



JEFF WAYNE'S MUSICAL  
VERSION OF  
**THE WAR OF THE WORLDS**  
OF THE  
THE NEW GENERATION

**NEW DOUBLE ALBUM RELEASED BY SONY MUSIC - NOV 12<sup>TH</sup> 2012**

**Starring: Liam Neeson / Gary Barlow / Maverick Sabre  
Joss Stone / Alex Clare / Ricky Wilson**

***"Across the gulf of space, minds immeasurably superior to ours regarded this Earth with envious eyes, and slowly, and surely, they drew their plans against us..."***

In 2012, an all **New Generation** of stars will guest on a fresh recording of one of the most iconic albums of all time. Originally released in 1978, **Jeff Wayne's Musical Version of The War of The Worlds** remains an award-winning landmark masterpiece that has continually won new fans, spending over 330 weeks on the UK chart to date, reaching No.1 in 11 countries and selling over 15 million copies.

Now, **Jeff Wayne** has embarked on a new interpretation with guest stars every bit as talented as their illustrious predecessors. He has once again brought HG Wells' classic novel to life on a new double album both digitally and on vinyl, its original format.

Two of the modern era's most respected artists, Oscar nominated actor **Liam Neeson** and celebrated singer/songwriter/producer and **Take That's** main man **Gary Barlow** will play the two key roles of **The Journalist** and **The Sung Thought of the Journalist**.

**Gary** will be the new voice of the signature tracks **The Eve of The War** and **Forever Autumn**. A life-long fan of the original album, he was most excited at the chance to appear on the new one. He says: "I've been a huge fan of The War of The Worlds score since I was a kid, so to be asked to work with the legend that is Jeff Wayne was a real privilege."

34 years on, **Liam Neeson** inherits his role from Richard Burton, whose voice is an abiding memory for a generation haunted by his album narration. While a hard act to follow, he definitely makes the role his own. Liam Neeson says: "I knew and loved the book from when I was a teenager and it was an easy persuasion," says Liam. "And I bought the album in 1979 when I was working in Ireland. I still have that little cassette."



**Liam** is already announced in the 3D holographic role of the Journalist for **The New Generation** Arena Tour, which hits the UK in December, alongside **Ricky Wilson** who will play the Artilleryman in his first stage role.

**Ricky**, fresh from a world tour with the **Kaiser Chiefs and Closing Ceremony triumph at the Olympic Games**, takes over from David Essex's classic rendition as The Artilleryman. It is a brand new challenge for the rock star that grew up listening to Jeff's album.

Ricky commented, "Jeff Wayne's The War of The Worlds is part of the musical landscape and I have always been a fan. It is daunting to do because people love it so much. I got the email from Jeff Wayne inviting me to be part of it and that is not something you can say 'no' to."

Bringing a fresh sound to the role of Parson Nathaniel, acclaimed new singer **Maverick Sabre**, is the new Parson Nathaniel. Originally performed by Thin Lizzy's Phil Lynott, Maverick performs with **Joss Stone** the stunning choice to play Parson Nathaniel's wife, their performances on **The Spirit of the Man** are truly mesmerising.

Hot new talent, **Alex Clare**, fresh from his breakout hit **Too Close**, takes over as The Voice of Humanity, originally recorded by Chris Thompson.

#### The New Generation Cast of Characters

##### **The Journalist**

Liam Neeson (Originally played by Richard Burton)

##### **The Sung Thoughts of The Journalist**

Gary Barlow (Originally played by Justin Hayward)

##### **Parson Nathaniel**

Maverick Sabre (Originally played by Phil Lynott)

##### **Beth, Parson Nathaniel's Wife**

Joss Stone (Originally played by Julie Covington)

##### **The Artilleryman**

Ricky Wilson (Originally played by David Essex)

##### **The Voice of Humanity**

Alex Clare (Originally played by Chris Thompson)

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