**ZDFE.factual** 

they want what we have

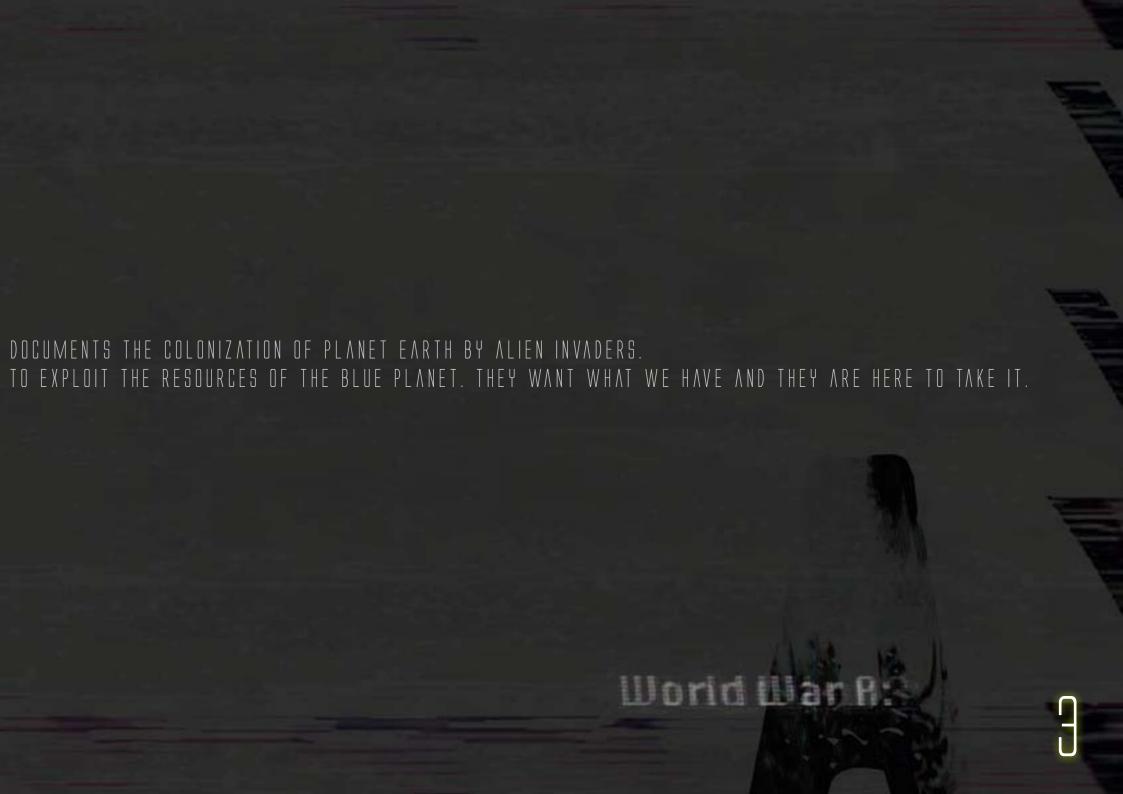
World War

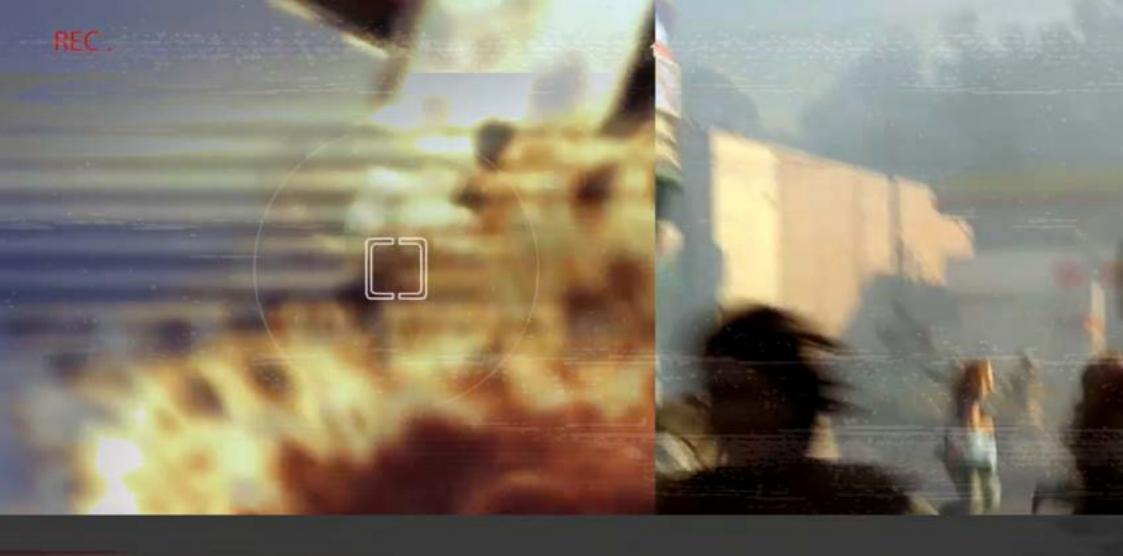
> The Human Chronicles

**2DF.enterprises** 

> STORY HOUSE PRODUCTIONS





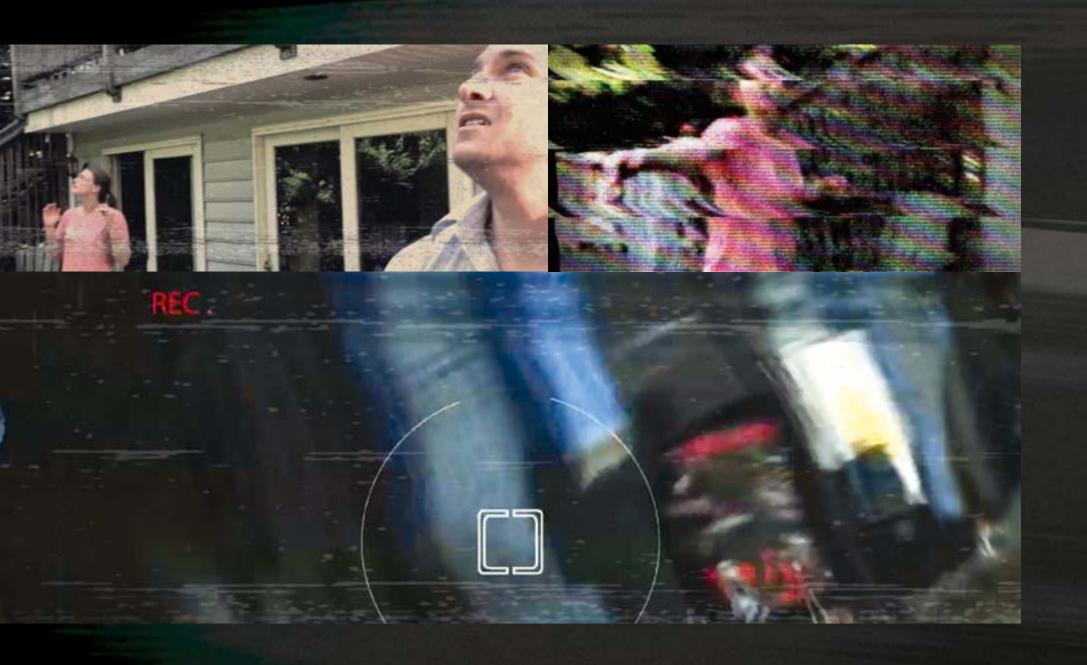


SUMMARY



## THEY HAVE ARRIVED...

World War A — The Human Chronicles is a drama documentary series that explores predictions made by the world's leading scientists about an alien invasion of earth. Featuring first-person "user-generated" video material, the series chronicles the human experience in the face of extraterrestrial exploitation of our planet's resources. Real scientific theories and actual military defense plans are mixed with harrowing "video diaries" shot by people during the alien invasion to give this series a unique perspective and look.



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### THEY WANT WHAT WE HAVE

People around the world begin seeing, and filming, strange lights in the sky. Soon after the sightings begin, people wake to find that dozens of gigantic metallic cubes have landed on earth. Scientists soon determine that aliens have come for the same things that we need to live — the resources of planet earth — water, air, and carbon-based fuel to convert into energy. And they are beginning to mine those resources much faster than humans ever could.

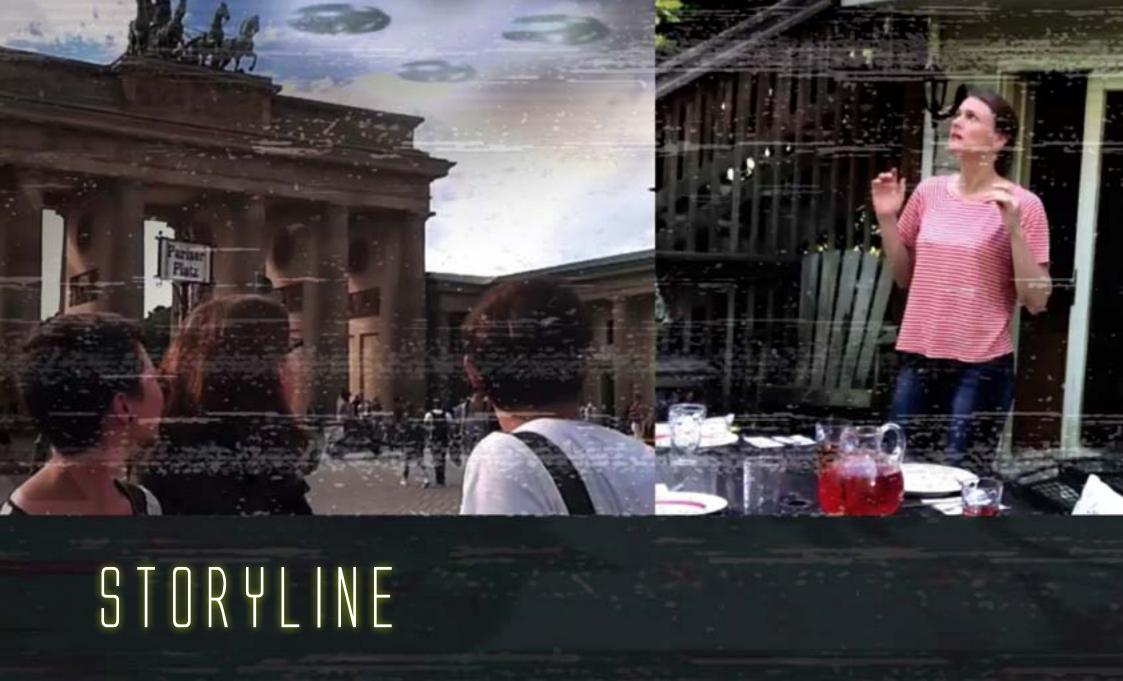
#### WHAT CAN WE DO...

The alien invasion forces mankind to face some difficult existential questions. What can we do in the face of an alien force bent on taking what is most precious from our planet? Can we possibly defeat an enemy that is so technologically superior? And would fighting back mean a fate worse than the one the aliens have in store?

#### WORLD WAR A - THE HUMAN CHRONICLES HIGHLIGHTS

- Physicist Stephen Hawking, among others, believes aliens could come to earth looking for resources once they have depleted their own planet.
- The U.S. and U.K. have real top-secret military plans to use nuclear weapons against potential alien invaders.
- The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs has planned diplomatic scenarios for interactions with aliens.

Presented by Story House Productions and ZDF Enterprises.





In the U.S., a man notices a bright light over the ridgeline of the local mountains. His family observes how the light streaks across the horizon and abruptly makes a 90-degree turn upwards before disappearing into the sky. In London, a surveillance camera mounted on the Tower Bridge records the night sky over the Thames. The screen shows nothing but the London skyline until suddenly a bright light streaks by close enough to make the camera shake. It circles back and makes a second pass around the Tower Bridge. Meanwhile, as a group of Brazilian loggers cut their way through the dense rain forest in the Amazon, a machete ricochets off a metallic object. They clear the vegetation and find a shiny, metallic wall in the middle of the jungle.





**200 miles above the earth** an astronaut is working on the outside of the International Space Station, communicating with another crew member via an internal camera. But suddenly, outside the window of the ISS, the camera captures a shadow blocking out the sun. The astronaut readjusts the camera and there it is: a metallic, shiny cube has just parked itself next to the ISS.

In Bristol, U.K., five scientists are holding an emergency meeting to find out who and what is behind the strange cubes. Where do they come from? Why are they here? And how are the cubes on earth connected to the object still hovering near the International Space Station? In California, another group of scientists meets at the SETI Institute, which has been studying the origin, nature and existence of extra-terrestrial life in the universe for over thirty years. One SETI scientist says they have evidence that UFOs have been coming to earth for thousands of years. The scientists detail some of the UFO sightings through the ages, from the written accounts by Roman historians in 214 BC to the incident at Roswell in the 1950s.

**In Washington**, four NASA scientists are being questioned by U.S. law-makers. The NASA representative explains that physicists such as Stephen Hawking and Carl Sagan predicted aliens would arrive and that they would likely be anatomically very similar to humans. In fact they would probably come to earth looking for resources similar to the resources humans need too.

**The President of the U.S.** asks SETI researchers to contact the alien ship overhead. SETI tries, but the aliens do not respond. They then send a second message. In it, the President tells the aliens that he would like to have some sort of meeting. His message is translated into binary code, but again, the radio signal goes unreturned.

At a closed meeting of the U.N. Security council, scientists have installed a holographic 3D presentation that highlights the location of each alien cube that has landed on earth. Based on the location of the cubes, it is clear that they are part of a planet-wide mining operation extracting resources from



the planet. In Washington, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff briefs the President about the choices available to him as commander-in-chief. The chairman explains that if Hawking is right, the U.S. should consider a military response before it's too late. But he adds that a military attack against the aliens would include an overwhelming nuclear strike.

**Cape Canaveral** mission control is checking in with the crew of the X-37 military space shuttle, waiting for its launch. The X-37's mission is to explore the 'Alien Control Vehicle' hovering near the International Space Station. Why hasn't it landed? Is it controlling the other cubes on the surface? On earth every one of the cubes has been investigated; only the 'Alien Control Vehicle' has not yet been explored. The X-37 lifts off and all seems to go well, until suddenly all electrical power fails inside the X-37. The astronauts have no way of controlling the space shuttle and it passes aimlessly by the alien cube, drifting towards outer space. At the same time, electrical power goes out almost everywhere on earth. The globe is plunged into darkness.

At the Pentagon, a meeting of military commanders is underway. They now know the power was knocked out by an Electro Magnetic Pulse that affected electrical grids the world over. Military planners are all too aware of the danger of EMPs; a nuclear weapon, detonated 25 to 500 miles above the earth, electrifies the atmosphere, triggering a series of EMPs, killing all electricity within the blast radius. It appears that these EMPs were non-nuclear and must have emanated from the alien crafts.

A report given to the U.N. General Assembly shows that the aliens are extracting oil, minerals and other valuable commodities from the earth, into their cubes. From Canada, Russia, the United States and in the North Sea, the cubes are all placed where the world's natural resources lie. The report shows that aliens have come to earth to strip the planet of all its resources. They are mimicking a classic pattern of colonization: explore first, exploit later. Since the aliens have refused to communicate, the UN can only guess at what the aliens will do next. As a possible example of what could happen,



the U.N. report compares the alien plunder to the early American efforts to push Native Americans to the far reaches of the continent so settlers could exploit their new colony. Some in the U.N. meeting fear that the aliens might become the 21st-century version of the American colonization of North America. The U.N. meeting turns into a shouting match with old grudges between nations coming to the surface in the face of the alien threat.

At the U.N. headquarters in New York, the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council debate how to respond to the alien exploitation of our planet. The alien cubes seem to extract raw resources at an astonishing rate of speed and that within one month the world's resources would be depleted by 70 percent. The council is divided on whether there should be direct military retaliation against the crafts or not. Russia and the United States favor military action, and even support nuclear strikes. Russian and U.S. representatives say their two countries are the most threatened by the aliens since they have by far the most alien cubes on their land. France and England, who have no ships on

their territory, say it's too early for military options. The Chinese who have just a few ships on their soil, won't commit either way. From the White House, the President addresses a worldwide audience to explain that U.S. intelligence is certain that the cubes have been sent to loot the planet's resources. He also says the U.S. believes the alien craft hovering near the International Space Station is controlling the cubes on the ground. The President has decided to destroy the craft near the ISS in hopes of deactivating the cubes on the ground.

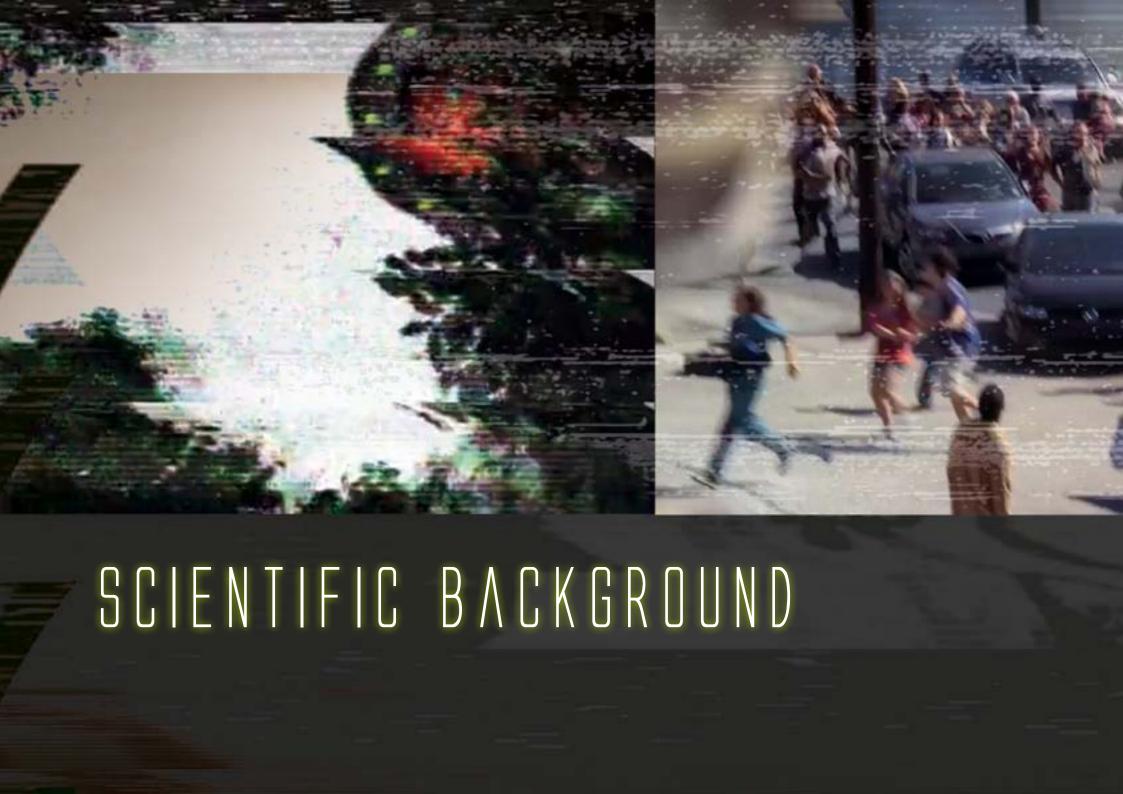
At the North American Aerospace Defense Command in Colorado, Air Force officers begin programming and aiming their nuclear weapons at the alien craft. Six nuclear warheads are aimed at the alien craft high overhead. The general tells his staff that the fallout from the nukes might be even worse than living in a world with aliens. As another day unfolds, a shrill, high-pitched sound is heard, followed by an eerie metallic voice; it's the aliens. "We have come to earth because it is very similar to our own planet. It is very valuable, to us, and to you," says the voice.



All over the world, the same words are emitted from loudspeakers, radios, TVs and computers. The voice says the aliens, like humans, need carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen, oxygen and water to survive. And they have found it all on earth. The aliens have used up most of the natural resources on their planet, and they needed to come to earth to harvest what the planet has to offer: oil, gold, silver, it's all as valuable to the aliens as it is to the people of earth. "Do not launch your weapons. Preserve the planet. It is useless to everybody if it's destroyed by nuclear weapons..." adds the alien.

**Back at the White House**, the alien announcement sets off a panic: the generals want the President to go ahead with the attack, sensing the aliens might be vulnerable to nuclear weapons. The President's diplomats say the nuclear assault should be called off: our first response to the aliens should not be a shower of thermo-nuclear warheads. The President pauses, then has the countdown stopped. The nuclear strike is cancelled.

**Moments later**, a Coast Guard helicopter flying across the North Sea spots one of the alien cubes as it lifts out of the water and zooms into space. From the White House, the President addresses the world one more time: he says it appears the aliens are leaving. A surveillance camera fixed on the cube in Alaska shows it lift off and fly away. The President says the invaders have drained the globe of 70 percent of its resources. His voice breaking, the President says that while the crisis is over, the world faces new challenges. Now world leaders will have to put aside their petty differences. The President says that with depleted natural resources, the world must discover new ways to get by with less, and to take better care of the planet — which narrowly avoided being destroyed by mankind itself. A bright light erupts and suddenly the last cube has also disappeared from the sky.







Stephen Hawking is a theoretical physicist at Cambridge University. Hawking is one of the best-known scientists in the world and author of the bestseller A Brief History of Time. Hawking is now the Director of Research at the Centre for Theoretical Cosmology at Cambridge.

"I imagine they might exist in massive ships, having used up all the resources from their home planet. Such advanced aliens would perhaps become nomads, looking to conquer and colonize whatever planets they can reach."

Nick Pope is a former British
Defense Department investigator.
He joined the Ministry of Defense in
1985 and in 1991, he led a secret
government investigation into UFO
sightings. In November 2006, he resigned from his post but he continues
his UFO research and investigation
as a freelance journalist and media
commentator, covering subjects that
include the unexplained, conspiracy
theories, and outer space.

"...five per cent of UFO sightings remained unexplained, at the very least there has to be a potential threat." **Seth Shostak** is a Senior Astronomer at SETI. He earned his physics degree from Princeton University, and a PhD in astronomy from the California Institute of Technology.

"Whoever takes the trouble to come visit us is probably a more aggressive personality. And if they have the technology to come here, the idea that we can take them on is like Napoleon taking on U.S. Air Force. We're not going to be able to defend ourselves very well."

Michio Kaku is a professor of Theoretical Physics at the City University of New York. Kaku is a futurist, and has written several books about physics. He received a physics degree from Harvard University in 1968 and went on to attend the Berkeley Radiation Laboratory at the University of California, Berkeley where he received a PhD degree in 1972.

"There definitely are aliens in outer space — they're out there."





**Dr. Edgar Mitchell** was the sixth man to walk on the moon. Mitchell was also the module pilot of Apollo 14, a military test pilot, and served on the backup crew for Apollo 10 and Apollo 16. He has several degrees from Carnegie Mellon University, from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, and from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"The U.S. Government hasn't maintained secrecy regarding UFOs. It's been leaking out all over the place. There has been a very large disinformation and misinformation effort around this whole area."

**Dr. Simon Conway Morris** is a professor of evolutionary paleobiology at the University of Cambridge. He has a BS degree from the University of Bristol and received his PhD in 1976 from the University of Cambridge. He is known world-wide for his work with the Cambrian explosion fossil period.

"If intelligent aliens exist, they will look just like us, and given our farfrom-glorious history, this should give us pause for thought." **Dr. Albert Harrison** is a professor of psychology at the University of California. His primary focus is human adaptation to spaceflight and spaceflight-analogous environments. Dr. Harrison also works with SETI.

"It's possible to have very acquisitive civilizations out there," Harrison said. "Maybe they get to a certain point, but they may collapse or be beaten back. No one civilization is necessarily going to take over, because there will be coalitions of other civilizations that will keep them in check."

Jean-Pierre Petit was a pioneering scientist who worked on nuclear intercontinental missiles. He was an engineer at the Marseilles Institute of fluid mechanics and has worked in astrophysics. Petit was also the codirector of the Calculation Center at the French University of Provence.

"We cannot exclude the possibility that UFOs are piloted by beings originating elsewhere in the universe."





# PROFILE > STORY HOUSE PRODUCTIONS

In 1999, filmmakers and producers Andreas Gutzeit and Carsten Oblaender teamed up to launch STORY HOUSE PRODUCTIONS in Washington D.C.

Driven by their passion for storytelling and backed by their extensive industry experience and their grasp of the international production market, they set out to create a company that not only crossed formats and genres, but continents too.

After successfully expanding operations to Germany and Canada, STORY HOUSE MEDIA GROUP was formed in 2012. With offices in five different cities — Washington D.C., Berlin, Munich, Halifax, and now Toronto — STORY HOUSE MEDIA GROUP cooperates with a large variety of clients including Discovery, National Geographic, OWN Canada, CBC, Travel Channel, ID: Investigation Discovery, Smithsonian Channel, BIO, Spiegel TV, ZDF, ProSieben, and RTL.

#### PROFILE ZDFE.factual

ZDFE.factual is one of the four genre departments of ZDF Enterprises, the 100 % private subsidiary and distribution arm of ZDF, one of the biggest and most renowned television broadcasters in Europe.

ZDFE.factual's full-service offer covers every step in the exploitation chain of successful TV productions, from the genesis and content development to production, and from the sales of TV licenses to merchandising rights, online rights and much more.

The multifaceted programs we sell and distribute range from appealing nature and science documentaries to solidly researched contemporary-history series made by internationally renowned documentary producers. Next to standalone programs and miniseries, you'll find comprehensive, long-running series on the most varied subjects.



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