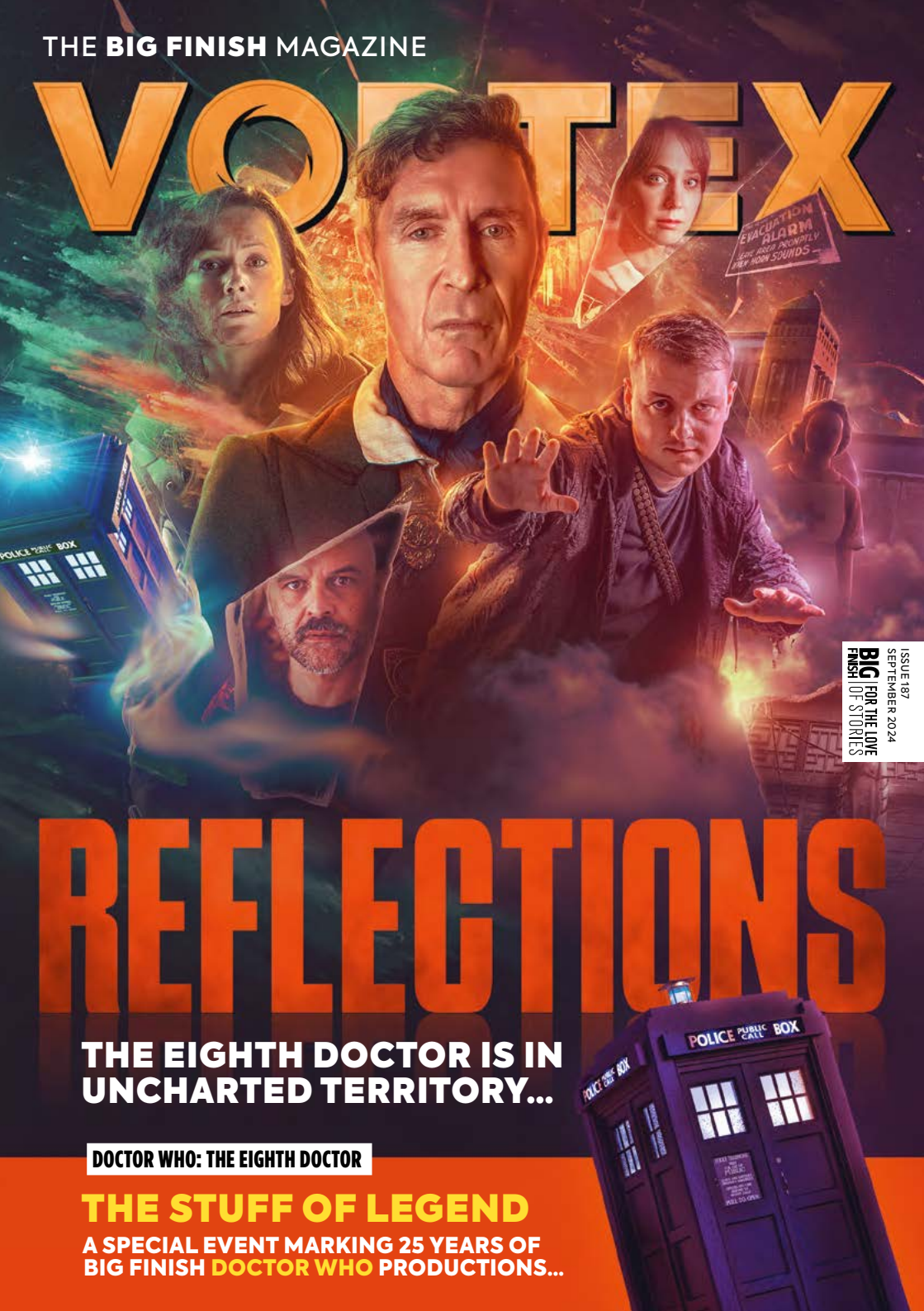


THE BIG FINISH MAGAZINE

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BIG FOR THE LOVE
FINISH OF STORIES

REFLECTIONS

THE EIGHTH DOCTOR IS IN UNCHARTED TERRITORY...

DOCTOR WHO: THE EIGHTH DOCTOR

THE STUFF OF LEGEND

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ZYGON

C E N T U R Y

ALIENS WALK among us... and they look like humans! There's a new battle for the Earth as the Zygons play the long game in **Zygon Century**, a brand-new range of full-cast audio dramas.

The first **Zygon Century** box set is due for release in January 2025 and sees a trio of tales set at different times including a turn of the century occult horror, a Cornish folk tale like no other and an Ian Fleming-inspired action adventure. The Black Cadre have a plan which will take exactly one hundred years to come to fruition...

The three stories in the box set are – 1901: *The Unknowing Mirror* by Jonathan Barnes, 1935: *The Miracle of Pendour Cove* by Lauren Mooney and Stewart Pringle, and 1957: *Double Agent* by Trevor Baxendale.

Producer Jonathan S Powell says: “**Zygon Century** is a hugely exciting sandbox to play in. The Zygons are such endlessly fascinating creations: shape-changers, unusually vulnerable to bullets and, despite their unnatural appearance, capable of the same humanity as we are. Which means there are so many wonderful stories to tell.

“As an anthology series, each writer-led episode has its own unique genre, style and story, tackling a different year of our century-long Zygon invasion. But just what are the Zygons planning that will take them so long?” **VORTEX**

DOCTOR WHO ZYGON CENTURY

- RELEASED: JANUARY 2025
- FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

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EDITORIAL

AS YOU read this month's *Vortex*, I'm getting really rather excited! **Doctor Who** is about to return to the stage in *The Stuff of Legend* and I can't wait to see it.

I was too young to see *The Curse of the Daleks* and *Doctor Who and the Daleks* in the *Seven Keys to Doomsday* live in theatre, but I was lucky enough to see *The Ultimate Adventure* with Jon Pertwee when it was performed in Glasgow. Audio adaptations of all three plays are available to purchase from the Big Finish website, incidentally!

This is a new and exciting venture for Big Finish, and I'm thrilled to be making the trip to London to watch the first matinee (do say hello if you see me). *The Stuff of Legend* stars Paul McGann and India Fisher as the Doctor and Charlotte Pollard facing off against the Master (Alex Macqueen) and the Daleks (Nicholas Briggs).

For me, this is the dream team who really helped set Big Finish apart from the crowd as they performed on-going **Doctor Who** adventures before the new television series began with *Rose* in 2005.

The Stuff of Legend is such a fantastic way of marking a Big Finish anniversary. It's hard to believe that 25 years has passed since the **Doctor Who** audios began with *The Sirens of Time*... more about that next month. **VORTEX**

Kenny



THE EIGHTH DOCTOR IS
IN UNCHARTED TERRITORY...

FRIEND OR FOE?

THE TIME War is raging in ways the Doctor never expected. The Time Lord (Paul McGann) is reunited with his previously-deceased great grandson Alex (Sonny McGann) who has mysteriously reappeared – living and breathing. The pair meet Cass (Emma Campbell-Jones), but friends – old or new – might not be what they seem... in *Time War Uncharted 1: Reflections*. Just what is going on?! Producer David Richardson tells *Vortex*: “I

remember the first production when we had Paul, Sonny and Emma together and the crew were in the control room listening to their scenes. We just said, ‘Well, *that* works doesn’t it?! They have fantastic chemistry together which makes the scenes ignite. So it was really a no brainer to bring them all back for this next collection of **Time War** stories.” Script editor Matt Fitton says: “This set of stories begins in a strange place, and it gets stranger as will become

clear through the course of the four episodes. The Doctor, Alex and Cass are traversing a void outside the universe where everything is up for grabs, slipping between different realities within the Time War – the equivalent of a ship going into stormy waters where anything can happen. “The first story, *Nowhere Never* by Katharine Armitage, begins in a bizarre place. It’s something like a suburban 1950s Cold War setting with Cass apparently isolated, while



Above (l-r): Conrad Westmaas, Amara Karan, Sanny McGinn and Dempsey Bovell

the Doctor and Alex are trapped in a military hospital. The Doctor's keen to avoid the mistakes that he made in the past with Alex, and Alex has started looking up to his great grandfather, wanting to follow in his footsteps. But the scales start to fall from his eyes when he sees what's happening in the Time War and, in particular, what's happening to Cass.

"The Doctor is up against events that mean he can't win all the time. People do get lost and people do die in these stories, so a wedge starts to form between the Doctor and Alex which will have consequences."

Katharine says: "The brief for this one was beautifully open. I knew Cass had gone missing at the end of the last box set which meant I got to dream up the place she could have ended up in, and further explore the idea of multi-realities and the impact the nuances of that are going to have on the characters."

"Cass is lost in a world so different from the one she thought she knew. A housewife and mother left alone in a home with a sarcastic talking fridge and endless photo albums, she has the strongest feeling



Above: Emma Campbell-Jones

something is missing. Something important. The Doctor and Alex have been injured in a war they can't quite remember. Watched over by the fearsome Matron, they try to piece their memories back together and work out what it is they were searching for."

MATT CONTINUES: "Story two is *The Road Untravelled* by Tim Foley. This, along with the final episode, is actually a two-parter with another story popped in the middle.

Hieronyma Friend returns, a figure within the Time War who seems to be exploiting it for their own agenda. The other strange thing about Friend is their appearance... the focus, though, is on Cass who hasn't met the Eighth Doctor at the time of television mini episode *The Night of the Doctor*, so we know something strange is going on."

When last we met Friend, they were played by Jaye Griffiths. Now, Conrad Westmaas and Hattie Morahan take on the part... David explains: "Hieronyma Friend has been a great addition to this series. Tim Foley created a wonderfully manipulative individual, and we knew very early on that we'd be bringing them back for more stories. But why does Hieronyma keep changing their appearance? Why do they always look and sound like one of the Doctor's friends? And why doesn't the Doctor even notice...? It's just an irresistible conceit isn't it?"



Above: Dan Starkey

Conrad says: “Tim’s scripts are unlike anything I’ve recorded before, and approaching an Eighth Doctor story from such a different angle was a real challenge. I particularly enjoyed some turbulent scenes with Paul and Sonny as friend and family dynamics get pushed to their limits. I’m loving the drama!”

Tim says: “After we finished writing on the *Time War 5: Cass* box set, Matt told me he wanted to take the series into uncharted territory using elements from previous stories. I was delighted that an aspect of one of my stories was about to play a pivotal role in the Time War – and I was excited to be dragged back into the fight.

“We’re always keen to shake things up, so *The Road Untravelled* and *Borrow and Rob* form a severed two-parter. *The Road Untravelled*

I LOVE C'RIZZ AND WAS GUTTED I LOST A THUMB WAR WITH LIZZIE HOPELY TO WRITE FOR HIM IN SONTARANS V RUTANS!

TIM FOLEY

follows directly from Kat’s story, so it’s a very serialised approach to storytelling. I got to tackle a juicy topic – something I wanted to write about ever since learning about this new TARDIS team (and I think the fans have been wanting it as well).

“We’re on one of the ancient Time Lord galleons, *Kalamos*, but we’re in

a dangerous region and the ship’s captain – an old friend of the Doctor’s – may not be all they appear to be. When David told me Conrad would be acting, I was absolutely delighted. I love C’rizz and was gutted I lost a thumb war with Lizzie Hopley to write for him in *Sontarans V Rutans*! This has more than made up for that.”

CASS-CADE BY James

Moran is the adventure in the middle of the two-parter. Matt says: “*Cass-cade* has Cass falling through a splintering time stream and meeting the Doctor and Alex, over and over. It’s got her



Above: Conrad Westmaas

learning how to centre herself within there, how to survive a Time War in a way, even though we know the end of her story. This version of Cass, who’s ended up knowing the Doctor and Alex, is fighting to keep her sanity and existence within this fracturing universe.”

James, who created a two-parter for the last box set, was delighted to be back writing for the Eighth Doctor in the Time War. He tells *Vortex*: “It’s so exciting and so much fun! I really, really, really love this team, they’re pure magic to write for. This was, despite the ridiculously convoluted plot, one of the most emotional stories I’ve ever written as it all hinges on Cass desperately trying to anchor herself and make her friends remember her.

“Cass keeps dropping in and out of

Sonny McGann reprises his role as Alex Campbell, the Doctor's great-grandson...

THE SON OF DOCTOR WHO



Above: Sonny McGann

THE EIGHTH Doctor is no longer travelling with his friend Bliss but his great-grandson Alex, played by Paul McGann's real-life son, Sonny. Sonny has played the part since 2009 and tells *Vortex*: "Although it's not outlined in the story I have three versions of Alex in my mind. There's the original Alex who's dead. There's the Alex which appears in *Time War Uncharted* who's obviously alive, well and running around having adventures. And then there's another Alex who shows up in *Susan's War* and exists in the mind of his mother. It's a memory that's as real as any other, because there's someone still alive to experience it.

"In the previous *Time War* release, Alex was offered another chance at life, to grow and be an adult. He has the opportunity to experience things and not have his time cut short. It's sort of a comparable feeling to being given another chance to play a character.

"Alex is now fortunate to be alive, and he has his own ideas and opinions on things. He expresses that but not all of his feelings and choices strike out as positive. The stories we tell at Big

Finish often have life and death decisions – there's a lot of triage going on in these adventures.

"For me, Alex is having an existential crisis of not really knowing what's happening. There's something missing – a memory, a detail, a piece of information – which is a throughline in these stories, and Alex is trying to coax that out of the Doctor when the time feels right. 'What's the deal? Who am I? Why am I here? What's going on? Is there something you're not telling me?'

"What I'm really enjoying playing is that he doesn't fully see eye-to-eye with the Doctor's decision making, but it's from a very interesting perspective."

Sonny particularly enjoyed working on the first episode in the set *Nowhere Never* with guest star Jon-Paul Rowden. Sadly since recording Jon-Paul has passed away, and Sonny is especially keen to remember his performance.

He explains: "Alex and the Doctor meet a character who's known as Soldier. They find him in a hospital and he appears to be some kind of fragmented memory of a person – incomplete, damaged and traumatised. But, at the same time, he's hopeful, essentially like a mirror of many aspects and feelings that the Doctor and Alex are carrying.

"There are moments when it's just Alex and Soldier, and to me it feels like those moments that Alex had with Lucie Miller. It's a fresh take on things, with Alex's innocence and hope, which serves as a good kind of counterbalance to perspective that we often expect from the Doctor who's analytical and pragmatic a lot of the time.

"Soldier speaks with his heart more than with his head. That translates heavily into Alex and he takes a lot from Soldier. It's an incredible performance from Jon-Paul – extremely delicate. He was great – he really was." **VORTEX**

an adventure, meeting the Doctor and Alex in the wrong order. They don't recognise her each time, and she has to try to piece together the events in the correct order to work out how to save the day.

"We're lucky with these *Time War* adventures that we're not *too* tied to continuity, because the *Time War* creates and destroys continuity every five minutes, purely because of the nature of it. So we're quite free to come up with almost anything we like, we just have to link it to our previous releases somehow and keep a rough throughline for the stories so they feel like a cohesive whole."

BORROW OR *Rob* by Tim

Foley concludes the set. He explains with an evil glint in his eye: "My favourite moment is the way I end episode four. This is not going to go the way you expect!" Matt adds: "*Borrow or Rob* is the fourth story in this set. As a palindrome, the title tells you that this is about reflections. The Doctor and his friends are traversing this strange void and a force within the *Time War* is pursuing them – whether that be the Daleks, *Time Lords* or some other party will be revealed later. By the end of this set we are in completely new territory."

David concludes: "In terms of the *Time War*, I'm not sure what's next. With this volume I'm handing over producing to Matt as I've now completed the first six box sets. But I can tell you I will be listening to the next releases as I can't wait to find out what happens next!" **VORTEX**

DOCTOR WHO REFLECTIONS



■ RELEASED: OCTOBER 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

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Big Finish is marking 25 years of its **Doctor Who** productions with a special story – which is also being performed live on stage...



THE STUFF OF WONDER

FROM THE release of *The Sirens of Time* back in 1999, who would have thought how much Big Finish would grow?

Starting with three of the Doctors, 10 actors credited as the Time Lord on television have now reprised their roles and hundreds of audio stories have been released on cassette, CD, vinyl and download.

To mark the 25th anniversary, Big Finish is doing something different as **The Eighth Doctor Adventures: *The Stuff of Legend*** is being performed live over the weekend of 14–15 September in London's Cadogan Hall.

Big Finish executive producer Jason Haigh-Ellery says: “25 years? It feels like 25 seconds! Producing the audio adventures of **Doctor**

Who has been such a joy that two and a half decades has flown by – almost as if we have all been in the time vortex with the Doctor.”

Jason's co-executive producer Nicholas Briggs tells *Vortex*: “A live performance is something that Jason has been trying to make a reality for many years, long before the COVID-19 pandemic, and he's pursued it with dogged determination.

“It was well over a year ago when he asked me to initiate production on it. I commissioned Robert Valentine to write the story and script, and Barnaby Edwards to direct because they are the ideal people for the job. The storyline was approved by the BBC quite quickly but then it all hung in a waiting pattern for a while until

Jason suddenly said, ‘Go, go, go!’ It's a testament to the hard work and professionalism of Rob and Barney that this has all been pulled together in a very short amount of time.

“From the start, I wanted us to have a pre-recorded version ready for the audience to buy at the live event. As for the performance itself, we've a few logistical concerns to address to make it happen smoothly. I had a pre-taste of what the problems might be as a few weeks ago I performed a 16-minute **Stingray** play live on stage – that experience is already proving invaluable for this.”

Jason adds: “We've enjoyed ourselves so much producing thousands of hours of audio drama adventures – and now we have



Above (l-r), Paul McGann and India Fisher

the chance to show fans of Big Finish how the audio productions are made with this performance – the first time **Doctor Who** has been live on stage since 1989.”

PAUL MCGANN and India Fisher will star as the Eighth Doctor and Charlotte Pollard, alongside Alex Macqueen as the Master and Nicholas Briggs as the Daleks.

Something is afoot in the lonely Cornish village of Merrymaid Bay. Rumours of dead men working in the tin mines have sent a chill through the community, and it's up to the Doctor and Charley to get to the bottom of the mystery.

Can the legends of the Bucca that haunts the mines be true? And just what awesome power do the Doctor's greatest enemies – the Daleks! – threaten to unleash upon the universe?

Rob tells *Vortex*: “It was extremely exciting to be asked to write the script for Big Finish's 25th anniversary **Doctor Who** live show. An honour and a privilege, and I couldn't be happier.

“This was always going to be an

THE WHOLE THING HAS BEEN DRAFTED TO WORK AS A LIVE RECORDING FIRST, WITH LIVE FOLEY AND HOPEFULLY THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A BIT OF AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION.

ROBERT VALENTINE

adventure for the Eighth Doctor and Charley, partly I think because if you're going to celebrate 25 years of **Doctor Who** at Big Finish, they are the original Big Finish TARDIS team. This is a show for all the family, appealing to an audience beyond Big Finish's core fandom, and of course it just had to include the Daleks – and I think we all knew intuitively that it should include the Master as well.

“The brief said that this was going to be performed live, and that's really not a detail to keep from the writer. So the whole thing has been drafted to work as a live recording first, with live foley and hopefully the opportunity

for a bit of audience participation.”

Of the storyline, Rob says: “I've tried to pack everything into this one. There are ancient mysteries, universe-quaking schemes, a host of colourful supporting characters and an awful lot of adventure.

To honour the grand tradition of **Doctor Who** stealing from famous horror films, movie buffs might notice a few similarities early on to Hammer's classic *The Plague of the Zombies*. It's set in a Cornish village called Merrymaid Bay where local men have been disappearing, and it turns out that the local legends of the mysterious Bucca might be true.”

He adds: “Choosing highlights is difficult because the entire experience has been brilliant. As well as having a wonderful cast on this, working with director, script editor and actor Barney has been a joy. What I'm really looking forward to – and what I'm also really terrified about – is being in Cadogan Hall for the live experience. It's going to be magical and thoroughly nerve-wracking.”

India Fisher is delighted to be playing Charley once more.

She tells *Vortex*: “I'm very excited to be part of the 25th anniversary story. Big Finish has been a massive part of my career – I've played Charley for half my life and I love her!


“The chance to perform this in front of a live audience is amazing – it adds a whole new dimension. And the story is a cracker – a proper **Doctor Who** romp – and I'm thrilled to be doing this with Paul. It's going to be fantastic.” **VORTEX**

DOCTOR WHO THE STUFF OF LEGEND



■ RELEASED: SEPTEMBER 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

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TIM TRELOAR AND KATY MANNING BATTLE AN OLD ENEMY IN THE LATEST THIRD DOCTOR ADVENTURES SET, WITH THE OLD FRIENDS BEING...

ALWAYS & FOREVER

IN 2023'S *The Return of Jo Jones*, the Third Doctor encountered Jo Jones, Jo Grant's older, married, 21st century self. And from that moment, the Doctor (Tim Treloar) and Jo (Katy Manning) were set for 'one more big adventure and back in time for tea'. Their latest story, *The Quintessence*, sees the pair face off against one of the Doctor's oldest enemies: the Cybermen (in their original form).

Stewart Pringle and Lauren Mooney take the friends to 'Always', a bizarre Victorian manor inhabited by the unusual Pepperdine family. Producer Heather Challands said: "This production has me very

excited. Not only do we have the return of Katy as the amazing Jo Jones alongside Tim as the Doctor, but we also have the Mondasian Cybermen.

"Stewart and Lauren have written a terrifying, gothic script that goes from a Victorian house on an alien wasteland to the depths of Mondas. The Doctor and Jo come across the Pepperdine family who are hiding quite a few secrets – even they don't know the true extent of the danger they are in."

Script editor and director plus Cybervoice Nicholas Briggs says: "I've listened to Stewart and Lauren's work, particularly on *Torchwood*, and they have a vibe and style that I

really like. So I approached them to see if they had any Third Doctor ideas. They're very efficient and presented me with about four pitches. I had initially thought that I was after one of their ancient folklore-style stories but their very original, very personal take on the Cybermen really appealed to me. Also, I liked the fact that it was very much a Jo Jones story, about her emotional concerns.

"The story I chose was initially called *Always*, which as many of you will know is also the title of a film. For that reason I asked Lauren and Stewart to change it. Being much younger than me, they hadn't heard of the film and they'd very much



Above: Katy Manning

geared their script to be called *Always*. People say 'always' a lot! And, of course, that's the name of the house.

"But I wanted a title which was more about the central, sci-fi concept of the story. They'd created this rather terrifying thing called the Quintessence, and I felt it was at the heart of the narrative, so we changed the name to that. I also suggested that the beginning should be slightly different so that when we get to the part featuring the Quintessence, we think we know what is going on – even though we don't! Lauren and Stewart were lovely people to work with. Really friendly and conscientious."

Stewart and Lauren were delighted with the commission. Lauren confirms: "Nick wanted to give Jo a six-part adventure with the Doctor, and he wanted something off-world so we pitched a few different ideas, some with and some without returning monsters. It was a bit intimidating because we tend to find stories that are small, intimate and human – the quickest and easiest to write – and also we tend to be more interested in character



Above: Gary Turner

than plot so the thought of having to come up with enough story to sustain six episodes was scary! We've mainly written hour-long standalones before this, but we were really excited to rise to the challenge. And of course, you can still use character stuff as a way in."

Stewart adds: "We were pretty sure from early on that we wanted to explore how Jo has changed since she

last travelled with the Doctor, to find out about the things she has learned and also the things she has lost. We wanted to go deeper into the impact of Cliff's death, and that question of how you square your relationship with a functionally immortal time traveller when the evidence of your own mortality is all around you. *The Quintessence* grew out of that."

Of the story, Stewart tells *Vortex*: "Jo has been experiencing some strange dreams and they lead her and the Doctor to a totally bizarre place. It's a manor house in late

THIS WAS A BIT OF A DREAM FOR ME BECAUSE CYBERMEN HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MY FAVOURITE DOCTOR WHO MONSTERS.

LAUREN MOONEY

Gothic-revival style, stuck in the middle of a desolate storm-world called Nethara Reach. And there's a light on in the top window. So our story really begins with that mystery, how did the house get there? Who are the Pepperdine family, the weird people who live in it? And what does any of this have to do with the Cybermen who are scratching out an existence on the dying, rotting planet of Mondas? Well, you'll have to wait till October to find out!"

Lauren continues: "This was only our second time writing a classic monster, after a *River Song* episode which featured the Autons, and it was much easier to do this time! We realised after pitching the River story that the scary thing about Autons is they don't really talk, which isn't great on audio...! But this was a bit of a dream for me because Cybermen have always been my favourite **Doctor Who** monsters. As a kid I was obsessed with *Silver Nemesis* (don't judge me!) and also the bit in *The Five Doctors* where the Raston Warrior Robot kills all the Cybermen. Something about their voices is so much more frightening than the

Daleks. They're scary even when they're dying. And they always have been – it's just a brilliant design – so getting to write Mondasian Cybermen in particular was fantastic. This was our only pitch that included the Cybermen so we were over the moon when Nick picked it.”

door to so many brilliantly human questions about what we would do to survive and our relationship to death, and what even constitutes a human or non-human existence.

Stewart says: “I can't really say too much more about it without giving things away, but my

writing, it felt like a totally sincere attempt to grapple with some of the things we wanted to explore about life and death, and being human. And to be given the space to unpack those things, and the trust to do it, and also the permission to do it through Cybermen – I mean, there's not much



Above (l-r): Tim Treloar, Katy Manning, Nicholas Briggs, Emily Joyce, Chris Larkin and Felicity Cant

STUART AND Lauren are generally known for their darker narratives – do the original Cybermen especially lend themselves to that? Lauren tells *Vortex*: “I think so. The scary thing about Cybermen, of course, is that they were human so they hold a mirror up to us – and the earlier you catch them in that narrative the closer they are. The bit in the TV episode *The Tomb of the Cybermen* (my favourite Cybermen story) where they're repeating, ‘We will survive. We will survive...’ is just absolutely chilling!”

“Because *Doctor Who* is a story about survival, often against the odds where life is precious and worth holding onto, these are stories of scrapes and near misses and brilliant, unlikely survival. And the Cybermen are like the dark underbelly of that – survival at any cost when actually the universe is not on your side. That opens the

IT'S PROBABLY MY FAVOURITE THING WE'VE EVER WRITTEN FOR BIG FINISH. IT'S EXTRAORDINARILY DARK AND SCARY...

STEWART PRINGLE

highlight was episode five. It's probably my favourite thing we've ever written for Big Finish. It's extraordinarily dark and scary.”

Lauren agrees: “We were writing this story last summer between stints at my grandmother's deathbed. We were really close and some of those feelings made their way in here – but not at all in a bad way. This story goes to some dark places but I don't think it's gratuitous. As we were


more you could ask for, really.”

Nick concludes: “It's always fun to voice different Cybermen. And our sound designer, Benji Clifford, was great at joining in during the Cyber crowd scenes.” **VORTEX**

THE THIRD DOCTOR ADVENTURES THE QUINTESSENCE



■ RELEASED: OCTOBER 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

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THE COMPANION CHRONICLES: UPSTAIRS

WHAT'S THAT CREEPING AROUND IN THE ATTIC? WE'LL FIND OUT IN THE BIG FINISH BOOK CLUB...



DOCTOR WHO in Downing Street? You're probably now thinking of the television episodes *Aliens of London/World War Three*. But the First Doctor got there before his ninth incarnation did.

Upstairs was released in 2013 as part of the eighth season of **The Companion Chronicles**. Written by Mat Coward – author of crime novels, children's books and short stories – it features Maureen O'Brien as Vicki and Peter Purves as Steven.

Mat – whose great uncle Frank Crawshaw played Farrow in the TV episode *Planet of Giants* – recalls: "I knew Maureen O'Brien through crime writing (which she writes, and which I write and review).

Since she had a major, and I had a minor, connection to Big Finish, she suggested to David Richardson that I write a story for her character. So David contacted me, I sent him a few ideas, and he chose the one that became *Upstairs*." Mat was familiar with **Doctor**

I HAVE THE STYLE, ATMOSPHERE AND RHYTHMS OF THE HARTNELL ERA DEEP IN MY BONES.

MAT COWARD

Who having grown up with it. He tells *Vortex*: "I was born in 1960 and watched **Doctor Who** from the very first episode, so I have the style, atmosphere and rhythms of the Hartnell era deep in my bones.

"It's probably impossible to exaggerate the ubiquity and importance of **Doctor Who** in the childhoods of that first generation of children watching it. There weren't any 'fans' as such – it was just a huge part of all our lives.

"Having said that, I re-watched (or listened to soundtracks of) most of the Vicki and Steven stories to pick up some small details that I could drop into my script."

What made Mat pick the setting of 10 Downing Street for *Upstairs*?

He recalls: "Some years ago I read a reference to Prime Minister Lloyd George's wife being shocked at the tip-like state of Number Ten's attic. At the time I thought it would be a good place for the TARDIS to turn up so I made a note to use it in a story one day."

Mat has mixed feelings when he looks back on his script now. He admits that he was: "So happy to have written it – I'm officially a **Doctor Who** writer! For someone of my generation, well, that's the sort of thing you use to comfort yourself on your death bed.

"If I was doing the story again (and under easier conditions, sadly I wrote *Upstairs* during a prolonged family emergency) I think I'd tell myself to let go more.

"I was very conscious of writing a 'proper **Doctor Who** story' and I don't think that was necessarily playing to my strengths: I otherwise might have been more bold, humorous and eccentric in developing the actual storyline. But I'm very pleased with the atmosphere and the characterisation which is what most of the reviewers and writers of fan mail liked too." **VORTEX**

THE COMPANION CHRONICLES UPSTAIRS



- RELEASED: SEPTEMBER 2013
- FORMAT: DOWNLOAD

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POLICING WITH EXTRA BITE

THE VAM PD ARE ON THE BEAT IN A BRAND NEW SERIES FROM BIG FINISH...

BIG FINISH is renowned for its creativity, not just in its licensed products but in its **Originals** range too. **The Confessions of Dorian Gray** and **The Human Frontier** are just two of the acclaimed series which have been released over the years.

And now it's time to get your fangs into this brand-new full-cast audio drama series as we follow the officers of the vampire police as they hunt down immortal lawbreakers. This is **Vam PD**.

Vampires live their lives by rules – but who polices them? Welcome to the Office of the Night, where vampires Catrin and Magnus keep an uneasy peace between the living and the undead.

Leading Vam PD's star-studded cast is Juliet Landau (best known for

playing Drusilla in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and its spin-off *Angel*) as Catrin, alongside Alimi Ballard (*Numb3rs*, *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*) as Magnus, her partner in crime-fighting. Nineties icon Mara Wilson (*Mrs Doubtfire*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Matilda*) guest stars as Jane, the Office of the Night's human liaison, while Warren Brown (*Luther*, *Strike Back*) plays Orhan, an important man in Jane's life.

Vam PD Volume One, comprising three adventures written by James Goss, will be released in October this year – ideal Halloween listening! A second volume of three more episodes is due in February 2025. Writer James says: "I grew up obsessed by Drusilla on *Buffy* – who wasn't haunted by her lethal kookiness? She was

a vampire who never obeyed the rules. Which got me thinking...

"A lot of vampire lore is just that – laws and rules. They can't walk in sunlight, they can't stand garlic, holy water or other people's doors... There are so many rules. And I wondered where these rules came from, and who enforced them?"

"This led to the idea of the Office of the Night, a vampire police force who ensure that other vampires are obeying the rules and hunting down those that are flouting them. That's right – it's a show about vampire bureaucrats!"

"And to head it up is the amazing Juliet playing Catrin, a vampire obsessed with the rules. But she's forgotten one thing – all laws are made to be broken – aren't they?"



Above (l-r): Alimi Ballard, Juliet Landau and Mara Wilson

THROUGHOUT THE series, the officers crack down on illegal blood-tasting parties, discover a thriving red market, investigate a cult that offers vampires the ability to walk in the sun, and more – all in a night’s work.

The three episodes in this first box set are:

Party All Night: Vampire Circuit Parties? Someone’s set up a series of tasting clubs at which vampires massacre unsuspecting human invitees. Magnus and Catrin must stop this before the craze goes viral. It’s Jane’s first day as human liaison to the Office of the Night and it may well be her last.

Blood Bank: Some vampires choose not to kill for blood – they prefer to have it supplied. It’s a lifestyle choice. There’s a thriving red market in liquid gold. But the vampires running the Red Market are worried – something’s contaminating the blood – a contaminant that for some is a drug and for others is lethal. If the Red

Market falls, then their customers are suddenly going to get very hungry.

Under the Sun: A vampire cult has sprung up allowing vampires the ultimate cure – the ability to walk in the sun. Catrin and Magnus are worried. Is the cult a trick, or will it change the way that vampires feed, unleashing terror on the world?

PRODUCER LIZZIE Worsdell is delighted to have been given this **Big Finish Originals** series, and says: “It is incredibly exciting, and I couldn’t wait to work on it as soon as I read the first script. James’s writing is brilliant and then getting to work with a cast like this was awesome.

“I don’t really have anything to compare it to but it certainly involves a fair amount of work! **Vam PD** was a bit different to other ranges I’ve produced as the scripts had already been created and edited when I came on board – normally

on a new range I would work with the writers and script editors to develop the scripts as well.

“But it’s very exciting working on a brand-new series as you’re starting with a blank slate. We could cast whoever we liked and it was an opportunity for the actors to develop a completely new character that hasn’t been played before. A lot of time and effort went into making sure we got just the right actors, as well as creating the atmospheric theme tune and artwork, etc.”

Vortex asks Lizzie to sum up the range: “Witty, camp and brilliant! Something a bit different that we haven’t heard before from Big Finish and an alternate take on the vampire story.

“The twist in the third episode will really change what people have thought about vampires previously – it opens up a lot of opportunity.

I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING TO COMPARE IT TO BUT IT CERTAINLY INVOLVES A FAIR AMOUNT OF WORK!

LIZZIE WORSDELL

“I am so excited for everyone to hear **Vam PD**. It features two iconic leads in Mara and Juliet as well as a stellar supporting cast. The writing is brilliant – a take on a vampire story that we haven’t encountered before. Listeners can expect mystery, comedy, a bit of gore and lots of vampires! If you like *Buffy* or *Lucifer*, this is definitely the series for you.”

JULIET PLAYED evil vampire Drusilla in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* from 1997 to 2003 and its spin-off *Angel* from 2000 to 2004, as well as an incarnation of Time Lady Romana for Big Finish. She tells *Vortex*: “Big Finish reached out and said that James had written the role of Catrin for me. I initially said I wasn’t sure I wanted to do another vampire project, but then I started reading the scripts and I began laughing out loud – which isn’t something I generally do. I’m a person who thinks, ‘That’s funny,’ rather

than laughing. But I was guffawing!
 “In fact my husband Dev asked from the other room, ‘What’s going on in there? What are you doing?’ And I said, ‘**Vam PD!** That’s what’s happening!’ The scripts are fantastic. The roles are delicious! I love Catrin and I am

(one thousand years old, glacial, whip-smart, imperious, leader of the Office of the Night), Magnus (hypochondriac, neurotic, younger vampire who works for her) and their newest human liaison, Jane (the Scully of the bunch.) Adventures

Mara was brought on board. Then my husband Dev and I became associate producers of the range. After reading the scripts, my actor friend Alimi came to mind immediately – I knew he would kill as Magnus. We share



Above: Mara Wilson



Above: Alimi Ballard



Above: Juliet Landau

so excited about the series! I think genre fans, *Buff* fans, Big Finish fans and really any listener who thrives on great material will love **Vam PD**.
 “Everything you think you know about vampires will be turned on its head when you step into the world of **Vam PD**. You meet Catrin

I WASN'T SURE I WANTED TO DO ANOTHER VAMPIRE PROJECT, BUT THEN I STARTED READING THE SCRIPTS AND I BEGAN LAUGHING OUT LOUD...

JULIET LANDAU

ensue with their task of keeping the peace between humans and vampires. Listeners will be whisked into a universe unlike any other, rife with humour and pathos.
 “This world and these scripts were not something I could pass up! Catrin is extremely different from any role I have ever played, vampire or not, which is one of the aspects I love about being an actress and something that I seek.”
 Juliet adds: “After I was cast as Catrin, the phenomenally talented

an agent so we wrote a pitch/offer and the rest is history.
 “I didn’t get to record these first three with Warren so I am really looking forward to hearing his work. Recording with Alimi and Mara was a blast! It was a real dance; a tennis match, very free and fluid. We found a wonderful rhythm all together. We made one another laugh and we made one another cry. Ursula Burton, the director, is also marvellous to work with.” **VORTEX**

VAM PD VOLUME ONE

■ RELEASED: OCTOBER 2024
 ■ FORMAT: DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/teeth

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

VORTEX MAIL



LUCKY THIRTEENTH

The return of Jodie Whittaker and Mandip Gill as the Thirteenth Doctor and Yaz is absolutely brilliant news! The Thirteenth Doctor in my opinion is so horribly underrated. Jodie always gave an amazing performance and she seems like a very nice person, with an infectious energy and a great sense of humour who I am sure is lots of fun to work with! Thankfully there are fascinating gaps in Jodie's era to be played with, especially between Series 12 and *Flux*. I can't wait to hear more news about them over the next 12 months, and to hear Jodie and Mandip together again. Thank you, Big Finish, for giving the Thirteenth Doctor the new lease of life that she deserves!

BENJAMIN CALLINICOS

Nick: Cheers, Benjamin. We're so thrilled to be entering this era at Big Finish and, as I keep telling people, Jodie and Mandip are an absolute joy to work with. So generous, energetic and diligent. The storylines for the upcoming adventures are among the best I've ever read.

BACK 'IN PRINT'?

The amount of stuff you have produced over the years is staggering, and though it is impressive I have started to be a bit selective about which ends of the universe I want to focus on the most. Thanks to you

guys, it's your fault that Paul McGann is now my favourite doctor, and I would love to own many of his earlier releases on CD. Will you ever bring **The Monthly Adventures** back into print? I think with the passage of time many new listeners would be interested in these adventures, especially as they feature some of the greatest stories in the show's history. I understand, though, that Big Finish is a small company and that the demand changes on certain products, and that my question might just not be viable. Still, I can only hope!

IAN CHRISTISON

*Nick: Hi Ian, I'm pretty certain that **The Doctor Who Monthly Adventures** won't be repressed on CD, not unless there's a miraculous change in technology and the costs for doing so. That said, it isn't beyond the bounds of possibility that we might present special physical media releases of older stories as we're doing with *The Sirens of Time*, for example.*

25 GLORIOUS YEARS

When watching *Silver Nemesis* at the age of 11, I thought my mum was so old because she remembered watching *An Uneearthly Child* on her 22nd birthday! In 1999 I was 22 for *The Sirens of Time*, and I no longer think 25 years is so impossibly distant.

PAUL CASTLE

*Nick: Ha ha! I know exactly what you mean, Paul. I remember reading *The Making of Doctor Who* and marvelling how **Doctor Who** was 8 years old! Perspectives change, don't they?*

BRILLIANT BOOKS

I wanted to thank you all so much for the brilliant adaptation of *Goth Opera* from book to audio. I really hope that it's sold well and there could perhaps be a little more life in **The Novel Adaptations** range yet. *The Dying Days* had such a limited print run, and it would be the perfect way to mark 30 years of Paul McGann as the Doctor in 2026.

MATTHEW

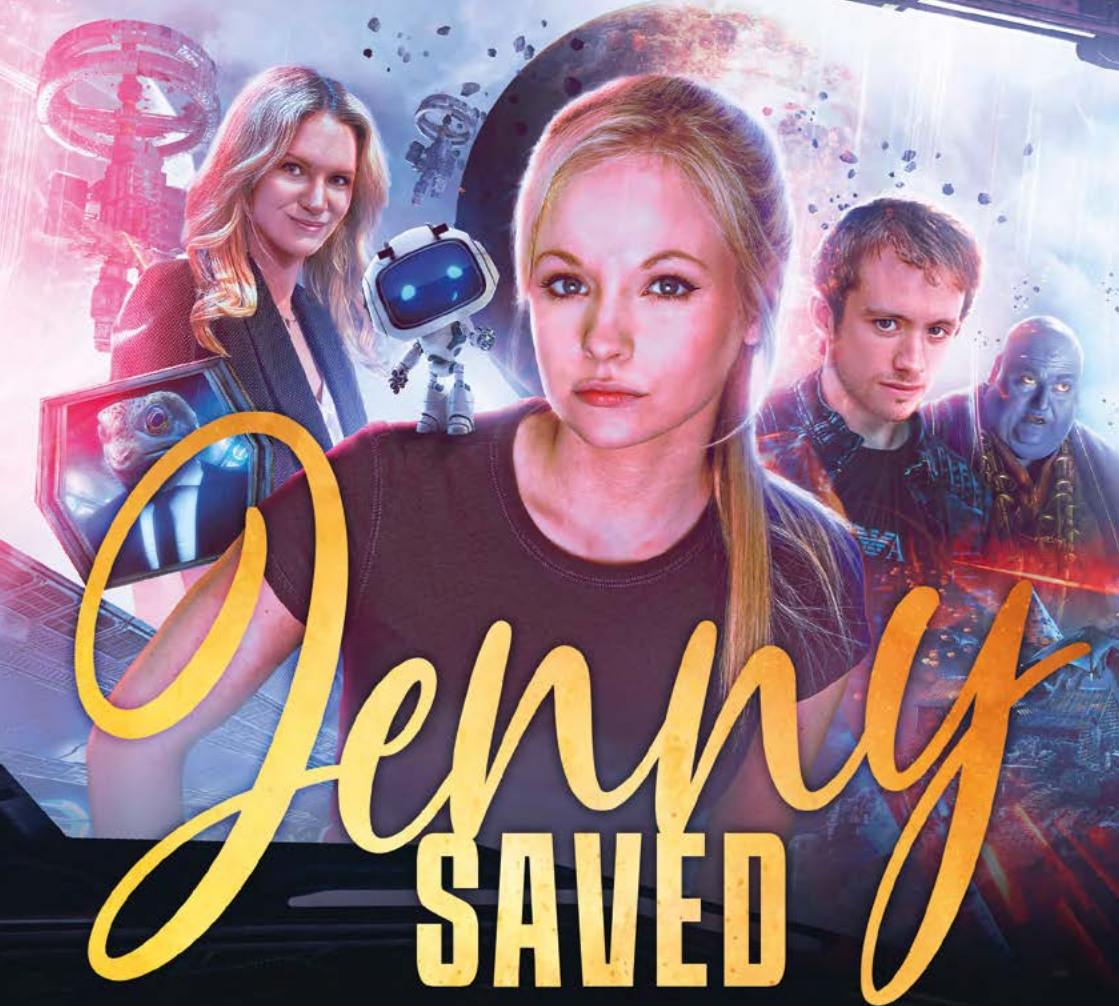
*Nick: We are already talking about further novel dramatisations. They're a bit of a slow burn on sales, but given that some of them have done well after a long period of time, we're now revisiting them in a limited way. *Goth Opera* has been popular, perhaps not surprisingly since Paul Cornell's book is a classic.*

MARY, MARY

I've just finished the Eighth Doctor and Mary Shelley trilogy from 2011 (yes, I am quite behind!). What a brilliant little arc which left me wanting more. It was left open-ended, allowing for the possibility of further stories before she returns to her old life, the long way round if you will. Surely a meet-up between Mrs Shelley and Miss Pollard would be irresistible too. I can't help thinking that Julie Cox and India Fisher would bounce off each other well, though both playing historical feminists. Oh, and that theme arrangement... channelling both John Debney and Murray Gold together.

DAVID CANFIELD

*Nick: Yes, great theme arrangement by Jamie Robertson - he is a genius! It was his idea to do it, too. I would certainly never rule out a return to Mary's storyline, and meeting Charley would be great, wouldn't it? No firm plans yet, though, David. **VORTEX***



SOME BIG Finish series are full of high-stakes drama and **Jenny – The Doctor’s Daughter** is no different. And often, as in this case, they are a lot of fun too.

Introduced in the 2008 **Doctor Who** television episode *The Doctor’s Daughter*, Jenny (Georgia Tennant) is the artificially created offspring of the Tenth Doctor. Since escaping the planet Messaline, she has been on the run across time and space with her friend Noah (Sean Biggerstaff) at her side. Except, Noah’s now a killer cyborg intent on murdering her.

Script editor Matt Fitton says: “We ended on a cliffhanger last time with Jenny finally getting the Colt 5000 off her trail by saving

the person within the cyborg. But unfortunately, the consequence of changing history means that Noah is now the cyborg pursuing Jenny.

“Although it’s quite dark, **Jenny – The Doctor’s Daughter**: *Saving Time* is also humorous as you can tell from the title of the first story, *Florence O’Connor and the Sandwich of Doom!* This is a lovely timeline-changing romp from John Dorney, where Jenny has to solve the immediate problem of Noah being the cyborg. It’s down to the web of time and Jenny learning that there are some things she can do to fix things, all of which involve a sandwich.

John says: “*Florence O’Connor and the Sandwich of Doom* is one

of those titles where you think, “They won’t allow this, will they?” But happily everyone said, “Yes!”

“The brief was sort of resetting history from the previous series. I wanted to go small, to push against expectations, working on the basis of chaos theory, cause and effect – those type of things. But also to try and find an idea of how to change history.

“I didn’t want big *Back to the Future* or *Avengers: End Game*-style shenanigans. I wanted to go the other way, to think about the little things that we have in our lives, and how those change the future. There’s a lovely Divine Comedy song which has a line: ‘Fate doesn’t hang on a wrong or right choice. Fortune



Above: Georgia Tennant

depends on the tone of your voice.' So, the smallest of actions can lead to the widest change at the end, it doesn't have to be anything big.

"When I was writing it, I didn't have anyone in mind to play Florence O'Connor, but I suggested one of my very best friends, an actor called Jessica Regan, who I did a podcast with for many years. Jess has acted in a few Big Finishes before, and I thought she would be a good fit as she and Georgia know each other and get on well."

THE SECOND adventure is *A Beginner's Guide to Monsters (and How to Slay Them)* by Rochana Patel. Rochana says: "I was pretty much free to do anything I liked on this one, but I knew there was a 'historical' slot available

FAR TOO MUCH OF MY BRAIN IS FILLED WITH INFORMATION ABOUT PLACES LIKE WESTEROS, SKYRIM, MIDDLE-EARTH, BALDUR'S GATE AND WILDEMOUNT.

ROCHANA PATEL

– and I love doing those so I snapped that right up!

"John had already written the first episode so I had a very fixed starting point, and having access to the script for the adventure

before is something I really adore. It means you can keep running with character development and jokes, really making it feel as if it's all part of the same ongoing story. You'll find I back-reference that quite a lot. John's script is bonkers and brilliant – and I used that to my advantage as it served as the perfect set-up to go even further!

"*A Beginner's Guide to Monsters (and How to Slay Them)* is an unapologetic love-letter to the fantasy genre and roleplaying games. Far too much of my brain is filled with information about places like Westeros, Skyrim, Middle-earth, Baldur's Gate and Wildemount.

"I spent a lot of time playing RPGs online during the COVID-19 pandemic. They were my mental health lifeline, and I've always wanted to do something that acknowledges just what a useful tool they can be if you're struggling.

"Try rolling dice and pretending to be a ridiculous hero, and you'll see what I mean! This script was submitted before *Rogue* aired on TV, but the fact the Doctor seems oddly well versed in the rules of *Dungeons & Dragons* really warmed my heart, and plays quite neatly against what happens here."

GENESIS OF *the Humans* is the third adventure, written by Georgia's friend Adrian Poynton. Matt says: "Adrian has written lots of great stories for the **Jenny** series. I gave him this revelatory episode, *Genesis of the Humans*, to start to answer some of the questions that have been raised. Why was the Colt 5000 after Jenny? Where does Noah come from?"

"I also asked him to bring back a couple of other slippery characters who seem to go together quite well. So, we've got Dorium Maldovar popping his head up again along with Garundel, our salamander-like alien conman arms dealer."

Adrian tells *Vortex*: "It's always pleasing to get a call from Big Finish asking me to write a script for them... and even more exciting to me to be asked to write for **Jenny – The Doctor's Daughter**.

"My brief this time was something I don't want to tell you because it's a big ol' spoiler... and what that means for Jenny, Noah

and the universe as a whole.

"Where my last two **Jenny** episodes were pretty confined (a space station and the Maldorvarium), this time I wanted to go to lots of places and really push the scale. And let's just say I think I found a great way to do just that.

"The story itself begins with Dorium calling in a favour... and then things just spiral out of control from there until a secret is revealed!

"Writing for Jenny and Noah is always a riot. I really love their relationship and back and forth banter. And I've enjoyed watching them grow over the three series

THIS TIME I WANTED TO GO TO LOTS OF PLACES AND REALLY PUSH THE SCALE. AND LET'S JUST SAY I THINK I FOUND A GREAT WAY TO DO JUST THAT.

ADRIAN POYNTON



Above (l-r): Georgia Tennant and Sean Biggerstaff

from people who are totally new to the universe and know very little about anything to people who now feel they know more about everything but have in truth barely even begun to scratch the surface."

REBOOT BY Lizzie Hopley

concludes the set. Matt explains: "We wanted to have Jenny's nemesis appear – kind of the opposite of her. So, Jexabel Glyce was born. She's somebody whose heritage has given her everything – privilege and wealth. She's essentially the

wealthiest woman in the universe and can do what she likes.

"Conversely, Jenny's heritage has given her the instinct and drive to keep going, to learn things, and to be able to react and deal with situations. It was fun putting those opposites together."

Lizzie says: "My job was to have Jenny and Noah fully realise who has been acting against them and why. We also discover Noah's true origin story and why so many people see him as 'valuable'. And I was given free rein to develop the character of the wealthiest women in the universe which was a gift that just kept on giving.

"My story starts after a certain passage of time, but we're not sure if it's weeks or years. I wanted to stick Jenny in a situation which sounded like she'd been imprisoned or indoctrinated. How would someone with her spirit and buoyancy cope with that?"

"Noah is also trapped but rather more hideously, so they are both being experimented on by Jexabel but in very different ways."

Matt concludes: "We asked Georgia for suggestions of who could play her nemesis and she suggested Anna Lundberg who stars with her in the BBC show *Staged*. She's also a friend of Georgia's so it was brilliant to be able to get her in. She absolutely grabbed hold of the role and it sounds fantastic when the two of them go up against each other." **VORTEX**

JENNY: THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER
SAVING TIME



- RELEASED: OCTOBER 2024
- FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/noah

LURKING IN THE SHADO



A NEW AUDIOBOOK IS ON THE WAY FROM THE WORLDS OF GERRY ANDERSON...

COMMANDER ED Straker is battling to retain his grip on reality in a new adventure set in the classic era of **UFO**. Produced by Anderson Entertainment and released on download through Big Finish, Nicholas Briggs performs a narrated version of James Swallow's exciting new novel, *Shadow Play*.

James is delighted to have had the chance to write for the classic Gerry Anderson shows are **UFO** and **Space: 1999**, both of which I came to in their original runs on television and both of which have had a strong influence on my love of sci-fi.

"I was fascinated by unidentified flying objects when I was younger

so **UFO** was the perfect series for me. The funky look of the show, the cool vehicles and the creepy, sinister aliens were like nothing I'd ever seen before. And later in the 1990s I rediscovered it, watching all the episodes again and seeing anew some of the taut writing and drama it contains. It's been a lot of fun to return to the adventures of SHADO!"

Vortex asks the writer to explain the plot. James says: "Ed Straker is the uncompromising commander of Earth's last line of defence in the clandestine war against an insidious alien enemy, and that means being on call around the clock, rarely getting a moment's respite – it's a situation that would test even the toughest person. So what happens when the man at the top is pushed too far? Straker takes part in an experiment into ESP potentiality that goes badly wrong, awakening from a coma with missing memories and strange hallucinations

that threaten his grip on reality. Is it the result of alien interference, or is Straker finally cracking up under the constant mental strain? Facing danger from within and without he must find the truth, even if it kills him."

By writing a novel, rather than a full-cast audio drama, it gave the writer the chance to get more inside Straker's head and expand on the challenges he faces. James explains: "The brief I was given when I got this project was to tell a Straker-centric story, something that deliberately echoed the later, more 'out-there' episodes of the first season. Something with a vibe like **The Prisoner**, another TV show from that era.

"That was immediately interesting to me, because Straker is one of my favourite characters from **UFO**, and he's got such depth and complexity that he's a gift to writers. Straker is so driven, so dogged in the pursuit of his mission, but he's also sacrificed more than anyone else in SHADO to keep it running. So peeling back the layers on that and putting him into a situation where he's vulnerable was great fun to write."

James adds: "Early on, one of the tonal choices I made with *Shadow Play* was to write it as much as possible in the mode of the Seventies sci-fi novels I read growing up. I want this story to feel like it picks up seamlessly from where the TV show ends, as if it was a lost manuscript penned back in 1972. It was a real challenge and I really hope my enthusiasm for **UFO** will come through for old and new fans alike." **VORTEX**

UFO SHADOW PLAY

- RELEASED: SEPTEMBER 2024
- FORMAT: DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/casts 

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY...



BERNICE SUMMERFIELD

has a new home. She's settling into life at the Eternity Club, whose members are an elite group of the galaxy's top explorers living a life of luxury on their private asteroid.

She's met some interesting new people including Secretary Pym (Nickolas Grace), the Sontaran Starll (Dan Starkey), Dravin Queen Grizella (Naana Agyei-Ampadu) and the Draconian Professor Altazar (Shai Matheson), however, she's not been given the welcome she might have expected.

Bernice, played of course by Lisa Bowerman, has two more adventures in *The Eternity Club 2*. The first story is *Rhubarb* by Tim Foley.

A small argument between a Sontaran and a Draconian escalates into an interstellar war. Who is manipulating events and can Bernice avert disaster?

Tim says: "We start with something small and minor but that blossoms out into something potentially catastrophic.

"The half hour structure of these

**WELL, IF YOU
PUT A SONTARAN
IN THERE, THEN
THINGS ARE GOING
TO SPIRAL!**

TIM FOLEY

episodes gives this series sitcom vibes. I don't mean that in the context of the audience laughing at us, but the idea that there is a form of normality – and then one thing happens which causes another thing to happen, and chaos builds so what ensues could almost be ridiculous.

"Benny has to bring all the pieces together, and I really enjoyed creating that. I also like the 30-minute format in general, as it's something you don't get to do a lot in Big Finish now, and it's a lovely timeframe to work within. For *Rhubarb*, it's just what I wanted."

Producer James Goss adds: "This format reminds me of the early experimental days of Big Finish where we got amazing stories like *Creatures of Beauty* and *...ish*. I love that in half an hour of *Rhubarb*, Tim's managed to pack in an interstellar war!"

Tim agrees: "Well, if you put a Sontaran in there, then things are going to spiral!"

THE SECOND adventure, *Please Retain Your Ticket for the Cloakroom* was also written by Tim.

A threat emerges from deep inside the hidden depths of the Eternity Club. Professor Summerfield and Secretary Pym must voyage into the unknown.

Tim explains: "I'm interested in the stories that take our club out and about, and I also like places that dig deep into our foundations.

"I'll admit I'm a sucker now for an 'inside the TARDIS' story. I think there's lots of joy to be had there. Again, thinking about the half hour medium and all the fun things that we could do with it, I pitched very early on the idea of a two-hander with Benny and Secretary Pym covering the mystery at the heart of the club.

"It works in a geographical sense that on our strange asteroid, which is a club, of course there's going to be a cloakroom. And there are things to be discovered there.

There's a wackiness we used to get on television that you don't get so much today. I cite *Sapphire & Steel* as one of those TV shows that is just utterly barmy, if you think about it. You know, *Sapphire and Steel* can stand on railway stations and madness ensues. It should be just utterly, utterly nonsensical – but it works!

"I have to praise our actors because the only way this script was going to mesh together was if we had two stalwarts behind the mic. And as Benny and Pym, we have Lisa and Nickolas. Just brilliant." **VORTEX**

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF BERNICE SUMMERFIELD THE ETERNITY CLUB 2

■ RELEASED: OCTOBER 2024
■ FORMAT: CD/DOWNLOAD

ORDER NOW: bgfn.sh/posh 



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VORTEX ISSUE 187

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.

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

DW | THE FOURTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

Dominant Species (BOX SET)

DW | THE EIGHTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

The Stuff of Legend (STUDIO VERSION)

DW | THE FIFTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

The Great Beyond (BOX SET)

DW | THE NEW ADVENTURES
OF BERNICE SUMMERFIELD

The Eternity Club 1

SPACE: 1999

The Armageddon Engine **DLO**

UFO

Shadow Play **DLO**

DW | DARK GALLIFREY

The War Master: Part 3

TORCHWOOD *The Hollow Choir* (87)

OCTOBER 2024

DW | THE EIGHTH DOCTOR: TIME WAR

Uncharted 1: Reflections (BOX SET)

DW | THE THIRD DOCTOR ADVENTURES

The Quintessence (BOX SET)

DW | THE NEW ADVENTURES
OF BERNICE SUMMERFIELD

The Eternity Club 2

DW | JENNY: THE DOCTOR'S DAUGHTER

Saving Time (BOX SET)

VAMPD

Volume One **DLO**

TORCHWOOD *Widdershins* (88)

NOVEMBER 2024

DW | SPECIAL RELEASES

The Sirens of Time: Redux (VARIOUS)

DW | THE SEVENTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

TBA (BOX SET)

DW | ONCE AND FUTURE

Coda: The Final Act

DW | ONCE AND FUTURE

Coda: The Final Act (SPECIAL EDITION)

DW | THE WAR MASTER

Future Phantoms (BOX SET)

DW | THE NEW ADVENTURES
OF BERNICE SUMMERFIELD

The Eternity Club 3

TORCHWOOD TBA (89)

DECEMBER 2024

DW | THE FOURTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

The Curse of Time (BOX SET)

DW | THE EIGHTH DOCTOR ADVENTURES

Deadly Strangers (BOX SET)

DW | THE WAR DOCTOR RISES

TBA (BOX SET)

DW | THE PATERNOSTER GANG

Trespassers 3: No Place Like Home
(BOX SET)

DW | THE NEW ADVENTURES
OF BERNICE SUMMERFIELD

The Eternity Club 4

TORCHWOOD TBA (90)

DLO = DOWNLOAD ONLY • **DW** = DOCTOR WHO

DATES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

THE BIG FINISH MAGAZINE

VORTEX

ISSUE 187
SEPTEMBER 2024
BIG FOR THE LOVE
FINISH OF STORIES

VAMP



PD

**THE VAM PD ARE ON THE
BEAT IN A THRILLING
NEW SERIES...**

DOCTOR WHO: THE EIGHTH DOCTOR

THE STUFF OF LEGEND

A SPECIAL EVENT MARKING 25 YEARS OF
BIG FINISH **DOCTOR WHO** PRODUCTIONS...

