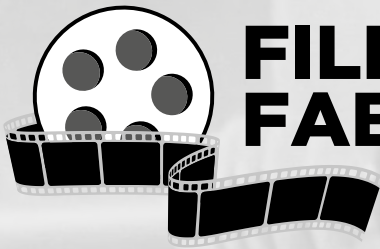


RECOVERED

DOCTOR WHO RETURNS



FILM **IS** FABULOUS!

FILM **IS FABULOUS!** is an organisation run by film collectors, cinema lovers and vintage television enthusiasts, which works with the film historians at De Montfort University, Leicester.

Its primary aim is:

- To advance and to encourage public interest, education and training in film as a medium, especially its role within British culture.

The Film is Fabulous! team will pursue this stated objective by:

- Supporting private film collectors and the U.K.'s film collecting community, by providing advice, guidance, and practical assistance.
- Promoting the cataloguing of private film collections (with the requisite permissions), and fulfilling the wishes of collectors and their estates.
- Identifying and researching missing, rare and important films, and collaborating with the relevant agencies for their preservation.
- Championing the need for recovered films to be screened widely, with affordable licensing agreements through the copyright holders.
- Documenting, through an extensive programme of interviews, the history of film collecting and its cultural impact within Britain.

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Film is Fabulous



filmisfabulous

Introduction

Over the years, whenever we've been fortunate enough for a missing episode or two of Doctor Who to be returned to the archive, it's been a truly wondrous occasion. One moment, something we care so deeply about simply doesn't exist; the next, it has been prised from oblivion. Part of the joy comes from being completists. Every recovered episode helps make the saga whole again. This time it feels different.

I've long argued that the greatest run of Classic Doctor Who - experienced now with adult sensibilities - spans twenty-one remarkable weeks from 1965 to 1966. It begins with the gritty 007-in-space adventure Mission to the Unknown, continues into the witty - indeed hilarious - The Myth Makers, then reaches the epic Douglas Camfield masterpiece The Daleks' Master Plan, before concluding amid the political intrigue and religious persecution of medieval Paris with The Massacre.

No other run of Doctor Who explores the possibilities of its extraordinary premise with such imagination, ambition and dramatic brutality. Here, the series reaches its peak not only in writing, but also in casting, production design, direction and performances from both its regular cast and guest stars. It can hardly be a coincidence that Peter Purves co-stars in all but one episode of this extraordinary run.

Our misfortune has always been that we've only been able to appreciate fragments of the run. As of 2025, just three of those twenty-one episodes were known to survive. Then Film is Fabulous! announced the recovery of two more episodes, and once again we experienced the incomparable joy of seeing Doctor Who reclaim a small part of its lost history. Yet this recovery brings something more than celebration. It gives us another glimpse of just how exceptional the programme could be when the writing, performances, design and direction all come together. The two episodes strengthen the case that this entire twenty-one-week run represents one of the greatest creative achievements in the show's history.

So, thank you to Film is Fabulous! for discovering these two episodes and returning them to the archive. Above all, our deepest gratitude belongs to the late collector who preserved them. We are profoundly indebted.

**Tim Burrows,
Host of the Doctor Who
Missing Episodes Podcast**

This entire twenty-one-week run represents one of the greatest creative achievements in the show's history.

Doctor Who

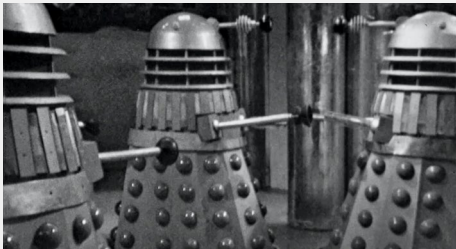
Background

The Daleks' Master Plan was broadcast during the third season of **Doctor Who**. Written by Terry Nation, the creator of the Daleks, it starred William Hartnell in the title role and Peter Purves as Steven Taylor.

Nation's original six-part serial, together with the stand-alone episode he'd been commissioned to write, depicted a dark future with corrupt politicians and space security. Due to the popularity of the Daleks, the story was expanded by the BBC hierarchy to 12 parts and a second writer, Dennis Spooner, was drafted in to share the writing responsibility.

The resulting story melds two different styles: Nation's depiction of a violent universe, followed by Spooner's comedic pursuit through time. Fortunately, Douglas Camfield was the Director, so the production quality was consistently high. Thanks to the involvement of the Daleks, audience viewing figures were also higher than the previous stories.

Film is Fabulous! recently recovered two missing episodes.



Screen One

Programme (2.30-5.30pm)

Duration

Introduction: Tim Burrows

5 minutes

The Daleks' Master Plan: The Nightmare Begins

25 minutes

Broadcast: 13th November 1965

Synopsis: The TARDIS lands on the planet Kembel and the Doctor goes to find help for his injured companion, Steven. He discovers that the Daleks are on Kembel, and are planning to conquer Earth.

Discussion: The History of Film Collecting

20 minutes

Hosted by: Tim Burrows, with Prof. Justin Smith and Simon Chambers.

Intermission

10 minutes

The Daleks' Master Plan: Day of Armageddon

25 minutes

Broadcast: 20th November 1965

Synopsis: The Doctor infiltrates the Daleks' conference. He soon discovers that they have built a deadly weapon, known as the Time Destructor, for which Mavic Chen has provided the taranium core.

Discussion: The Culture of Film Collecting

20 minutes

Hosted by: Tim Burrows, with John Franklin and Robert Maynard.

Intermission

10 minutes

The Daleks' Master Plan: Devil's Planet

25 minutes

Broadcast: 27th November 1965

Synopsis: Having stolen the vital taranium core from the Daleks, the Doctor and his companions escape Kembel. However, the Daleks pursue them to Desperus, a planet where mortal danger abounds.

Discussion: Recollecting the Day in Leicester

20 minutes

Hosted by: Tim Burrows, with Toby Hadoke and Peter Purves.

The programme information is correct at the time of publication.

Supporter Scheme

FILM IS FABULOUS! has launched a new supporter scheme on Patreon. This will provide a platform for those who wish to make monthly donations to the charitable trust. Initially, there are two options:

CAST & CREW

Donate £5 per month

Each month, our 'Cast & Crew' will receive:

- Early access to extracts from missing and rare short films, documentaries, and TV programmes, recovered by Film is Fabulous!
- Early access to educational content, encompassing the cataloguing and preservation of missing and rare material by Film is Fabulous!
- Early access to video coverage of the discussion panels, and the announcements made during the course of Film is Fabulous! events.

DIRECTORS

Donate £10 per month

Each month, our 'Directors' will receive all the benefits of the 'Cast & Crew', plus:

- Exclusive articles written by TV Historian Oliver Crocker, and other writers, about the work being undertaken by Film is Fabulous!
- Extended videos on the missing and rare short films, documentaries, and television programmes recovered by Film is Fabulous!

For further information, please visit:

[WWW.PATREON.COM/CW/FILMISFABULOUS](https://www.patreon.com/cw/filmisfabulous)



Film is Fabulous



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CINEMA AND TELEVISION HISTORY

De Montfort University's Cinema and Television History (CATH) group and Special Collections are home to many collections, including the:

- **Hammer Script Archive**
- **Sir Norman Wisdom Collection**
- **Papers of Michael and Tony Klinger**
- **Tony Hancock Appreciation Society Collection**
- **Palace Pictures and Scala Productions Archive**
- **Peter Whitehead Collection**
- **Andrew Davies Papers**
- **St Clare Cult TV Scripts Archive**

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