

## Art meets Science at Bayfordbury

Public open evening at the Bayfordbury Observatory Campus, University of Hertfordshire

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – 17.30hrs onwards

As part of the public open evenings held at Bayfordbury Observatory once a month (allowing visitors to experience the optical telescopes and attend talks on various astronomy topics), '*Art meets Science at Bayfordbury*' is an outreach project demonstrating our wide and diverse research environment by bringing together artists and academics from the Contemporary Arts Practice Research Group at the University of Hertfordshire with Bayfordbury Observatory. In partnership with Astrophysics, and working with Research Theme Champion for Space Philip Lucas, three works will be presented and the artists available for discussion throughout the evening.

6.45-7.30 *Cosmoscope*

7.30-8.15 *Our changing place in the Universe*

8.15-9.00 *Cosmoscope*

9.00-9.45 *Our changing place in the Universe*

***Cosmoscope*** – Professor Simeon Nelson with Rob Godman (Creative Arts)

Talks delivered by the artists detailing the making and delivery of the monumental sound and light sculpture. Commissioned by Artichoke with the Wellcome Trust, *Cosmoscope* is a collaboration between quantum chemists, human biologists and cosmologists examining the very small to the very large. In addition, education and outreach activities undertaken as part of the *Cosmoscope* project will be examined.

***Faraday Waves*** – Rob Godman with Sam Jury and Professor Stephen Morris (Creative Arts)

A short audio-visual work, presented as a continuous loop throughout the evening within the indoor planetarium. The work is inspired by the classis physics experiment of the same name and made in collaboration with a geophysicist and a visual artist.

***Design for Weightless*** – Barbara Brownie and Nicola de Main (Creative Arts)

What would you wear for a trip into space? What kind of space hotel might you stay in? What would your space shoes look like? Staff and students at the University of Hertfordshire have been asking these questions, and have designed objects, clothes, and interiors for future space tourists. A selection of their designs are showcased in the *Design for Weightlessness* exhibition.

***Solar System Landscapes*** – Maya Horton (Physics, Astronomy & Mathematics)

Maya uses terrain modelling software to create digital representations of planets and moons of our solar system. She aims to create worlds which are realistic and recognisable, yet still being a product of imagination.

***Our changing place in the Universe*** – Phil Lucas (Physics, Astronomy & Mathematics)

How has our growing understanding of the heavens has been reflected in the arts and wider culture? I begin with a tour of the role of the heavens in cultures around the world, from creation myths through calendar keeping to portents of doom. I then look at cultural reactions to outer space in modern times, attempting to see some of the lessons and artistic opportunities that the space age can give us.

