

The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **Contact**



Library Image

ISBN: 7321900150415
D015041

Information

Release Title: Contact - 26th September 1997(United Kingdom)

From:

AKA: Contacto

Author: based on the 1985 novel by Carl Sagan.

Release date: United States 11th July 1997

Origin: USA .

Genre: Drama, Mystery, Sci-Fi, Thriller

Disc Nos. - 1

Certification: PG

Duration: 2h 30m

Region Code:

Region

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English, Spanish, German, Russian

Filming Locations: Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Arizona, USA

Sound mix: Dolby Digital 5.1

Aspect ratio: 16:9 all tvs

Colour: PAL



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Robert Zemeckis
Screenplay by	James V. Hart Michael Goldenberg
Story by	Carl Sagan Ann Druyan
Based on	<i>Contact</i> by Carl Sagan
Produced by	Robert Zemeckis Steve Starkey
Starring	Jodie Foster Matthew McConaughey James Woods John Hurt Tom Skerritt Angela Bassett
Cinematography	Don Burgess
Edited by	Arthur Schmidt
Music by	Alan Silvestri
Production company	South Side Amusement Company
Distributed by	Warner Bros.
Release date	July 11, 1997
Running time	150 minutes ^[1]
Country	United States
Language	English
Budget	\$90 million ^[2]
Box office	\$171.1 million ^[3]

Storyline

Dr Ellie Arroway is employed in the SETI program at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. She was inspired to pursue a career in science and communication, starting with amateur radio, by her father who has since passed away. Her work involves listening to radio emissions from space in the hopes of finding signs of intelligent extra-terrestrial life. The program loses funding after David Drumlin, the President's science advisor, deems it futile. However, Arroway receives financial support from S. R. Hadden, a secretive billionaire industrialist who runs Hadden Industries, which enables her to continue her work at the Very Large Array (VLA) in New Mexico.

Four years later, when Drumlin is about to terminate the SETI program at the VLA, Arroway discovers a signal containing a sequence of prime numbers that appears to have originated from Vega, a star system located approximately 26 light-years away. This announcement leads Drumlin and the National Security Council, headed by Michael Kitz, to attempt to seize control of the facility. Upon further investigation, Arroway's team discovers a video hidden within the signal, which turns out to be Adolf Hitler's opening address at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany. Arroway and her team hypothesize that this transmission would have been the first to have been strong enough to penetrate the Earth's ionosphere, travel to Vega, and then be sent back to Earth.

The project is put under tight security, and its progress is closely monitored around the world. Arroway discovers that the signal contains over 63,000 pages of encoded data. The elusive S. R. Hadden secretly meets with Arroway and provides her with the means to decode the pages. The decoded data reveals schematics for an intricate machine that is believed to be a form of transportation for a single individual. Multiple nations provide funding for the construction of the machine, which is built at the Kennedy Space Centre in Cape Canaveral. An international panel is assembled to select a candidate to travel in the machine. Arroway is a leading candidate until Christian philosopher Palmer Joss, a member of the panel whom she had met and briefly had a romantic relationship with in Puerto Rico, draws attention to her atheism. As a result, the panel selects Drumlin, who is considered to be a better representation of humanity. During the machine's first test, a religious terrorist detonates a bomb, destroying the machine and killing Drumlin and several others.

Hadden, now residing on the Mir space station and dying of cancer, reveals to Arroway that the U.S. government had secretly contracted his company to build a second machine in Japan. As the only American remaining among the candidate pool, Arroway will be the one to go. Equipped with multiple recording devices, Arroway enters the machine's pod, which is then dropped into three rapidly spinning gimbaled rings, causing the pod to seemingly travel through a series of wormholes. Arroway observes a radio array-like structure at Vega and signs of an advanced civilization on another planet. She then finds herself on a beach, similar to a childhood drawing she made of Pensacola, Florida. A figure approaches, taking on the appearance of her deceased father. Arroway recognizes him as an alien assuming her father's form and tries to ask questions. The alien explains that the familiar form and landscape were chosen to make the first contact easier for her and that this journey was just humanity's first step towards joining other spacefaring species.

Arroway loses consciousness as she begins to travel back through a wormhole. When she wakes up, she finds herself lying on the floor of the pod while the mission control team repeatedly tries to contact her. She learns that from the outside, the machine appears to have dropped the pod through its rings and into a safety net. Arroway insists that she was gone for about 18 hours, but her recording devices show only static noise. A Congressional Committee is formed, and they speculate that the signal and machine were a hoax designed by Hadden, who has since passed away. Arroway requests that the committee accept the truth of her testimony on faith. In a private online conversation, Kitz and White House official Rachel Constantine discuss confidential information that although Arroway's recording device only recorded static, it recorded 18 hours of it. Arroway reunites with Joss, and she receives ongoing financial support for the SETI program at the VLA.

Cast

Jodie Foster as Dr Eleanor "Ellie" Ann Arrowway
Jena Malone as young Ellie
Matthew McConaughey as Palmer Joss
David Morse as Theodore Arrowway
Tom Skerritt as Dr David Drumlin
James Woods as Michael Kitz
John Hurt as S. R. Hadden
William Fichtner as Kent Clarke, a character derived from Kent Cullers
Angela Bassett as Rachel Constantine
Jake Busey as Joseph
Rob Lowe as Richard Rank
Geoffrey Blake as Fisher
Max Martini as Willie
Steven Ford as Major John Russell
Jay Leno as himself
Larry King as himself
Ann Druyan as herself

Certification

Argentina:13 Australia:M Belgium:KT/EA Brazil:Livre Canada:PG (VHS rating) Chile:TE Denmark:11 Ecuador:TP (self-applied) Finland:K-12 France:Tous publics Germany:12 (bw) Greece:K Hong Kong:IIA Iceland:12 India:U Italy:T Japan:G Malaysia:U Mexico:PG (DVD rating) Netherlands:MG6 Netherlands:12 (DVD rating) Netherlands:6 (re-rating) New Zealand:M Norway:7 Peru:Apt Poland:b.o. Portugal:M/12 Russia:0+ Singapore:PG South Africa:A South Korea:12 Spain:A Sweden:7 Switzerland:12 (German version) Taiwan:GP Thailand:G Turkey:13+ (self-applied) United Kingdom:PG United States:PG (certificate #35448) United Arab Emirates:PG (self-applied)

Sex & Nudity

Mild

Violence & Gore

Mild

Profanity

Mild

Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking

Moderate

Frightening & Intense Scenes

Mild

MPAA Rated PG for some intense action, mild language and a scene of sensuality

