

Star Trek: First Contact

111 mins, USA, col

Dir Jonathan Frakes

Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes,
Brent Spiner, Alice Krige



First Contact is the eighth big-screen spin-off from the popular television series, pitting Captain Jean-Luc Picard (Stewart) and his Next Generation *Enterprise* crew against the emotionless Borg. Jonathan Frakes, who plays Picard's second-in-command Riker, also directed the film, and the result is a well-paced cross between *Alien* (1979) and *Die Hard* (1988). Picard and co must journey back in time to prevent the deadly Borg from changing history and taking over the Earth. While Riker visits 20th-century Earth, Picard attempts to reclaim his ship from the invading aliens, toting sizeable firearms and stripping down to a sweaty vest in the process. Flashes of self-mocking humour help to alleviate the film's often dark themes.