



## Dan Falk, Science Journalist

Can the universe be understood in terms of a single theory -- a theory so concise it could fit on a T-shirt? Science journalist Dan Falk discusses the 2,500-year-old search for the Theory of Everything. Dan's illustrated talk is based on his award-winning book, *Universe on a T-Shirt: The Quest for the Theory of Everything* (Arcade Publishing). Dan will have a limited number of copies of the book available for sale.

Dan Falk is a freelance science writer, broadcaster, and author based in Toronto, Canada. He's written about science, especially astronomy and physics, for dozens of newspapers and magazines including *The Boston Globe*, *Nature*, *New Scientist*, *Astronomy*, and *Sky & Telescope*. His first book, *Universe on a T-Shirt: The Quest for the Theory of Everything*,

has already won several awards in Canada, including the Science in Society Journalism Award from the Canadian Science Writers' Association.

**Saturday, October 23  
2-4pm**

**Montgomery County Library  
Bethesda Branch**  
7400 Arlington Road  
Bethesda, Maryland  
(A short walk from the Bethesda Metro station)



### **National Capital Area Skeptics Public Lecture Series**

**FREE admission - Everyone welcome - members and non-members**

For more information call the 24-hour NCAS Skeptic Line recording at

(301) 587-3827

e-mail: [ncas@ncas.org](mailto:ncas@ncas.org)

[www.ncas.org](http://www.ncas.org)



# Shadow of a Doubt

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA SKEPTICS

OCTOBER 2004

## Smithsonian Resident Associate Program: Nature Through Nurture: The Great Brain Debate, Tues., Nov. 9, 7:00 p.m.

John E. Dowling, the Llura and Gordon Gund Professor of Neurosciences at Harvard University, argues that it's time to set aside the antagonistic notion of nature versus nurture for a more nuanced, and scientifically helpful, view. Whether the development of the brain, along with personality, intelligence, and behavior, is more likely to be shaped by genetic coding on the one hand or the environment on the other is of enormous importance for the way we deal with education, abnormal behavior, mental diseases, and geriatric care. Looking specifically at early development and then at opportunities for additional learning as we age, Prof. Dowling reveals how both nature and nurture work together over the course of a human lifetime.

In addition to his role at Harvard, Prof. Dowling serves as president of the Corporation of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and is author of the award-winning *Creating Mind: How the Brain Works*. His new volume, *The Great Brain Debate: Is it Nature or Nurture?* (Joseph Henry Press), is available for signing after the program.

**Tickets:** Gen. Admission \$20, RAP Members \$15, Senior Members \$13

**LOCATION NOT YET ANNOUNCED ON WEBSITE.** Call 202-252-0012 for information URL: [http://residentassociates.org/otonov/brain\\_debate.asp](http://residentassociates.org/otonov/brain_debate.asp)

## NCAS Unofficial Cheesy Halloween Movie Night at the Library of Congress

The Library of Congress shows movies from their collection FREE at the Pickford Theater in the Madi-

son Building on Capitol Hill on weekdays. Here is their description for *Bluebeard*:

*Friday, October 29 (7:00 p.m.)*

*National Film Registry*

*Bluebeard (Cinerama, 1972) Dir Edward Dmytryk, Luciano Sacripanti. With Virna Lisi, Edward Meeks, Nathalie Delon. (125 min, 35mm)*

*Off with their heads! Who better to overplay the part of Bluebeard than the man who put the Act in the word actor, Sir Richard Burton. See how the man mentally and verbally abuses his woman and then . . . you know! See classic beauties Raquel Welch, Virna Lisi, Sybil Danning, and Joey Heatherton fall into Bluebeard's trap!*

Forget the plot, it's a campy piece with spectacularly beautiful scenery and beautiful people.

One minor drawback, we should NOT make our usual comments out loud (unless we are the only ones there). Here is how you attend:

**Reservations** may be made by phone, beginning 1 week before any given show. Call (202) 707-5677 during business hours (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Reserved seats must be claimed at least 10 minutes before showtime, after which standbys will be admitted to unclaimed seats. All programs are free, but seating is limited to 60 seats. The Mary Pickford Theater is located on the third floor of the Library of Congress Madison building, 101 Independence Avenue, Washington, D.C.

## Time to Renew!

Check your mailing label. If the renewal date has passed, please send to the NCAS address below \$30 (for 1 person) or \$40 (for 2-member households) for a 1-year renewal, or you will be dropped as a member.



**National Capital Area Skeptics  
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Silver Spring, Maryland 20907**

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