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Distinguished Lecture Series at Caltech

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TOPICS

- | | | |
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BIBLE HISTORY/
SCHOLARSHIP,
RELIGIOUS
ANTHROPOLOGY,
RELIGIOUS
PSYCHOLOGY | 9. THE COSMOS: OUR
ORIGINS—PHYSICS |
| 2. PSEUDOSCIENCE | | 10. SCIENCE HISTORY,
SCIENCE PHILOSOPHY
& SCIENCE ETHICS |
| 3. PSYCHICS & MAGIC | | 11. SCIENCE & RELIGION |
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GLOBAL WARMING | 7. THE NATURE OF HUMAN
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1. TOP PICKS

NO VHS TAPES LEFT IN THIS CATEGORY

2. PSEUDOSCIENCE CRYONICS

av002VHS (video); av002C (audio cassette)-- ONE LEFT Can Science Cheat Death? Cryonics Life Extension by Mike Darwin of Alcor Life Extension

Foundation, makes a scientific case for life extension through cryonic suspension. Can people frozen now be revived in the far future? This engrossing lecture covers the technical aspects and problems of cryogenic suspension, as well as addressing the ethical and social issues.

3. PSYCHICS ESP & MAGIC

NO VHS TAPES LEFT IN THIS CATEGORY

4. ENVIRONMENT & GLOBAL WARMING

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av161VHS (video); av161DVD (DVD); av161CD (audio CD)-ONE TAPE LEFT

Environmental Wars Part 1: Dr. Michael Shermer: "Conversion of an Environmental Skeptic" Why he abandoned his skepticism of global warming, and why the environmental wars are so heated. Dr. David Caltech president and Nobel Laureate Baltimore: "Science & Politics: An Uneasy Relationship" Dr. David Goodstein: "Out of Gas: The End of the Age of Oil" David Goodstein is Vice Provost and Professor of Physics and Applied Physics at Caltech.. Dr. Tapio Schneider: "Global Climate Change: Known & Unknown" Tapio Schneider is Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Engineering at Caltech.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

AV162VHS (video); av162C (audio cassette); av162DVD (DVD);-Environmental Wars Part 2: DEBATE: Chris Mooney v. Ronald Bailey "Distorting Science: Who is Worse—the Left or Right?" Chris Mooney is Washington correspondent for *Seed* magazine and a senior correspondent for the *American Prospect* and author of the bestselling *The Republican War on Science*. Ronald Bailey is the science correspondent for *Reason* magazine and the author *ECOSCAM: The False Prophets of Ecological Apocalypse*, *Global Warming and other Eco Myths*. This tape includes a panel discussion and Q & A with the two speakers above, and Dr. Tapio Schneider from Part 1.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av163VHS (video); av163DVD (DVD); av163CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 3: Dr. Donald Prothero: "Catastrophes that Shape the Planet" Prothero is Professor of Geology, Occidental College, LA, and Lecturer in Geobiology at Caltech, Pasadena. He has authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited 21 books and almost 200 scientific papers. Dr. Brian Fagan: "Climate Change and Ancient Societies" Dr. Brian Fagan is Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His many

books include *The Little Ice Age*, and *The Long Summer*. Dr. Gregory Benford: "Stabilizing the Future Greenhouse Earth" Dr. Gregory Benford has published over 30 books. His fiction includes the Nebula Award winning novel *Timescape*. He is a professor of physics at the University of California, Irvine. *Includes a panel discussion and Q & A.*

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av164VHS (video); av164DVD (DVD); av164CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 4: Jonathan H. Adler: "Fables of Federal Environmental Regulation" Adler is Associate Professor & Associate Director of the Center for Business Law & Regulation at Case Western Reserve Un. where he teaches courses in Environmental Law, International Environmental Law, and Constitutional Law. He authored *Ecology, Liberty, and Property: A Free Market Environmental Reader*. Gregory Arnold "Can Markets Save the Planet?": Market-based Solutions to Environmental Problems Arnold is Managing Partner of an investment firm specializing in trading in environmental markets including those for emission credits, renewable energy credits, and greenhouse gas credits. He has a MBA from Harvard Business School. Dr. Paul MacCready: "Doing More with Less for a World that Works" MacCready is an aeronautics engineer voted Engineer of the Century by the Am. Society of Mechanical Engineers, and listed as one of the 100 most influential people of the century by *Time* for his pioneering work in low energy vehicles, etc. *Includes a panel discussion and Q & A.*

ENVIRONMENTAL WARS CONFERENCE

av165VHS (video); av165DVD (DVD); av165CD (audio CD)-Environmental Wars Part 5: News correspondent JOHN STOSSEL is co-anchor of ABCNEWS' 20/20. He has received 19 Emmys, the George Foster Peabody Award, and has been honored five times for excellence in consumer reporting by the National Press Club. MICHAEL CRICHTON, known as "the father of the techno-thriller" has written *The Andromeda Strain*, *Congo*, *Jurassic Park*, *Prey*, and *State of Fear*. He has won an Emmy, a Peabody, and a Writer's Guild of America award for the TV series ER.

5. EVOLUTION & CREATIONISM

NO VHS TAPES LEFT IN THIS CATAGORY

6. RELIGION: BIBLE ANALYSIS; RELIGIOUS HISTORY, ANTHROPOLOGY; PSYCHOLOGY

NO VHS TAPES LEFT IN THIS CATAGORY

7. THE NATURE OF HUMAN NATURE (THE SCIENCE OF WHO WE ARE)

MULTIPLE PERSONALITY DISORDER

av046VHS (video); av046C (audio cassette)-- Multiple Personality Disorder: Is it Real? by forensic psychiatrist Dr. John Hochman. Formerly very rare, "Multiple Personality Disorder" has suddenly reached epidemic proportions. Dr. Hochman explains how it became an official "disorder" and incisively outlines many hard hitting reasons why this latest "Disorder" is really a culturally driven phenomena.

WHY IS SEX FUN?

DR. JARED DIAMOND

av058DVD (DVD); av058C (audio cassette); av058VHS (video);-- Why is Sex Fun? by Dr. Jared Diamond. With wit and a wealth of fascinating examples Dr. Diamond explains how sexuality has been as crucial as large brains and upright posture in our evolutionary history. Why do we, unlike most other mammals have males that help raise children? Why do humans have menopause, sex in private, and sex any time in the fertility cycle? Diamond answers these questions with his usual brilliance and scientific insight.

RECOVERED V. FALSE MEMORY

av070VHS (video); 070C (audio cassette)-- Recovered v. False Memory by Dr. Pamela Freyd and Eleanor Goldstein. Pioneering activists and foremost authorities in the field, Freyd and Goldstein lead the fight against false accusations of child molestation. They explore the ongoing controversy over the nature of memory, particularly the theory that memories can be "repressed" and later "recovered" through special therapeutic techniques such as hypnotic regression, fantasy role playing, and dream interpretation.

ANTHROPOLOGY ON EASTER ISLAND

av124VHS (video-only three left); av124DVD (DVD); av124V (audio cassette)-- A Skeptic On Easter Island: Sex, Lies & Fieldnotes by UCLS archeologist Dr. Joanne van Tilburg. Dr. Tilburg explores the mysteries of the remarkable Easter Island through the story of the brilliant and quirky Katherine Routledge, whose collection of myths and legends forms the cornerstone of Easter island research. Set against the drama of ecological devastation, social upheaval, war, and the island's mystifying stone giants.

LATEST RESEARCH INTO MALENESS

av125VHS (video) (One VHS Tape left); av125DVD (DVD); av125C (audio cassette)-- "Y": The Descent Of Men, Revealing the Mysteries Of Maleness by British geneticist and science author Dr. Steve Jones. Dr. Jones presents a lively and witty look at the latest research into the Y chromosome and what it takes to make a male. Highly quotable. Jones marshals the most recent scientific research to reach conclusions that many women (and some men) have long held: males are the weaker—the second—sex, as well as evolutionary and biological latecomers.

NATURE V. NURTURE EXTRAORDINARY TWINS

av148VHS (video); av148DVD (DVD); av148CD (audio CD)--Indivisible by Two: Lives of Extraordinary Twins (and What They Teach Us About Human Nature) by leading expert on twins Dr. Nancy Segal relates the stories behind her research: the "Fireman Twins"—reared apart but astonishingly alike; twin sisters who became a brother-sister pair when one was surgically transformed into a man; and identical triplet brothers, one who is gay while the other two are straight. These real-life stories remind us how incompletely any theory explains the variety of individual, or dual, or triple, or quadruple, lives.

8. THE COSMOS: SPACE EXPLORATION

SEARCH FOR ET

av005VHS (video); av005C (audio cassette)-- Is E.T. Out There? The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence by Dr. Thomas McDonough. Is E.T. Out There? The Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence. McDonough of Caltech and the Planetary Society, shows what scientists are doing to detect possible communications from other planets, the methods used to analyze the data collected, and the funding and politics behind the search. This is an excellent summation of the state of the science of searching for E.T.s.

THE CASE FOR GOING TO MARS

DR. ROBERT ZUBRIN

av087VHS (video); Entering Space: From Mars to the Stars by Dr. Robert Zubrin. Dr. Zubrin presents the

case for going to Mars...and beyond. Covers new satellite-launch technology; rational for colonizing space; untapped technologies such as rocket planes, solar and magnetic sails, controlled fusion; the challenges of terraforming, interstellar travel, and contact with other species.

HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION

DR. ROBERT ZUBRIN

av133VHS (video only 1 left); av133DVD (DVD); av133C (audio cassette)

NASA AND THE FUTURE OF HUMAN SPACE EXPLORATION: A Skeptical View by Space exploration advocate Dr. Robert Zubrin. Dr. Zubrin argues that the U.S. manned space program must regain a purpose and mission and be destination driven, as it was in the days of Apollo. Recounts his experiences testifying in Washington, outlines his plans on how humans can get to Mars and why we must become a spacefaring civilization, and why the Space Shuttle and the Space Station will not get us there.

9. THE COSMOS: PHYSICS

DISCOVERY OF BLACK HOLES

av146VHS (video); av146DVD (DVD); av146CD (audio CD)-EMPIRE OF THE STARS: Obsession, Friendship, and Betrayal in the Quest for Black Holes Dr. Arthur I. Miller, professor of History and Philosophy of Science, University College, London discusses two great theories, relativity and quantum mechanics which meet head on in the description of

black holes. Miller recounts the dramatic story of the quest to understand black holes and the feud between the great astrophysicist Sir Arthur Eddington and his rival, the young Indian immigrant Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, who created the first mathematical description of black holes in 1930, on a voyage from Madras to London.

10. SCIENCE HISTORY, SCIENCE PHILOSOPHY & SCIENCE ETHICS

CAN HISTORY BE A SCIENCE?

av054VHS (video); ; av054DVD (DVD)-- Can History be a Science? Conference 1997, Part II. Plus: Randi Dr. Frank Sulloway demonstrates how to make history a Science. Shows how historians can practice scientific history and test their ideas. Fascinating exam-

ples include a statistical "content analysis" he performed on Darwin's Beagle notes and Darwin's letters.

- James "the Amazing" Randi on his Million Dollar Challenge and his new organization, the James Randi Educational Foundation. Always entertaining

THE END OF SCIENCE?

av052VHS (video); av052C (audio cassette)-- The End of Science by John Horgan, author of the controversial bestseller *The End of Science*. Horgan presents his case on why he thinks that no major scientific breakthroughs remain and rebuts objections to this thesis. Horgan doubts that there will ever again be a scientific revolution on par with the Newtonian, Darwinian, or Einsteinian revolutions. Dr. Michael Shermer, Director of the Skeptics Society responds, and the Skeptic Society audience provides a lively Q & A.

FRAUD & SCIENCE

av071VHS (video-only two left); av071C (audio cassette)--The Baltimore Case: Fraud & Science by Caltech historian of science Dr. Daniel J. Kevles. Dr. Kevles lectures on his new book in which he recounts the recent history of the controversy over the research of Nobel Laureate David Baltimore. When a Congressional ethics committee investigated Thereza Imanishi-Kari and her co-author David Baltimore for scientific fraud, did they simply find what they were looking for? Kevles uses the Baltimore case to talk

about the broader issues of fraud in science, the misunderstanding of how science really works, and how truth cannot be discovered in the court of public opinion.

SCIENCE WRITERS NEEDED

av117VHS (video); av117DVD (DVD); av117CD (audio CD); av117C (audio cassette tape) Who is Science Writing For? by author and science writer Margaret Wertheim. We are living in an age of science, yet polls reveal an alarming ignorance about science and pseudoscience. Only about half a percent of the population read science magazines. Who writes for the other 99.5%? Who speaks to them? Wertheim discusses strategies for getting science to the other 99.5%. Inspiration for those who wish to write.. tuals of the century: physicist Erwin Schrödinger, biologist J.B.S. Haldane, philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein, novelist C. P. Snow, and mathematician/computer pioneer Alan Turing, who discuss the nature of artificial intelligence. A succinct summary of the science and philosophy behind artificial intelligence.

11. SCIENCE & RELIGION

CAN SCIENCE PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF GOD?

av146VHS (video) Only One Left; SYMPOSIUM ON THE PSYCHICS OF IMMORTALITY. CAN SCIENCE PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF GOD?

SKEPTICS SOCIETY CALTECH CONFERENCE—PART I

• Michael Shermer, Opening Remarks on: “The Myth of the Warfare Between Science and Religion” • Frank Tipler, Cosmologist, Tulane University, Author of the Controversial Books: *The Anthropic Cosmological Principle* and *The Psychics of Immortality*, on “The Psychics of God and Immortality.” • Bernard Leikind, Plasma Physicist, *Skeptic* Columnist on: “Can Science Really Prove God?: A Skeptical Analysis of The Physics of

Immortality.” • Michael Kerze, Historian of Religion and Science, Occidental College on: “Theologizing Science: From Democritus to Tipler.” • Caltech Cosmologist Kip Thorne comments • Frank Tipler Responds to Critics • Audience Q & A and Discussion

NEW IDEAS OF HEAVEN

av085VHS(video-only 4 left); av085DVD (DVD)-

Heaven and the Internet by Dr. Margaret Wertheim. Science writer Margaret Wertheim explores how humans often dream of a higher plane, a perfect world commonly known as Heaven. But science has dimmed those hopes. Wertheim explores new ideas of heaven, such as the concept of the Internet and cyberspace as a new home for the soul, where one might download one’s mind into digital eternity, in a sci-fi fantasy of digital resurrection.

12. EXTREMISM, RACE ISSUES, CULTS

No VHS tapes left in this category

13. MATH & STATISTICS

TWO MODES OF MATH THINKING

av123VHS(video); av123C (audio cassette); av123DVD (DVD); av123DVD (audio CD)--The Art of the Infinite: The Pleasures Of Mathematics by authors & founders of

The Math Circle school Dr. Robert Kaplan and Dr. Ellen Kaplan. The Kaplans provide character studies of eccentric, quarrelsome, base, & noble mathematicians, illustrating two modes of math thinking: mathematical truth is discovered as it exists (intuitionist), & mathematics is true because we invent consistent rules for it (formalist). Filled with fun examples for kids & adults alike, even math-phobics!

14. SATIRE/SONGS

NIGERIAN SCAM SATIRE

av137VHS(video); av137C (audio cassette); av137DVD (DVD); av137CD (audio CD)

THE NIGERIAN SPAM SCAM SCAM ONLY ONE TAPE LEFT

by actor, comedian, and writer Dean Cameron. A hilarious show about the Nigerian Scam-a supposedly wealthy indi-

vidual offers to split millions with you if only you help him get it out of his country by channeling it through your bank account. Naturally there may be some small fees you must pay first in order to implement this transaction.... Cameron reads actual emails exchanged with a Nigerian scammer, who he strings along with ridiculous anecdotes about his life and times here in America. Laugh out loud funny as he tries to get the scammer to first make a good faith payment to him!