

From Mercury to Mars: “War of the Worlds’ as Residual Radio” from Antenna

Neil Verma

Blog post published August 16, 2013 in *Sounding Out!*

<https://doi.org/10.59350/qqn4-9pj14>

Abstract

“WOTW’s notoriety is obviously explicitly a result of the attention the mainstream media gave it at the time, as well as the fame and success that followed Orson Welles’s ascendance in film, and subsequently, his position in the critical and academic canon of auteurs.

Keywords

Music (Subfield), American Studies, From Mercury To Mars, Radio, Sound Studies, Antenna

Recommended citation

Verma, N. (2013, August 16). From Mercury to Mars: “War of the Worlds’ as Residual Radio” from Antenna. *Sounding Out!*. <https://doi.org/10.59350/qqn4-9pj14>

Copyright

Copyright © Neil Verma 2013. Distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.



“WOTW’s notoriety is obviously explicitly a result of the attention the mainstream media gave it at the time, as well as the fame and success that followed Orson Welles’s ascendance in film, and subsequently, his position in the critical and academic canon of auteurs. However, WOTW’s circulation through LP, cassette, rebroadcast, and mp3 also implicitly shapes how people look back at this time in entertainment history, while also allowing this recording to become an object of fetishism and desire ...”

[Reblogged from [Antenna](#)]

[Click here](#) to read the rest of Nora Patterson’s reflections on recorded releases of the “War of the Worlds” broadcast.

This post is the second in our ongoing series in partnership with Antenna, **From Mercury to Mars: Orson Welles on Radio after 75 Years**. Stay tuned for our next installment on Sept. 2: [Debra Rae Cohen](#) on the inaugural broadcast of the original Mercury series, Welles’s fascinating version of Bram Stoker’s Dracula.

Miss the first post in the series? [Click here](#) to read Tom McEnaney’s thoughts on the place of Latin America in Welles’s radio work.

