

Week 2.

• The War of the Worlds 1953 Byron Haskin Alien Invasion.

→ Identical to Independence Day. / fear of people / hesitation of government regulation

→ 1950s SF in HW.

→ Society is to maintain & produce the genre.

→ SF focus on novelty & tech change

Genre as something come & go, starts with a few, if popular, then retold with variation, and thus become genre. 1950, SF produced a lot.

→ Darko Suvin & Novum.

→ Rise of SF in 50s.

• Coldwar Tension, prospect of Nuclear, UFO craze, late 40s + early 50s
Brainwashing of moral panic in Korea War 1952-53

→ Allegory of fear.

• 50s HW has spectacle convention
Sound & imagery.

→ Liberal West vs. COMMUNIST East.

Novum is the distinction that this film is not a horror, pseudo-science [Hors]

Plot Summary:

the Martians arrived to Earth since Mars cannot provide them with an environment to survive while human attempt to talk to them peacefully, they are aggressive and want to take over the Earth. The protagonist who's a scientist want to defeat them by examining their blood, but by the end, the God Saves them.

Reading: Susan Sontag - The Imagination of Disaster.

→ SF is about disaster / not science.

→ Sensuous elaboration. [images & sound]

Aesthetic of destruction

→ HORROR & SF, both enjoy the aesthetic of destruction, the ugly and the freakish of the non-human being.

But SF is more of the [Technological View]