollard** and **The Adventures of Bernice Summerfield**, plus the **Big Finish Originals** range featuring seven great new series: **ATA Girl**, **Cicero**, **Jeremiah Bourne in Time**, **Shilling & Sixpence** **Investigate**, **Blind Terror**, **Transference** and **The Human Frontier**.

Secure online ordering and details of all our products can be found at: bgfn.sh/aboutBF



THE BIG FINISH APP

The majority of Big Finish releases can be accessed on-the-go via the Big Finish App, available for both Apple and Android devices.





TORCHWOOD

WHEN IT'S dark outside and the weather is cold and wet, what could be better than some extra chills from **Torchwood**? Rhys Williams (Kai Owen) is set to encounter some folk horror in this month's release, *Poppet*, written by Lauren Mooney and Stewart Pringle.

When a child goes missing in a small Welsh town, Rhys grows closer to the traumatised Catherine and her husband. But he discovers scratches in the plaster, little wooden figures hidden in the walls, and next-door neighbour Mr Collins isn't what he seems.

Co-writer Lauren says: "Poppets were actually the starting place for this story. We've written about other folk traditions before, like the Mari Lywd in Wales in our first **Torchwood** story, *Grey Mare*, and Poppets are from the same sort of world.

"They're little wooden dolls, human effigies used in sympathetic magic and, pleasingly, they sometimes turn up in the chimneys of old houses put there either for protection – or quite the opposite. There's something rather spooky about the thought that you could be living alongside these old charms and symbols for years without knowing they are there."

The **Torchwood** monthly range continues with Mr Colchester and Ace in *Sabotage*, before the 'anthology' begins in March – a trio of stories written by Ianto Jones actor, Gareth David-Lloyd. **VORTEX**

TORCHWOOD POPPET

- RELEASED: JANUARY 2024
- FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/pins



EDITORIAL

HERE WE are in another year! It's January, it's 2024 and, of course, there's a fabulous new series of **Doctor Who** to look forward to on television. As Ncuti Gatwa's first season is still a wee while away, what better way to get yourself in the mood for watching **Doctor Who** than by listening to it? It always works for me!

You want alien menaces? Oh yes, we've got loads of those! We're previewing several different monsters in this month's *Vortex* who are threatening various incarnations of the Doctor. Get ready for the Daleks in the next **The Eleventh Doctor Chronicles** box set, *Victory of the Doctor* and the Sontarans in **Sontarans vs Rutans: The Children of the Future**.

You'd rather have something a bit more cerebral, with political undertones? Uh huh, I hear you. Good job that the next **The Third Doctor Adventures** release caters for that in *Conspiracy in Space*.

If you fancy catching up with an old friend, then the next **The Ninth Doctor Adventures** set offers just that as Christopher Eccleston's Time Lord crosses paths with Professor Bernice Summerfield in *Buried Threats*. Out for release in February, the First Lady of Big Finish, Lisa Bowerman, gets to encounter her first 21st century series incarnation of the Doctor.

What's that you said at the back? You're whispering something about wanting a megalomaniac meeting a bounty hunter who's developed a moral compass? Well, you're in luck! We've got the third box set of **Master!** starring Eric Roberts with Chase Masterson as Vienna Salvatori. And this time, there are Axons on the way.

So, the new **Doctor Who** series might not be on our screens for a little while, but there's more than enough audio to keep us entertained. **VORTEX**

Kerry

SPOILER WARNING!



The Eleventh Doctor and Valarie are set for an encounter with his arch foes...

TIME LORD TRIUMPH

ALL GOOD things come to an end and **The Eleventh Doctor Chronicles**, in its current guise, is coming to a close with the sixth volume – *Victory of the Doctor*.

Starring Jacob Dudman as the Eleventh Doctor and Safiyya Ingar as his companion Valarie Lockwood, this pairing have had their own series of adventures, fitting in neatly after the television episode *The Snowmen*, and perfectly mimicking

the format of Matt Smith's era by having 13 standard episodes plus a special extra episode as well.

The series has been guided by producer Alfe Shaw. *Vortex* can't help but notice the box set title is a neat play on the Eleventh Doctor TV episode *Victory of the Daleks*...

Alfie explains: "I've actually had the title for the last two stories – and the blurb for the final episode – locked in my mind as we were coming up

with the plot of the series and writing the outlines for the *Geronimo!* box set. Since we're in the era of the '[insert word] of the Doctor' titles, it felt right to include one here.

"This is also the set where everything comes together. We've got characters and locations back from previous adventures and references to events earlier in the series. It's our finale and we wanted to make it feel as cohesive an end to the Eleventh



Above (l-r): David Dobson,
Christopher Ragland, Mia Tomlinson,
Jacob Dudman and Safiyya Ingar

Doctor and Valarie's era as we could."

Jacob Dudman, who has been performing for Big Finish in a wide variety of roles since 2017, has now decided to step away, having won acclaim for his incredible note-perfect take on Matt Smith's Eleventh Doctor.

Jake tells *Vortex*: "I remember the conversation I had with Alfie about bringing this series to an end. I wanted to do something that has a through line and takes us in a particular direction. It honours this era of the TV show but also has a sense of being our own era – and I knew it would be popular because of the time it's set in and due to Alfie's brilliant writing.

"It was Alfie's idea to set our adventures in this time period. We know this is a definite end to the series, and because we know it's going to end, that makes it more

It honours this era of the TV show but also has a sense of being our own era...

JACOB DUDMAN

special. I've certainly been valuing the recordings more and hopefully the listeners have a sense of that as well. We knew this era wasn't going to go on forever as the Doctor looks for Clara, but in this series we now have these particular episodes within a part of the history of the TV show."

The Doctor Chronicles range has evolved from being two handers with a narrator/Doctor actor plus another cast member, into full-cast drama.

Jake says: "I like the old audiobook format which **The Doctor Chronicles** started in but I've really enjoyed playing it with a whole cast. It's a very different experience and I think it makes for an easier listen.

"It's much better for me to be able to just focus on what I've got to do sans narration, especially with Matt's Doctor as it's a very energetic character to play. Our director Helen Goldwyn will attest to the fact that towards the end of the recording day I'm very, very tired because I'm flailing my hands around and doing things that Matt does! So I'm glad to just be able to focus on Eleventh Doctoring – and I think that it makes my performance better as well."

Unlike previous box sets in



Above (l-r): Helen Goldwyn and Jacob Dudman

It's a deeply exciting run of adventures with a great Doctor and such a good companion by his side.

JOHN DORNEY

and office drudgery that the title wouldn't necessarily suggest.

"Another thing that might seem unlikely with it, and I'm sure people will pick up on this when they hear it, is it has a similar sort of vibe to the TV series *Severance*. Weirdly, I hadn't seen *Severance* until after I started work on writing it, and then I thought, 'Oh heck! This is exactly what I am doing with my script!'"

John particularly enjoyed writing for this Doctor and companion pairing. He explains: "I loved writing for Saffy as Valarie. They are an amazing actor – the character just leaps off the page.

"I was given quite a significant story for Valarie so I had to make sure I did my research to get her voice right as she's so distinctive. When you've got a character who's really different and has been brought to life by such a strong performance on audio, it didn't feel like it was a massive

the range since *Geronimo!*, this time there are four tales to be told starting with *Didn't You Kill My Mother?* by John Dorney.

Alfie says: "John's episode follows directly on from *Sins of the Flesh* in the previous volume. The Doctor works in an office and is arbitrating a case between Valarie and Mrs Hendricks over... well, everything we've seen in the series so far. But why? Will he earn his promotion? And what's for lunch? Everyone will have to find out for themselves..."

John says: "It's great fun to be part of the writing team. Alfie's done such an amazing job forging a new era within an era for the Eleventh Doctor. It's a deeply exciting run of adventures with a great Doctor and such a good companion by his side.

"This script largely deals with the fallout of the death of Valarie's mother, and Valarie, being Valarie, feels largely responsible for it, but it's in a somewhat



Above: Homer Todiwala

more complicated scenario than that. When I was given that as a brief, I had to sort of lock it down and focus on it.

"I didn't want it to have too much extraneous story going on, but I roughly knew where it was going so it became a story about arbitration

struggle to catch Valarie's voice.

"Jacob is an astonishingly good actor and a magnificent impressionist too, so you know you will always get an amazing turn from him. The Eleventh Doctor is great to write for because the original on TV is really strong and then you get to play with all manner of new angles and new styles behind-the-scenes. And that's another one off my Doctor roster now!"

THE DOCTOR'S arch foes are back in *Daleks Victorious* by Felicia Barker. Alfie says: "Felicia's script is – as the name implies – the Daleks at full might. The TV episode *Asylum of*

the Daleks puts the Daleks in an interesting position: with the Doctor wiping himself from their memory, they don't think any Time Lords survived the Time War therefore – logically – they must have won. We follow up on that idea and how it



Above (l-r): Safiyya Ingar
and Jacob Dudman

might have affected them.

“When we pivoted toward the Daleks, my brief to Felicia was to make them scary again. In *The Stolen Earth* on TV, we see all the Doctor’s former companions being terrified of them. I wanted a story that reinforced why everyone’s scared of the Daleks.”

Felicia continues: “I reckon that no matter how much any **Who** fan talks about original creations, new ideas or revisiting less familiar ground – all things I go on about myself – it’s a rare fan indeed who doesn’t think about what they would do with the Daleks. They’ve come to define so much about **Doctor Who** – and about the Doctor – that if you have enthusiasm for one, you surely have some enthusiasm for the other. In this particular case, I really relished the chance to make the Daleks truly threatening again. These are the oppressive, seemingly unstoppable TV Daleks of *The Dalek Invasion of Earth* or *Genesis of the Daleks* – they’re not going to be cowed by a Jammie Dodger this time!

“The brief for this one was a bit different to previous outings. This run with the Eleventh Doctor and Valarie was conceived from the start with a tight arc and an ongoing through line, so the overall shape of

Daleks who will remind you just why they’re the Doctor’s most terrible foe.

FELICIA BARKER

the story was quite defined. What was interesting, and new to me, was the opportunity to follow the story so far (originally in script form, but by the time I started writing, the first recordings were also in), and to find threads and plot beats to pay off or return to. There was one particular aspect of an earlier story I felt still had juice in it, so I was quite enthusiastic to incorporate that into my story. (I don’t think I should say what it is yet!)

“There are two sides to this adventure. On the one hand, it’s gathering together pieces from across the wider plot of the Doctor and Valarie, laying out the board for the explosive finale. Listeners who’ve

followed from the beginning will be rewarded for their investment as storylines reappear, pivot, or pay off as we climb to the final, mad descent of this rollercoaster story. On the other hand, it’s the Daleks’ show. Daleks as this Doctor has never faced them. Daleks who will remind you just why they’re the Doctor’s most terrible foe. Deadly, inevitable... and unbeatable?”

Felicia had so many joys whilst working on the script.

She agrees: “There are all sorts of highlights I can mention. I was in the recording studio on the day for this one and it was a joy to meet everyone in person. But at the risk of embarrassing him, the real highlight ever since I began writing for *Big Finish* has been working with Alfie. This series of adventures has been his passion project and he deserves great approbation for herding the seven-dimensional vortex-cats necessary to bring it to fruition.”

THE PENULTIMATE

adventure is *The Last Stand of Miss Valarie Lockwood* by producer Alfie.

Vortex asks Alfie how he would sum it up, as the title sounds ominous...



Above (l-r): Mia Taminson, Jacob Dudman and Safiyya Ingar

I cannot thank them enough, but still, thank you all so much. You are absolute legends.

ALFIE SHAW

Alfie says: “OK, so, **MASSIVE SPOILER WARNING FOR EVERYWHERE AND ANYWHERE...**

“I’m serious.

“Go listen to it now. It’s great.

“You won’t want this spoiled for you.

“Heard it? OK...

“We heard Valarie die in *All’s Fair* and this is the story of how she gets there. She has to die but she’s going to take as many of the Daleks as she can with her. One of the advantages of creating original characters is that we can do whatever we want with them. Think we couldn’t traumatise Valarie any more than we already have? Hold my drink and listen to this...”

VICTORY OF the Doctor is not only the final story in this box set but in this series. Written again by Alfie, the Doctor confronts the New Paradigm Daleks.

It’s the ultimate rematch

– what can Alfie tell us about it?

Alfie says: “Almost nothing! The Doctor’s backed into a corner carrying out one last desperate plan. There’s a line – it’s on page 60 for anyone with a copy of the script – that made me openly cry while writing. It was

the line that hit me, that made me go, ‘Oh, this is actually all over.’ It’s probably not the line that people will think got me – that’s probably all of Scene 49 – but yeah, it made me cry.”

Jake adds: “Stepping away was a difficult decision to make because I love Big Finish and **Doctor Who**, and I’m so grateful for everything that I’ve been able to do with Big Finish.

“It’s a tougher decision than I’m letting myself believe it to be, but realistically I’ve done more episodes combined in this audio range than any of the Doctors did in the modern era on TV, and it’s been seven years of my life. Given that I’m only 26 now, that’s more than a quarter of my life so far. When you put it like that, it sounds mad!

“If I don’t leave now I may not stop for 10–15 years, which would be fine, but it feels like a very particular chapter in my life. I don’t want to get to the point where I start to feel Doctor-ly fatigue because I think it’s the best job in the world. Part of me is wanting to do it forever, but I don’t want to start thinking, ‘Oh, I’ve done this, I’ve already fought the Daleks and the Cybermen – how many times do I need to save the universe?!” So, I want

to leave now while I’m still loving it.”

Looking back over these recent sets, how proud is Alfie of this era within an era? He explains: “Oh, I’m immensely proud! As I’m stepping back from producing across the board at Big Finish for the time being, this is the closest thing I’ll ever have to an ‘Alfie Shaw era’ of **Doctor Who** and – personally – I think it’s spectacular.

“But the reason that it’s so good, as the finished productions always are, is down to everyone involved. Not just our unbelievable leads but every guest actor who’s joined us. Plus all of the writers, directors, Lee Adams’s wonderful sound design, the fantastic scores from our composers, Caroline Tankersley’s always jaw-dropping covers, and

the always-useful script notes.

“The reason this era – generally – has gone down so well with everyone is because of all of their fantastic work. They’ve made the 2010 me, the one who loved Big Finish and instantly fell in love with the Eleventh Doctor, so unbelievably happy.

“I cannot thank them enough, but still, thank you all so much. You are absolute legends.” **VORTEX**

THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR CHRONICLES VICTORY OF THE DOCTOR



■ RELEASED: FEBRUARY 2023
 ■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/win 

BOOK CLUB

EVERY MONTH THE BIG FINISH BOOK CLUB SPOTLIGHTS A RELEASE FROM THE BIG FINISH CATALOGUE, WITH A SPECIAL DISCOUNT ON THE DIGITAL DOWNLOAD PRICE.

DOCTOR WHO THE SONTARANS



WE'VE WITNESSED the Doctor's first encounters with many of his alien foes where he discovers just what he's up against. In *The Time Warrior* first broadcast 50 years ago this month, however,

Jon Pertwee's Third Doctor was already familiar with his adversary.

So, when did he meet them? Find out in **The Early Adventures**, where the First Doctor battles some strange, squat aliens wearing body armour in Simon Guerrier's *The Sontarans*.

Producer David Richardson recalls: "The joy of working on this series was that we got to recreate a much-loved era of **Doctor Who** but then tell stories that took us into new territory – and the lead actors responded really well to this. What a pleasure these were to record.

"I can't tell you how much fun it is to tell the First Doctor's inaugural meeting with a certain cloned species. Simon has fashioned a thrilling war story."

The cast features Peter Purves as Steven/the Doctor and Jean Marsh as Sara Kingdom, with Dan Starkey as the Sontarans.

Writer Simon tells *Vortex*: "This adventure came from a number of things: David was quite keen that I write another Steven and Sara story, and so I kicked about a couple of ideas. One was, 'Could we do another Dalek story set within *The Daleks' Master Plan?*', but we scratched that one and decided instead, 'Why not do the Sontarans?'"

"So I rewatched *The Time Warrior* where the Doctor already knows who the Sontarans are, and then pitched David the idea of the Doctor meeting the Sontarans for the first time but Steven and Sara already

THE JOY OF WORKING ON THIS SERIES WAS THAT WE GOT TO RECREATE A MUCH-LOVED ERA OF DOCTOR WHO BUT THEN TELL STORIES THAT TOOK US INTO NEW TERRITORY...

DAVID RICHARDSON

know who they are. The Doctor not having all the facts immediately gives you a scenario for the story.

"David liked the idea of the Sontarans as an invasion force with them as the all-conquering soldiers we so often hear about. He suggested what might help would be to find a classic war film and use that as the starting point.

"I rang my brother-in-law, who knows his war films inside out, and

he said, 'It sounds like you need something like *The Guns of Navarone*.' So I went and watched that.

"It's such a great film – it's really clever and has a lot in it. My brother-in-law suggested the best war films are those with complex questions of morality. Good people have to do terrible things, and they have some extraordinary dilemmas.

"Gregory Peck effectively says, 'We've got to be worse than the Nazis to beat them' – that's just amazing. And it's exactly what Sara's attitude would be to fighting monsters."

Simon adds: "With Steven and Sara, we've got two actors in Peter Purves and Jean Marsh who are just so brilliant, and that makes it very easy to write because you know they will always deliver. Give them something complicated and they will step up to it. They both work extremely hard on their scripts and I do my best to write some fun things for them.

"Steven and Sara are very interesting characters. We didn't see very much of them on screen so that means there is still a lot of potential and things that can be explored. We can take them where we like – the writers have almost got carte blanche." **VORTEX**

DOCTOR WHO
THE SONTARANS

BRAND NEW ADVENTURES

RELEASING NOW

■ RELEASED: DECEMBER 2016
■ FORMAT: DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/sontar24



No final artwork, subject to change

Get ready for another encounter between the Third Doctor and the Sontarans...

THE MISSING LINX

BIG FINISH'S celebration of 50 years of the Sontarans continues with February's release, **Sontarans vs Rutans: The Children of the Future** by Tim Foley. And, appropriately enough, it features the incarnation of the Time Lord who first encountered them on television. The Third Doctor (played by Tim Treloar), Sarah Jane Smith (Sadie Miller) and the Brigadier (Jon Culshaw) get set for a rematch with the aliens they battled in *The Time Warrior* in 1974.

The Children of the Future is the second of four stories being released in this mini-series of adventures which sees different

Doctors facing the Sontarans and their arch foes, the Rutans.

Producer David Richardson says: "We're celebrating 50 years of the Sontarans so it's only natural that we should return to the setting of their first story, *The Time Warrior*. But don't expect to find Commander Linx unearthed from the rubble of Irongron's castle... this is from the mind of Tim, and *The Children of the Future* goes in several fascinating new directions..."

Script editor John Dorney tells *Vortex*: "We decided it would be fun to do a mini-series with various Doctors at different times. My thought was, 'Why do we have to do things in a linear order, from the

Doctor's perspective?' We were given the choice of the Third, Sixth, Eighth and War Doctors, and I realised we didn't have to do it chronologically.

"There was a degree of juggling things around and figuring out what the most interesting sequence might be. We worked out the kind of stories we wanted to tell, and then addressed the chronology – not for the Doctor but for the Sontarans and Rutans, so the Doctor's experiencing it out of order.

"As it's a mini-series, I would suggest that, if possible, you should try and listen to all four parts as you'll get a much better overall experience than if you've just heard one or two. But they are individual



Above (l-r): Jon Culshaw, Sadie Miller, Tim Treloar and Jeremy Ang Jones

episodes of Doctors having adventures, with each writer creating beginnings, middles and ends. In theory, you could try listening to it with the Doctors in order, or you could listen in companion order!"

John continues: "Tim is an imagination machine and I know that if he's working on something it will be great. I'll get the script through and will just have to dot a few 'i's and cross a few 't's, and it'll be ready to record the next week. He's just a sublime writer and it's a lovely script."

Tim says: "It was great fun to be asked to be a part of the Sontaran/Rutan birthday party. We actually started planning this a year earlier than we needed to because we'd got the date wrong when we were working out their anniversary... but that just meant we had more time to come up with ideas!

Tim is an imagination machine and I know that if he's working on something it will be great.

JOHN DORNEY

"John and David's brief was very broad, they just asked for a story with the Third Doctor. After a big online chat we worked out what arc elements would need to be included. Since the rest of the stories would be quite monster-heavy, I was allowed to be quite lateral in

my celebration of the anniversary, so I'm exploring the ethical dilemma of a Sontaran invasion as opposed to the invasion itself.

THE BRIGADIER is used to the Doctor acting strangely, but this time there's something different. Can he trust him? The investigation leads to a familiar site, where a Sontaran threat could spell the end of their long-standing friendship... and the entire planet!

Tim was delighted to bring the team together for the end of the Third Doctor's era with Tim Treloar, Sadie Miller and Jon Culshaw recapturing the magic of Jon Pertwee, Elisabeth Sladen and Nicholas Courtney.

Tim tells *Vortex*: "I love writing for this trio! I've never actually written for all three at once (my other Season 11 stories have always been without the Brigadier) so I'm delighted to have them all together. I especially wanted to explore the Brigadier's perspective of an alien invasion and what it means now that the Doctor isn't around so much anymore. Plus, he and Sarah get to go on a road trip!

"I really enjoy writing for the Sontarans. I think one of the chief reasons they are such a success is because Robert Holmes did such an amazing job, not only coming up with their race and their world, but distilling it all into the one individual, Linx. This story definitely features more than a few nods to *The Time Warrior* and I hope there are many more Sontaran adventures to come." **VORTEX**

SONTARANS vs RUTANS
THE CHILDREN OF THE FUTURE



■ RELEASED: FEBRUARY 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/linx 



Not final artwork, subject to change

VERBAL THREATS

The Ninth Doctor is about to unearth a whole lot of trouble...

THE NINTH Doctor has encountered several familiar faces from his past including his old friends Liv Chenka and Tania Bell. And in his next box set, he's about to bump into someone who's not been in his life for a very long time: an archaeologist, who knows him inside out. And it might not be who you were expecting. Christopher Eccleston's Time Lord is set for an adventure with Professor Bernice Summerfield played by the First Lady of Big Finish, Lisa Bowerman, in **The Ninth Doctor Adventures: Buried Threats**. Benny first met the Seventh Doctor in the *New Adventures* series of original novels, and has

continued her adventures on audio with Big Finish since 1998. Producer David Richardson says: "The Ninth Doctor and Benny – it's irresistible isn't it? Matt Fitton pitched the idea to me and it seemed a no-brainer to propel Benny into the era of New Series **Who** and discover how she would interact with a modern Doctor. "Chris, of course, was very close friends with the late David Warner who was Lisa's partner, and so the great man was never very far away from our thoughts on the recording day." Script editor Matt tells *Vortex*: "With the Ninth Doctor range, a lot of the stories are stand-alone adventures but you can pick out

linking threads and draw out a theme. With *Buried Threats*, we're seeing the Doctor find things which have been hidden away, whether for centuries in the case of Mark Wright's story or even longer in mine or buried at the back of people's minds in Lisa McMullin's adventure. "So yes, there's the theme of 'buried threats' to lean towards and, of course, we're totally in Benny's territory digging up the past." **A THEATRE** of *Cruelty* by Lisa is the first story in this set, and Matt says: "A *Theatre of Cruelty* came about because we know that Chris loves Lisa's writing, and that she would write a



Above (l-r): Lisa Bowerman and Christopher Eccleston

ARTAUD'S IDEAS WERE SO INNOVATIVE BUT HIS LIFE WAS VERY DIFFICULT – I THINK HE COULD HAVE DONE WITH A VISIT FROM THE DOCTOR!

LISA McMULLIN

script that would give him something to get his teeth into.

"Lisa seized on an idea, bringing in a figure from theatrical history, so it's partly set in Paris and partly inside the mind of this person. We know that Chris is always interested in the history of drama, and there's a really funny, sad and emotional spin on the whole situation."

Lisa continues: "I can't remember if Matt asked for a historical but I'd wanted to explore the theatre practitioner Antonin Artaud for a while. His work on immersive theatre in the 1930s/40s paved the way for so much live interactive entertainment that we think of as very much a 21st century phenomena, events like Secret Cinema and the **Doctor Who** theatre show. Think of all of those theme park rides that immerse you in their whole world (often based on a movie franchise) as well as immersive theatre companies like Punchdrunk. Artaud's ideas were so innovative but his life was very difficult – I think he could



Above: Pooky Quesnel

have done with a visit from the Doctor!

"*A Theatre of Cruelty* is a play about a play within a play. I think. Ha! The Doctor visits Artaud in Paris as Artaud is in the process of creating a piece of immersive theatre based on the true story of Beatrice Cenci (an

Italian noblewoman). But Artaud begins to dream about the woman he's writing the play about and those dreams begin to bleed through to his waking moments. It's a story within a story. It's about mental health and finding your voice. It's quite a dark tale (for me) in that [spoiler] there are no happy endings for any of the stories within this story. But sometimes life is like that – and we have to find the glimmers of light in the darkness."

How much research was needed?

Lisa replies: "I was already very familiar with Artaud and his work as I used to teach A-level Theatre Studies before I started writing. Most of my research was around the subject of Artaud's play *The Cenci*."

"Beatrice Cenci was a sixteenth century Roman woman who was publicly executed for killing her father (a rich and powerful political figure). Her father was a cruel,

abusive man and the real story is a very bleak one – I had to temper it for the purposes of a **Doctor Who** adventure. However, the BEST thing about my research was that it led me to an award-winning radio play about Beatrice which has been written by Big Finish's very own Lizzie Hopley!"

Lisa adds: "It's always beyond thrilling to hear Christopher speaking my words as the Ninth Doctor. It was also lovely that he mentioned how delighted he was to be telling a story about Artaud, a practitioner he admired. But my best, cheeky highlight was getting the Ninth Doctor to mention Lizzie as a writer and thus make her canon in the Whoniverse! Ha ha!"

THE TARDIS brings the Doctor to Halifax in 2019 in the second adventure, *The Running Men* by Mark Wright, where mysterious deaths and a psychic attack throws the Doctor and Sergeant Ambika Desai of West Yorkshire



Above (l-r): Alexander Vlahos, Helen Goldwyn, Christopher Eccleston, Angus Dunnican and Elisabeth Yorke Bolognini

HALIFAX HAS SUCH A RICH HISTORY GOING BACK CENTURIES, AND MANY OF THE FEATURED LOCATIONS I'VE KNOWN FOR DECADES.

MARK WRIGHT

Police together. The trail leads to the Hebble Piazza development and a clash with ambitious property mogul Annalise Avenley.

Matt says: "I have family in Yorkshire and when I'm up there I try to get over to see Mark too. I think I first mentioned the possibility of writing for the Ninth Doctor when we met up in Halifax where the story is set. With Mark in Halifax and the Ninth Doctor kind of having a northern background, a north of England setting – albeit a different county – felt like a good fit.

"This script has a real sense of place and history, as well as a great temporary companion character. It feels very 'new series'. It feels like something that could have turned up on television quite easily."

Mark says: "This one proved the perfect time to write a story I've been trying to put together in some form for a decade or more. Working with Matt, David and director Helen Goldwyn is always special. It's so collaborative.

"Having returned to Halifax 14 years ago, I wanted to look at themes surrounding the urban decay of towns like mine that were once the

centre of industry but declined in the late 20th/early 21st centuries, and how that might be affected by an insidious force. The Doctor teams up with police sergeant Ambika Desai and local historian Frank Kelsey to investigate why people are going missing from the construction site of a new leisure development in the heart of the town."

Like Lisa's adventure, Mark had to do some research into the subject matter. He explains: "I did quite a lot to make sure I got the history right. Much of what's in the story has been in my head for ages. Halifax has such a rich history going back centuries, and many of the featured locations I've known for decades. It was more about making sure the tone and feel of the piece was authentic to the area. I must mention Chris Evans of Caldedale MBC who was incredibly kind in arranging special access to one specific location, but I won't spoil it by saying which one!"

As for his highlight, Mark adds: "What will always stick in my mind is the morning of recording. I wasn't able to make it to studio so I was linked in online, but it was a joy to chat with Chris about the script and



Above (l-r): Christopher Eccleston and Simon Rouse



Above (l-r): Fiona Wade and Christopher Eccleston

then hear the cast working. It was a surreal day, as that same afternoon I had to be at my other job as a bookseller and we had a visit from children's author Julia Donaldson – I had to dress up as the Gruffalo! From one national treasure in the morning to another in the afternoon, it was a reminder how lucky I am to be able to do things like this.”

ANCIENT HISTORY by Matt concludes this set with Professor Bernice Summerfield delving into the archaeological mystery of the Korravin, a mighty warrior horde who have vanished overnight. Her expedition seems jinxed and when a familiar blue box appears, Benny knows they're in trouble.

Matt tells *Vortex*: “It's great for the Ninth Doctor to meet Benny. We're quite limited in how much this Doctor is able to interact with his past, given the buffer of the Time



Above: Delroy Atkinson

War, but I think it made sense to have them meet again. Of all the people to meet this particular Doctor, she's one of the most human and sympathetic of his companions. She's one of the Doctor's closest real

friends. So it was great to have the opportunity to put them together.

“*Ancient History* is about an archaeological mystery, it's Professor Bernice Summerfield after all! Benny has been brought in to lend her expertise and give some credibility to a mission run by Cantiple, who is more of a publicity hound than she is. Cantiple is from the archaeological faculty and has written more than they've actually explored – and so Benny is there on sufrage.

“Benny's investigating the disappearance of an ancient warrior race and doing some old-fashioned digging up of artefacts, while at the same time being quite disparaging about the high tech new version of archaeology that her sponsor is running which kind of takes all the fun out of the job.

“Lisa totally embodies Benny and makes her someone you want to spend time with so it's not surprising the Doctors keep bouncing back and forth with her. She gets him, and is prepared to give him the benefit of the doubt to some degree, but she's not afraid to call him out and pull him up when she thinks he's overstepping the mark.

“Whichever Doctor it is, it doesn't matter to her. Whether it's the Seventh, the Eighth or the Unbound Doctor, she will give as good as she gets, and the Doctor sees her almost as an equal. He respects her opinion as well. This time, the Ninth Doctor is a little bit on the back foot, a little bit shamefaced, I suppose, about what he's been through so he's not as willing to make contact with Benny quite as he might normally do.” **VORTEX**

THE NINTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES BURIED THREATS



■ RELEASED: FEBRUARY 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/dig 



The Master and Vienna Salvatori are . . .

FACING THE AXON

EVER SINCE the release of the first **Master!** box set featuring Eric Roberts, he's been accompanied/pursued by Chase Masterson as the universe's most impossibly glamorous bounty hunter, Vienna Salvatori. And now, here's their third box set, *Planet Doom*.

The Master and Vienna form an unlikely alliance when they're forced into joining an expedition to a forbidden planet. Accompanied by elite marines, government scientists and a corporate mercenary with access to some very old UNIT files, they go in search of an ancient, subterranean labyrinth infested by an alien life form the Master knows all too well...

Producer David Richardson says: "Our approach to these **Master!** box sets was always to

have a strong sense of place and characters, and for each one to have a stand-alone overall concept.

"In *Planet Doom* we have the Master and Vienna thrown towards a strange alien world which they investigate in the company of the military. The secrets buried beneath the surface of this world are a surprise even to the Master himself... and a reunion awaits..."

Script editor Robert Valentine adds: "The three episodes – *Basilisk*, *Axos Rising* and *Hellbound* – in *Planet Doom* are three acts in a single story. This time I felt that the Master's adventure should be some kind of expedition to a hostile world, and *Basilisk* represents the 'approach' phase, *Axos Rising* the 'infiltration' phase and *Hellbound* is the 'escape.'"

BASILISK BY Robert

Whitelock opens the set.

Vienna finds herself prisoner on a warship. Private contractors working with the military's scientific division want her to help them resurrect the Master. Why? Because they need a guide into the bowels of a nameless planet... and the Master is their man.

Rob says: "The interesting thing for me is that I've never actually met Eric or Chase personally, so I only have their performing personas to go on. This is possibly a good thing as it means that I don't subconsciously write for their personalities.

"The Master and Vienna are two very dynamic and powerful characters, so to face them off as protagonist and antagonist is always a thrill. *Basilisk* is an adventure story



Above (l-r): Nigel Whitmey, Beverly Longhurst, Teri Ann Bobb-Baxter and Dan Li

in the classic **Who** tradition. Vienna and the Master are press-ganged against their wills to become part of a mercenary outfit. They're led by a military/corporate type called Phillips, who claims he's attempting to plunder an unknown planet for some rare carbon allotropes and needs their specialist knowledge. Something about the mission doesn't seem right to either of them, and it all seems like a lot of bother to go to for not much reward. Their intuition is correct, and instead of a leisurely jaunt around a planet in search of carbon molecules, they face a fight for their lives against one of the scariest **Who** monsters of all time..."

Axos Rising by Barnaby Kay is the second adventure in the set.

The Master and Vienna are joined at the hip as they head into the alien labyrinth. But deadlier things than ancient booby-traps await them. Deep in the subterranean darkness, they discover the terrifying entity that has been waiting for millennia to be set free. Vienna is horrified... but the Master knows an opportunity when he sees one.

Paul McGann guest stars in this adventure, with Barnaby directing the UK side of the action, and Jason Haigh-Ellery working with Eric and Chase in Los Angeles.

Barney says: "I really enjoyed directing the previous box set,

and to prepare myself for writing this adventure, I watched the **Doctor Who TV Movie** again.

"Jason always does a great job in LA and I think Eric and Chase enjoy it. I've listened to their previous episodes and taken advice from producer David, particularly about what their strengths are, which was really

A lot of what makes this incarnation of the Master great is Eric's charisma.

ROBERT VALENTINE

helpful when I was writing for them.

"Before I started writing and doing my research into the Axons, I was warned that it was going to be tough to write the middle part of an ongoing story. I also found it hard because the other stories I've written have been stand-alones where I was creating my own world not beholden to anybody either side.

"But here, I'm carrying on a story and a tone which I'm then passing on to the next person. We were all writing at the same time so while

I knew what was happening in the stories by both Robs, I hadn't read their finished scripts. It was sort of like that game where you have different heads, bodies and legs and you have to match them up!"

ROB VALENTINE has written the closing part of the trilogy, *Hellbound*. With the countdown ticking, the Master and Vienna are desperate to escape, but if Axos gets loose the entire galaxy is doomed. Vienna needs a miracle, and perhaps she's found one. But probably not the miracle she was hoping for.

Rob says: "It was huge fun to take this series on and continue it in the same spirit that previous script editor Matt Fitton kicked it off with. I was also aided and abetted by Rob and Barney again, and this time Barney was writing an episode for us as well as directing, so our collaboration became very close on this.

"My story, *Hellbound*, is the final act of this adventure where the Master and Vienna's unlikely partnership must somehow come to an end. Of course, there's even more at the heart of this mysterious planet than either of them have imagined.

"A lot of what makes this incarnation of the Master great is Eric's charisma. If I have any contribution, it's that since my first story, *Faustian* in the first **Master!** box set, I've milked and accentuated the Master's satanic aspects. He's a kind of fallen angel – Lucifer incarnate – and while he's a gentleman he's also the beast, and that savagery is never very far beneath the surface." **VORTEX**

**MASTER!
PLANET DOOM**



■ RELEASED: FEBRUARY 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/drezz 



YOU SAY YOU WANT A REVOLUTION

(WELL, YOU KNOW...)

THE THIRD Doctor Adventures are back as Tim Treloar once again adopts the frilly shirt and cloak of Jon Pertwee as the Doctor. With Sadie Miller playing Sarah Jane Smith, the role her beloved mum Elisabeth Sladen first portrayed in 1974, they feature in the six-part tale *Revolution in Space*.

The Doctor and Sarah find themselves in an asteroid, Hygiea, on the outer reaches of Earth's solar system. It's the future, and humans have colonised this inhospitable place, to mine vital minerals to supply their home planet. However, links with Earth are becoming ever more strained, and forces within the colony are seeking independence. Revolution is in the air.

Meanwhile, in the deepest chambers of the asteroid, a powerful force is emerging. Its influence is growing rapidly. But how will it affect Sarah Jane Smith and her place in future history?

WRITER JONATHAN Morris tells *Vortex*: "*Revolution in Space* is **Doctor Who** doing 1970s science fiction. It's all about the politics of future Earth colonies and how they parallel the politics of today. A densely-plotted thriller. If you think of the television episodes *Colony in Space* and *Frontier in Space* as the first two thirds of a trilogy, *Revolution in Space* is the final third.

"The brief was quite open, a multi-part Third Doctor and Sarah story,

not set on Earth. My initial idea was to do a sort of hard sci-fi story in the vein of Kim Stanley Robinson, Frank Herbert or Alistair Reynolds – a big, epic space opera all about the people of Mars declaring independence.

"You need a very strong story with plenty of incident to fill the time, and I thought a full-scale revolution in space might be enough to sustain six episodes – multi-episode stories are quite tricky to do!

"I've written a couple before and found the way to keep the momentum going was to keep changing location. But with this one, I set myself a challenge that I couldn't do that. I had to come up with a story that was involved enough throughout without switching to different places and different sets of characters."



Above (l-r): Tim Treloar, Sadie Miller and Juliet Aubrey

PRODUCER HEATHER

Challands tells *Vortex*: “We’re back with another great box set, a wonderful homage to the original Third Doctor era, and I’m always really excited by what new stories we can tell in this format. *Revolution in Space* is very political with growing tensions, rebellion and telepathic powers. Jonny has done a top-notch job with his script – it’s pure classic sci-fi.

“I very much enjoy political adventures. I think *Doctor Who* lends itself to pushing some often needed social commentary, something that was very prevalent in the Third Doctor era – criticising government, criticising systems.

“In this story, we’re dealing with the dissatisfaction of a workforce, the desire for independence, how far you’re willing to go to secure that independence and the different perspectives that come with the idea of revolution. You can be on the same side but not have the same opinion, and vice versa.”

Jonny continues: “The setting of it being a revolution in space partly came from the idea that the original

FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT WAS JUST A PLEASURE TO SIT THERE AND LISTEN TO IT UNFOLD...

JONATHAN MORRIS

Third Doctor adventures on TV would cover those sort of political stories which were analogues for stuff that was going on at the time. Our story about a colony fighting for independence tied into that.

“The starting point was really the American War of Independence in space – the Boston Tea Party and all that.

“But, of course, there are echoes of other revolutions and independence movements as well particularly in the fact that there are two factions of people who want a peaceful transfer of power, where the arguments are quite pragmatic. And people who think of it as breaking free from a colonial

power where there are thoughts of revenge and idealism and so on.”

THE WRITER

also enjoyed being in studio. Jonny explains: “It was great being at the recording. It was scheduled over three days so by the third day everyone had got to know each other quite well and bonded together, which you don’t usually have time to do on a single day’s recording.

“The cast were all brilliant, and from my point of view, it was just a pleasure to sit there and listen to it unfold, like having a sneak preview of the finished production. I was particularly impressed with Tim and Sadie as the Third Doctor and Sarah. Putting aside the vocal impersonation thing, they’re both great actors playing the Doctor and companion.

“It was very enjoyable, which is usually a good sign that the end product is going to turn out really well.”

Heather agrees: “Yes, we had a great time in studio with this one. And Daisy Ashford turned up at lunchtime one day just to say hello. It was a very fun three days with a lovely cast, hard work but much hilarity.

“It’s been a highlight getting the edits through. Sound designer David Roccoft has done a really great job bringing the locations to life, and Nicholas Briggs is always so faithful with the music.

“But I must say that having the character of Zyla Kalstein properly in your head is challenging! But who is Zyla Kalstein? There’s only one way to find out...!” **VORTEX**

THE THIRD DOCTOR ADVENTURES REVOLUTION IN SPACE



- RELEASED: FEBRUARY 2024
- FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/zyla 

Big Finish is releasing a celebration of one of Britain's best-loved comedians...



A HUDDLIN HEADLINE

TO BBC Radio 2 listeners in the UK, Roy Hudd was an institution – a warm, friendly voice, a cheeky chappie but most of all, a gentleman.

As the man in the middle of *The News Huddlines* – a comedy sketch show starring Roy which ran for an astounding 51 series from 1975 until 2001 – he brought a fun edge to what was going on in the world of news with topical sketches, songs and one-liners. The show became British radio's longest-running audience comedy in 1994 and became the second longest-running overall behind *Week Ending*.

Roy, who sadly passed away in March 2020 aged 83, was also known for playing undertaker Archie Shuttleworth in ITV soap *Coronation Street*. He made a Big Finish appearance in January 2006, when he appeared in a *Doctor Who* monthly adventure, *Pier Pressure*, in which he played one of his music

hall comedy heroes, Max Miller.

The Roy Huddlines, a tribute night for the comic, was held last year with proceeds going towards plans to erect a statue of Roy outside the Royal Theatre Bury St Edmunds where he frequently performed his one-man show.

Original *The News Huddlines* stars, including *Gavin and Stacey*'s Alison Steadman, actor and comedian Chris Emmett, Olivier-awarding winning comedy actress Nichola McAuliffe and Big Finish's own Brigadier/Master/Kamelion, Jon Culshaw united for this special two-hour live show in the West End's Sondheim Theatre in May. Music was directed and performed by Peter Moss and *The Huddliners*. The show was recorded and is now being released through Big Finish.

Award-winning radio producer Dirk Maggs worked on the original radio show from 1989–92 and was

the director of the live production of *The Roy Huddlines*. He says: "It's hard to overstate how much those of us who have reunited for this special show owe to the joyous and sweet genius of Roy Hudd.

"In person, he warmed up a room just by entering it. His presence was benign, yet wickedly funny – and his gift of laughter infectious. I spent six happy seasons working on *The News Huddlines*. The experience – and Roy, with June Whitfield and Chris – taught me everything I know about narrative structure and comedy timing.

"To this day, adapting and directing perhaps the antithesis of *The News Huddlines* – *The Sandman* with Neil Gaiman – I am still putting into practice lessons in timing and construction I learned from Roy all those happy Thursday lunchtimes ago. I attribute *The Sandman*'s success as much to Roy's genius as to Neil's."



Back Row (l-r): Debbie Hudd, Nick Revell, Carol Smith, Tony Hare, Dave Dixon, Martin Booth, Dirk Maggs
Front Row (l-r): Richard Clegg, Chris Emmett, Alison Steadman, Jon Culshaw, Kate Harbour

THE ORIGINATOR of *The News Huddlines*, Simon Brett, recalls: "In 1970, I was a young radio producer and with a lovely producer called David Hatch, started a programme called *Week Ending* on Radio 4. In 1975, the controller of Radio 2 came to me and said, 'Could we do something that was also topical comedy for Radio 2?', as it needed a broader appeal.

"I thought, 'Broader appeal... who do I know that's got a broader appeal?' I'd been lucky enough to work with Roy and I thought that he'd be the perfect communicator for this show. I even – and I'm rather proud of this – came up with the title for it, which was *The News Huddlines*.

"I approached Roy and he said, 'Oh, lovely idea. I'd love to do it'. Roy was one of the nicest people in showbiz and it's a fact that the nicest people in showbiz have the toughest agents. Roy's agent then was Maurice Aza, a wonderful agent but quite determined, so there was a great deal of to-ing and fro-ing between my booker and Maurice.

"He was asking for an impossible sum, and so we argued back and forth. Eventually I said, 'I'm sorry, my budget won't stand it so I'll have to go ahead with another artist'. I got a message back from Roy, saying, 'Another artist on *The News Huddlines*?' Fortunately, the booking then went through and the rest is history."

WITH THE show established on Radio 2, Simon Brett moved on after four episodes, handing over the reins to John Lloyd, who himself became a successful television producer on a number of programmes including *Blackadder* and *Spitting Image*.

John says: "Simon's choice of Roy to front a topical comedy show for Radio 2 was really inspired, and it

Roy was not just a brilliant comic and a wonderful man, but he was a talented straight actor.

JOHN LLOYD

went on to run for 51 series. That's 26 years, if you can believe it. It's actually the longest-running British radio comedy with a live audience.

"The magic recipe was this: the extraordinarily different backgrounds of the commissioned writers and Roy himself. Roy was from a working-class music hall tradition and the writers were mostly young middle-class graduates with a smattering of professional journalists among them.

"The writing was intelligent and

informed, but it was Roy who knew how to shape the delivery for the slap, bang, wallop timing and we all learned so much from him."

The release features a host of all new sketches, with Roy at the heart of it. John adds: "Roy was not just a brilliant comic and a wonderful man, but he was a talented straight actor. He was a dancer, a singer, a writer who released many books. He was Fagin in *Oliver!* in the West End, and he graced everything from *Coronation Street* to *The Hitch-Hikers' Guide to the Galaxy*.

"And if that weren't enough, he also featured in *Celebrity Mastermind*, *Midsomer Murders*, *Dennis Potter*, *Just William*, *Hobly City* and *Broadchurch*." **VORTEX**

THE ROY HUDDLINES



■ RELEASED: JANUARY 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/hudd 

SEND LETTERS TO: FEEDBACK@BIGFINISH.COM
AND USE VORTEX MAIL AS THE SUBJECT

VORTEX MAIL



ELEVENTH HEAVEN

I've recently discovered the amazing **The Eleventh Doctor Chronicles** series, and wow – it really is like listening to a whole new set of adventures set after *The Snowmen* on TV. Jacob Dudman's impression of Matt Smith is uncanny. I could swear I was listening to the real McCoy, as it were! I just wanted to congratulate Jacob, and all of the rest of the team, on a fantastic run of stories – I'm so sad they are coming to an end.

ALAN JONES

Nick: Thanks, Alan. You're absolutely right. As I keep saying, if we put Matt's name on it no one would question it as Jacob is that good. Not that we'd ever do that though!

FIGHT CLUB?

I was wondering if you would maybe consider getting the

licence to do audios for the *Street Fighter* franchise. They could be original, or adaptations of a pre-existing *Street Fighter* story like the comics. I don't know how Capcom licenses the series for third parties.

XAVIER DOWNEY

Nick: We'd need to look into this in detail to see if there was a market, Xavier. When something becomes popular, it doesn't necessarily follow that people want audio drama based on it.

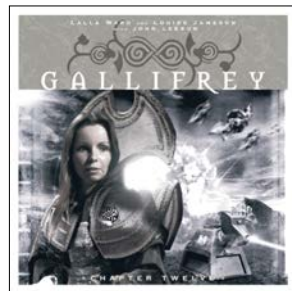
MAXIL POWER

I can't help but ask if you are ever planning on bringing the Time Lord Maxil, previously played by Colin Baker, back again? It would be so much fun keeping the tradition of him being played by actors who play the Doctor. It would let the actors really have some fun, and it would

be a blast to hear the classic actors playing a new role, almost like the flip side to the Curator! I know Matt Smith has expressed interest in returning to the show as an evil Time Lord like the Master, maybe you could snag him? Just imagine: "Featuring Matt Smith as... Maxil!"

JAMES NETTEKOVEN

*Nick: If Matt ever agreed to take part in a Big Finish production, James, we'd like him to play the Doctor! For those who don't know, Colin Baker reprised his role as Maxil for Big Finish in **Gallifrey 3.3** Appropriation, released in 2006.*



TOMORROW NEVER DIES?

I loved the Big Finish **The Tomorrow People** range back in the day, and I recently read online that all of the rights have reverted to the show's creator, Roger Damon Price. Is there any chance Big Finish could revive the series and finish off the mythical season six?

'THE JAUNTER'

*Nick: Thanks for jaunting in. Don't imagine for one moment that we've not been looking into bringing back **The Tomorrow People**! Unfortunately, the last season of audios was never completed and the recordings have long since been lost.* **VORTEX**

BIG FINISH RELEASE SCHEDULE

Please note that Big Finish is currently operating a digital-first release schedule. The mail-out of collector's edition CDs might be delayed, due to logistical and economic conditions beyond our control, but all physical purchases of new releases will unlock a digital copy that can be immediately downloaded – or played on the Big Finish app – from the release date.

CREDITS

Managing Editor:
Jason Haigh-Ellery

Executive Producer:
Nicholas Briggs

Senior Producer:
John Ainsworth

Editor: Kenny Smith

The Big Finish Team:

Chris Allen

Cheryl Bryant

Heather Challands

Sue Cowley

Emily Davis

Jackie Emery

Carly Fordyce

Sufyan Javaid

Karen Parks

Hannah Peel

Alfie Shaw

Paul Spragg

Scott Talbot

Lizzie Worsdell

Graphic Design:

Mark Plastow

Copy Editor:

Stephanie Hornett

Marketing & Publicity:

Steve Berry

BFP Administration:

Reanne Hawkins

Deanna Shore

Brenda Smith

Allison Taylor

Publisher:

Big Finish Productions Ltd.

SOCIAL

BIGFINISH.COM

[X @BIGFINISH](https://twitter.com/BIGFINISH)

[f THEBIGFINISH](https://www.facebook.com/thebigfinish)

[@ BIGFINISHPROD](https://www.instagram.com/bigfinishprod)

[y BIG-FINISH](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqz33111111111111111111)

[v BIGFINISHPROD](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqz33111111111111111111)

FOR FULL DETAILS AND UPDATES VISIT:
bgfn.sh/whatsnew

JANUARY 2024

DW | THE FIRST DOCTOR ADVENTURES
Fugitive of the Daleks (BOX SET)

DW | SONTARANS VS RUTANS
The Battle of Giant's Causeway (11)

DW | THE AUDIO NOVELS
The Chaos Cascade **DLO**

STAR COPS: BLOOD MOON 1 – PART 1
I Was Killed Yesterday (1.1)

THUNDERBIRDS
Danger and Deception **DLO**

THE ROY HUDDLINES
A News Huddlines Reunion

DAD'S ARMY
The Radio Show

TORCHWOOD *Poppet* (79)

FEBRUARY 2024

DW | THE NINTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES
Buried Threats (BOX SET)

DW | THE THIRD DOCTOR ADVENTURES
Revolution in Space (BOX SET)

DW | THE DOCTOR CHRONICLES
THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR
Victory of the Doctor (BOX SET)

DW | MASTER!
Planet Doom (BOX SET)

DW | SONTARANS VS RUTANS
The Children of the Future (1.2)

STAR COPS: BLOOD MOON 1 – PART 2
Daughters of Death (1.2)

TORCHWOOD TBA (80)

MARCH 2024

DW | THE FOURTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES
Storm of the Sea Devils (BOX SET)

DW | CLASSIC DOCTORS: NEW MONSTERS
Broken Memories (BOX SET)

DW | THE SIXTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES
TBA (BOX SET)

DW | SONTARANS VS RUTANS
Born to Die (1.3)

STAR COPS: BLOOD MOON 1 – PART 3
Troubled Waters (1.3)

TORCHWOOD TBA (81)

APRIL 2024

DW | THE FIFTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES
TBA (BOX SET)

DW | THE PATERNOSTER GANG
Trespassers 2 (BOX SET)

DW | MISSY
Bad Influence (BOX SET)

DW | SONTARANS VS RUTANS
In Name Only (1.4)

STAR COPS: BLOOD MOON 2 – PART 1
A Cage of Sky (2.1)

TORCHWOOD TBA (82)

DLO = DOWNLOAD ONLY • **DW** = DOCTOR WHO
DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

THE BIG FINISH MAGAZINE

VORTEX

ISSUE 179
JANUARY 2024
BIG FOR THE LOVE
OF STORIES



Artwork by Chris Chantler

THREATS

THE NINTH DOCTOR IS ABOUT TO
UNEARTH A WHOLE LOT OF TROUBLE...

MASTER!

PLANET DOOM

THE MASTER AND VIENNA SALVATORI
FORM AN UNLIKELY ALLIANCE.

