



1
00:00:10,850 --> 00:00:08,360
everyone alex karras I'm skeptical here

2
00:00:13,730 --> 00:00:10,860
today on the show I have Kat Forbes the

3
00:00:16,849 --> 00:00:13,740
creator filmmaker of the simulation

4
00:00:19,550 --> 00:00:16,859
hypothesis fantastic movie serious

5
00:00:22,250 --> 00:00:19,560
scientific movie that as the title

6
00:00:24,740 --> 00:00:22,260
suggests explores the idea that maybe

7
00:00:29,300 --> 00:00:24,750
people are living in something closer to

8
00:00:32,170 --> 00:00:29,310
a virtual reality simulation than what

9
00:00:34,819 --> 00:00:32,180
we think of as our material reality

10
00:00:36,889 --> 00:00:34,829
fascinating idea let's take a look at a

11
00:00:51,820 --> 00:00:36,899
clip from the opening that kind of sets

12
00:01:02,600 --> 00:00:58,910
is reality real or can we be living in a

13
00:01:07,640 --> 00:01:04,910

could the universe be more like a dream

14

00:01:12,960 --> 00:01:07,650

than we ever imagined remember you are

15

00:01:19,190 --> 00:01:15,270

how can science help us answer these

16

00:01:26,460 --> 00:01:24,750

welcome to the simulation hypothesis so

17

00:01:28,200 --> 00:01:26,470

it looks pretty interesting that whether

18

00:01:30,390 --> 00:01:28,210

you're a believer or not it's an

19

00:01:32,610 --> 00:01:30,400

interesting hypothesis and then take a

20

00:01:34,980 --> 00:01:32,620

look at the guy behind the film here is

21

00:01:37,410 --> 00:01:34,990

Ken's film production company fair wind

22

00:01:40,650 --> 00:01:37,420

films check this out we are a group of

23

00:01:42,870 --> 00:01:40,660

scientists philosophers theologians and

24

00:01:45,450 --> 00:01:42,880

artists who believe that common ground

25

00:01:47,490 --> 00:01:45,460

integration and synthesis of knowledge

26

00:01:50,670 --> 00:01:47,500

from a wide variety of disciplines is

27

00:01:55,590 --> 00:01:50,680

not only possible but necessary for the

28

00:01:57,630 --> 00:01:55,600

future of humanity heady stuff and if

29

00:02:00,270 --> 00:01:57,640

you want to bounce over and check out

30

00:02:02,600 --> 00:02:00,280

the academia page you'll find out this

31

00:02:05,040 --> 00:02:02,610

cat Forbes guy is the real deal

32

00:02:08,160 --> 00:02:05,050

finishing up his PhD at the university

33

00:02:09,960 --> 00:02:08,170

of maine research topics fascinating

34

00:02:13,560 --> 00:02:09,970

fascinating stuff look at this some of

35

00:02:16,890 --> 00:02:13,570

the papers he's published the emergent

36

00:02:19,830 --> 00:02:16,900

christ narrative cosmology process I

37

00:02:22,110 --> 00:02:19,840

mean we could have a lot of discussions

38

00:02:24,690 --> 00:02:22,120

on a lot of different topics with this

39

00:02:26,430 --> 00:02:24,700

guy but the point is he is heavy-duty

40

00:02:28,650 --> 00:02:26,440

knows what he's talking about serious

41

00:02:31,229 --> 00:02:28,660

academic who's made a very interesting

42

00:02:32,640 --> 00:02:31,239

film so it's gonna be fun talking to him

43

00:02:37,830 --> 00:02:32,650

I'm really looking forward to it

44

00:02:40,110 --> 00:02:37,840

let's get on with the interview today we

45

00:02:43,229 --> 00:02:40,120

welcome Kent Forbes - skeptic Oh to talk

46

00:02:46,050 --> 00:02:43,239

about his terrific film the simulation

47

00:02:48,420 --> 00:02:46,060

experience which as the name suggests

48

00:02:49,920 --> 00:02:48,430

explores this idea that we've kind of

49

00:02:53,009 --> 00:02:49,930

touched on in this show a couple times

50

00:02:56,490 --> 00:02:53,019

that the best way to understand reality

51
00:02:59,400 --> 00:02:56,500
is really through understanding it a

52
00:03:02,640 --> 00:02:59,410
sort of simulation computer simulation

53
00:03:05,340 --> 00:03:02,650
it's a very intriguing idea and a great

54
00:03:07,199 --> 00:03:05,350
guest with some terrific ideas welcome

55
00:03:10,620 --> 00:03:07,209
Kent thanks for joining me on skeptic oh

56
00:03:12,479 --> 00:03:10,630
thank you Alex so why don't we start

57
00:03:16,020 --> 00:03:12,489
with just the basics tell us a little

58
00:03:19,410 --> 00:03:16,030
bit about yourself and how you came to

59
00:03:22,110 --> 00:03:19,420
start fair wind films an interesting

60
00:03:24,330 --> 00:03:22,120
name for your company and as I told

61
00:03:25,620 --> 00:03:24,340
folks in the video introduction quite an

62
00:03:27,480 --> 00:03:25,630
impressive kind of

63
00:03:29,280 --> 00:03:27,490

mission statement you have for that so

64

00:03:31,110 --> 00:03:29,290

maybe you can roll that in and that

65

00:03:34,050 --> 00:03:31,120

about your academic background too

66

00:03:38,190 --> 00:03:34,060

because people need to understand that

67

00:03:41,160 --> 00:03:38,200

you are bringing a level of scientific

68

00:03:43,440 --> 00:03:41,170

and academic rigor to this topic that we

69

00:03:44,970 --> 00:03:43,450

don't usually see and that's one of the

70

00:03:46,800 --> 00:03:44,980

things that's really refreshing and

71

00:03:49,200 --> 00:03:46,810

terrific about the movie and we'll get

72

00:03:52,230 --> 00:03:49,210

into a little bit is you know you gotta

73

00:03:55,770 --> 00:03:52,240

buckle up your thinking cap here and be

74

00:03:57,900 --> 00:03:55,780

willing to at least tiptoe into some

75

00:04:01,380 --> 00:03:57,910

science that you drag people through but

76

00:04:03,930 --> 00:04:01,390

that's either the full assertion of your

77

00:04:06,510 --> 00:04:03,940

article is or your argument is a

78

00:04:08,130 --> 00:04:06,520

scientific argument in favor of your

79

00:04:09,750 --> 00:04:08,140

position there I've laid too much on the

80

00:04:11,580 --> 00:04:09,760

table but let's roll it all the way back

81

00:04:13,710 --> 00:04:11,590

and tell us a little bit about yourself

82

00:04:16,350 --> 00:04:13,720

your background now I was raised as an

83

00:04:16,860 --> 00:04:16,360

atheist okay so I don't have a dog in

84

00:04:20,250 --> 00:04:16,870

the fight

85

00:04:21,630 --> 00:04:20,260

religiously right and we all have a dog

86

00:04:23,490 --> 00:04:21,640

in the fight but you're saying you

87

00:04:25,350 --> 00:04:23,500

didn't have it from your childhood or

88

00:04:27,180 --> 00:04:25,360

upper anger well yeah I mean I still

89

00:04:29,640 --> 00:04:27,190

really don't I'd like to think of myself

90

00:04:33,630 --> 00:04:29,650

as a pretty objective open-minded person

91

00:04:37,520 --> 00:04:33,640

but the assumptions that I was going

92

00:04:40,410 --> 00:04:37,530

with we're just the major assumptions of

93

00:04:41,970 --> 00:04:40,420

you know Western society you know which

94

00:04:44,910 --> 00:04:41,980

is what you're taught in school which is

95

00:04:47,040 --> 00:04:44,920

basically materialist science and if you

96

00:04:49,680 --> 00:04:47,050

believe anything else you're kind of

97

00:04:53,000 --> 00:04:49,690

foolish or you're investing in mythos or

98

00:04:55,770 --> 00:04:53,010

whatever while I was in Berkeley I

99

00:04:58,950 --> 00:04:55,780

became aware of ions which is Veen

100

00:05:01,080 --> 00:04:58,960

writtens Institute of noetic Sciences

101

00:05:04,560 --> 00:05:01,090

and then also the center for theology

102

00:05:07,920 --> 00:05:04,570

and in Natural Sciences which is a an

103

00:05:09,750 --> 00:05:07,930

institute set up to study the boundary

104

00:05:11,370 --> 00:05:09,760

between religious thinking and

105

00:05:14,490 --> 00:05:11,380

scientific thinking and sort of how

106

00:05:18,390 --> 00:05:14,500

those two areas of thought interlink and

107

00:05:19,410 --> 00:05:18,400

relate and clash that that's interesting

108

00:05:21,540 --> 00:05:19,420

to know that that's your background

109

00:05:23,610 --> 00:05:21,550

because the film just approaches it from

110

00:05:26,430 --> 00:05:23,620

a very straightforward standpoint of

111

00:05:29,340 --> 00:05:26,440

saying let me share with you the data

112

00:05:31,380 --> 00:05:29,350

let me share with you the history which

113

00:05:34,350 --> 00:05:31,390

i think is phenomenally important you do

114

00:05:36,450 --> 00:05:34,360

a fabulous job of tracing this history

115

00:05:38,999 --> 00:05:36,460

and letting us know how our

116

00:05:42,649 --> 00:05:39,009

understanding of this science

117

00:05:45,390 --> 00:05:42,659

has been obscured in just the most a

118

00:05:47,609 --> 00:05:45,400

kind of deliberate way that there's a

119

00:05:50,899 --> 00:05:47,619

history there that you reveal that is

120

00:05:53,459 --> 00:05:50,909

well known but just not well taught so

121

00:05:55,799 --> 00:05:53,469

I'm asking you to maybe shift gears for

122

00:05:58,619 --> 00:05:55,809

a minute but respond to that what was

123

00:06:02,249 --> 00:05:58,629

that process like for you discovering

124

00:06:03,959 --> 00:06:02,259

that the science of quantum physics I

125

00:06:05,369 --> 00:06:03,969

love the point in the film that you have

126

00:06:09,089 --> 00:06:05,379

and I'll probably show a clip of it

127

00:06:11,189 --> 00:06:09,099

where you know you say here's the 1927

128

00:06:13,439 --> 00:06:11,199

conference what is that conference the

129

00:06:16,019 --> 00:06:13,449

Solvay conference Solvay conference in

130

00:06:17,399 --> 00:06:16,029

york like here are 16 Nobel Prize

131

00:06:18,959 --> 00:06:17,409

winners and you're going through them

132

00:06:22,350 --> 00:06:18,969

one at a time and pointing them out

133

00:06:24,589 --> 00:06:22,360

you're saying this was the issue of the

134

00:06:27,059 --> 00:06:24,599

time but the greatest thinkers of

135

00:06:29,670 --> 00:06:27,069

Einstein of Niels Bohr of all these

136

00:06:32,459 --> 00:06:29,680

people this was the central point and

137

00:06:35,189 --> 00:06:32,469

yet our modern science pretends like oh

138

00:06:38,519 --> 00:06:35,199

no that's that's was never really an

139

00:06:41,639 --> 00:06:38,529

issue or it's always resolved this is

140

00:06:43,260 --> 00:06:41,649

Erwin Schrodinger in 1926 he was

141

00:06:45,029 --> 00:06:43,270

teaching physics at the University of

142

00:06:48,209 --> 00:06:45,039

Zurich where Einstein had gotten his

143

00:06:50,129 --> 00:06:48,219

ph.d he wrote a paper introducing wave

144

00:06:52,189 --> 00:06:50,139

mechanics as an alternative to

145

00:06:54,749 --> 00:06:52,199

Heisenberg's matrix mechanics

146

00:06:57,179 --> 00:06:54,759

it was Schrodinger who first claimed

147

00:06:59,519 --> 00:06:57,189

that two particles could be entangled

148

00:07:02,850 --> 00:06:59,529

and that they would behave as one system

149

00:07:05,939 --> 00:07:02,860

as one thing mind you even if they were

150

00:07:08,189 --> 00:07:05,949

separated in space this meant that any

151

00:07:10,409 --> 00:07:08,199

interaction with observation or

152

00:07:12,869 --> 00:07:10,419

measurement of one of the entangled

153

00:07:15,779 --> 00:07:12,879

particles would cause an instantaneous

154

00:07:18,570 --> 00:07:15,789

effect in the other even at great

155

00:07:20,639 --> 00:07:18,580

distances across space up to an

156

00:07:26,239 --> 00:07:20,649

including infinite distance in space

157

00:07:30,899 --> 00:07:29,159

for the majority of physicists who were

158

00:07:33,209 --> 00:07:30,909

after all completely invested in a

159

00:07:35,850 --> 00:07:33,219

materialist view of the universe this

160

00:07:38,850 --> 00:07:35,860

was truly unacceptable and simply could

161

00:07:39,879 --> 00:07:38,860

not be true even if all the equations

162

00:07:41,980 --> 00:07:39,889

worked

163

00:07:43,959 --> 00:07:41,990

they just needed to put their heads

164

00:07:46,510 --> 00:07:43,969

together and figure out what was really

165

00:07:49,869 --> 00:07:46,520

going on with this newfangled wave and

166

00:07:51,369 --> 00:07:49,879

matrix mechanics Einstein took

167

00:07:53,679 --> 00:07:51,379

particular interest in this problem

168

00:07:55,689 --> 00:07:53,689

because it was he who had let the genie

169

00:08:01,489 --> 00:07:55,699

out of the bottle with his photon and

170

00:08:05,830 --> 00:08:03,700

the 1927

171

00:08:07,630 --> 00:08:05,840

Solvay conference was held to solve

172

00:08:09,490 --> 00:08:07,640

these new problems in defining the

173

00:08:12,220 --> 00:08:09,500

properties and behavior of photons and

174

00:08:15,640 --> 00:08:12,230

electrons talk about some heavy-hitters

175

00:08:19,360 --> 00:08:15,650

of the 29 people pictured here 17 one

176

00:08:21,970 --> 00:08:19,370

Nobel Prizes here is Madame Curie next

177

00:08:24,280 --> 00:08:21,980

to her is Max Planck here is Einstein

178

00:08:26,020 --> 00:08:24,290

who by this time had overturned Isaac

179

00:08:28,810 --> 00:08:26,030

Newton's theory of gravity with his own

180

00:08:31,570 --> 00:08:28,820

general theory of relativity and he was

181

00:08:33,850 --> 00:08:31,580

by far the most famous scientist in the

182

00:08:35,470 --> 00:08:33,860

world here are the young upstarts are

183

00:08:37,660 --> 00:08:35,480

when Schrodinger and Werner Heisenberg

184

00:08:40,240 --> 00:08:37,670

the ones who started all this trouble

185

00:08:41,710 --> 00:08:40,250

and here is Niels Bohr caught in the

186

00:08:44,640 --> 00:08:41,720

middle between the youngsters and the

187

00:08:47,080 --> 00:08:44,650

older traditionalists led by Einstein

188

00:08:48,820 --> 00:08:47,090

during the conference borin Einstein

189

00:08:50,350 --> 00:08:48,830

began a discussion about the true nature

190

00:08:54,040 --> 00:08:50,360

of reality that would become the

191

00:08:57,340 --> 00:08:54,050

greatest rivalry in modern science speak

192

00:08:58,960 --> 00:08:57,350

to that for a minute would you well sure

193

00:09:03,570 --> 00:08:58,970

I mean I'm gonna try to put it into the

194

00:09:09,760 --> 00:09:03,580

context of emotional bias at the time

195

00:09:12,730 --> 00:09:09,770

those the the greatest thinkers were

196

00:09:15,070 --> 00:09:12,740

having to confront their own bias right

197

00:09:17,890 --> 00:09:15,080

and they they came out of it I think

198

00:09:19,900 --> 00:09:17,900

with the best possible conclusions that

199

00:09:22,750 --> 00:09:19,910

could be expected from any human beings

200

00:09:25,390 --> 00:09:22,760

that were faced with this dilemma it was

201
00:09:28,180 --> 00:09:25,400
a paradigm shifting moment to think that

202
00:09:30,640 --> 00:09:28,190
this is happening and that long ago and

203
00:09:32,890 --> 00:09:30,650
that it still hasn't filtered down to

204
00:09:36,930 --> 00:09:32,900
the classrooms you know to the science

205
00:09:41,710 --> 00:09:36,940
classroom I mean it's unbelievable now

206
00:09:45,310 --> 00:09:41,720
Einstein was able to hang on to his bias

207
00:09:48,700 --> 00:09:45,320
towards materialism right until you know

208
00:09:51,130 --> 00:09:48,710
literally months before his death and

209
00:09:53,590 --> 00:09:51,140
and you know the the mounting evidence

210
00:09:57,160 --> 00:09:53,600
and the tipping point in the community

211
00:09:59,680 --> 00:09:57,170
and the consensus amongst physicists had

212
00:10:02,160 --> 00:09:59,690
already taken place and here he is

213
00:10:03,370 --> 00:10:02,170

they're like just rejecting that

214

00:10:06,100 --> 00:10:03,380

stubbornly

215

00:10:08,200 --> 00:10:06,110

and this is Einstein a person this has

216

00:10:10,840 --> 00:10:08,210

not taught this way this is not how this

217

00:10:12,790 --> 00:10:10,850

is passed down to us is that history

218

00:10:14,860 --> 00:10:12,800

that you're saying it is the truth but

219

00:10:16,240 --> 00:10:14,870

it's it's obscured in a way and the way

220

00:10:16,960 --> 00:10:16,250

that it's passed out is that there was

221

00:10:18,970 --> 00:10:16,970

this

222

00:10:22,660 --> 00:10:18,980

debate and we don't know and Einstein

223

00:10:26,230 --> 00:10:22,670

never really could decide but right yeah

224

00:10:30,490 --> 00:10:26,240

sure I mean it's it's it skipped over in

225

00:10:33,009 --> 00:10:30,500

a way to minimize the the conflict to

226

00:10:34,990 --> 00:10:33,019

sort of suggest that no no no there's

227

00:10:36,790 --> 00:10:35,000

there's this overriding consensus from

228

00:10:39,910 --> 00:10:36,800

the beginning and that is not true at

229

00:10:43,240 --> 00:10:39,920

all as as outside of the box as Einstein

230

00:10:46,929 --> 00:10:43,250

was it took him right until the end but

231

00:10:48,429 --> 00:10:46,939

he did shift his thinking and very

232

00:10:50,800 --> 00:10:48,439

clearly sense of when his correspondence

233

00:10:52,540 --> 00:10:50,810

with peers at the end of his life that

234

00:10:58,410 --> 00:10:52,550

you know what we need some kind of a new

235

00:11:02,050 --> 00:10:58,420

theory that can speak to the problem of

236

00:11:04,629 --> 00:11:02,060

matter is not the base constituent of

237

00:11:07,569 --> 00:11:04,639

reality but we don't even have a way of

238

00:11:09,340 --> 00:11:07,579

talking about this so that's what the

239

00:11:11,410 --> 00:11:09,350

sort of information theory and the

240

00:11:12,999 --> 00:11:11,420

simulation hypothesis is Einsteins dream

241

00:11:14,860 --> 00:11:13,009

in a way because it fills that gap

242

00:11:18,569 --> 00:11:14,870

perfectly and I wish he were alive to

243

00:11:21,569 --> 00:11:18,579

see how that has come around and I

244

00:11:23,799 --> 00:11:21,579

believe he would be satisfied with it

245

00:11:26,139 --> 00:11:23,809

now I kind of wandered off the topic

246

00:11:28,210 --> 00:11:26,149

thereby I pulled you off the topic let

247

00:11:31,840 --> 00:11:28,220

me pull you let me pull you back to the

248

00:11:34,869 --> 00:11:31,850

film sure absolutely and there's also

249

00:11:38,410 --> 00:11:34,879

the idea of progress behind all this

250

00:11:40,420 --> 00:11:38,420

ever since the Enlightenment period the

251

00:11:42,639 --> 00:11:40,430

materialist paradigm has been

252

00:11:44,949 --> 00:11:42,649

incrementally built up as a way of

253

00:11:47,559 --> 00:11:44,959

understanding the you know the

254

00:11:49,509 --> 00:11:47,569

experience that were having okay and

255

00:11:52,780 --> 00:11:49,519

they had a lot of success with it that

256

00:11:56,230 --> 00:11:52,790

was designed to undermine the sort of

257

00:11:58,269 --> 00:11:56,240

divine right to rule of monarchs and you

258

00:12:00,490 --> 00:11:58,279

know there were terrible abuses of power

259

00:12:03,970 --> 00:12:00,500

by the Pope's and so forth that that's

260

00:12:05,499 --> 00:12:03,980

feared this whole you know mechanical

261

00:12:07,150 --> 00:12:05,509

view of the universe as a way of

262

00:12:11,170 --> 00:12:07,160

undermining the narratives of the church

263

00:12:14,230 --> 00:12:11,180

and I think that that it was justified

264

00:12:17,499 --> 00:12:14,240

at the time now after hundreds of years

265

00:12:20,259 --> 00:12:17,509

of building up this alternative to find

266

00:12:22,119 --> 00:12:20,269

that a close examination of physical

267

00:12:23,949 --> 00:12:22,129

matter reveals a connection to

268

00:12:26,169 --> 00:12:23,959

consciousness which actually undermines

269

00:12:27,970 --> 00:12:26,179

strict materialism it's a little bit

270

00:12:29,830 --> 00:12:27,980

much and I think it's completely

271

00:12:33,390 --> 00:12:29,840

understandable for people who are

272

00:12:36,310 --> 00:12:33,400

invested in materialism to be skeptical

273

00:12:38,010 --> 00:12:36,320

that such you know because they are

274

00:12:42,220 --> 00:12:38,020

afraid that they're going to be

275

00:12:44,080 --> 00:12:42,230

reinforcing the the claims of those

276

00:12:46,060 --> 00:12:44,090

religious folks and who were then guess

277

00:12:48,940 --> 00:12:46,070

they see me told you so we've been

278

00:12:51,600 --> 00:12:48,950

saying this all along and so you know

279

00:12:54,400 --> 00:12:51,610

back to the whole emotional bias thing

280

00:12:55,960 --> 00:12:54,410

so Kent let me take you in a couple of

281

00:12:58,330 --> 00:12:55,970

different directions here along a

282

00:13:00,340 --> 00:12:58,340

skeptical line if you will so you know

283

00:13:02,410 --> 00:13:00,350

I'd like to push people a little bit and

284

00:13:05,170 --> 00:13:02,420

I do have to push you on one point and

285

00:13:08,860 --> 00:13:05,180

that is the film the simulation

286

00:13:12,190 --> 00:13:08,870

hypothesis is fantastic as I said rich

287

00:13:14,620 --> 00:13:12,200

in science but also very accessible and

288

00:13:16,630 --> 00:13:14,630

break some things down that folks have

289

00:13:18,700 --> 00:13:16,640

probably heard about a dozen times

290

00:13:21,250 --> 00:13:18,710

before the double slit experiment the

291

00:13:24,310 --> 00:13:21,260

observer effect quantum entanglement and

292

00:13:27,010 --> 00:13:24,320

you just do a fabulous job of explaining

293

00:13:29,310 --> 00:13:27,020

that and then more importantly as you're

294

00:13:31,900 --> 00:13:29,320

just talking about explaining how that

295

00:13:35,700 --> 00:13:31,910

completely contradicts undermines

296

00:13:39,250 --> 00:13:35,710

falsifies materialism naturalism

297

00:13:41,050 --> 00:13:39,260

physicalism all this simplistic you are

298

00:13:43,510 --> 00:13:41,060

a biological robot in a meaningless

299

00:13:46,120 --> 00:13:43,520

universe stuff that is the way that I

300

00:13:48,880 --> 00:13:46,130

like to put it but and you know there is

301

00:13:53,110 --> 00:13:48,890

a but coming and all that are you

302

00:13:55,240 --> 00:13:53,120

stretching the metaphor too far I always

303

00:13:59,080 --> 00:13:55,250

get a little bit nervous when we say

304

00:14:02,680 --> 00:13:59,090

things like therefore we've falsified

305

00:14:04,930 --> 00:14:02,690

this it has some aspects of the

306

00:14:07,420 --> 00:14:04,940

simulation model from as philosophical

307

00:14:11,560 --> 00:14:07,430

standpoint kind of fitting better

308

00:14:15,690 --> 00:14:11,570

therefore we live in a pixelated world

309

00:14:18,310 --> 00:14:15,700

that works like a computer simulation I

310

00:14:20,530 --> 00:14:18,320

wonder sometimes if we're stretching the

311

00:14:25,770 --> 00:14:20,540

metaphor if we're making a leap there

312

00:14:29,590 --> 00:14:25,780

that is one unnecessary and two maybe

313

00:14:31,660 --> 00:14:29,600

completely unfounded particularly if we

314

00:14:34,500 --> 00:14:31,670

jump over and look at it from a

315

00:14:37,660 --> 00:14:34,510

spiritual standpoint and what the

316

00:14:40,060 --> 00:14:37,670

extended reality folks are telling us

317

00:14:41,650 --> 00:14:40,070

that is the folks who are scientifically

318

00:14:43,510 --> 00:14:41,660

more or less looking

319

00:14:45,490 --> 00:14:43,520

what's happening in these through

320

00:14:48,100 --> 00:14:45,500

spiritually transformative experiences

321

00:14:50,140 --> 00:14:48,110

and all the rest so could you maybe try

322

00:14:52,180 --> 00:14:50,150

and fit those two together are you

323

00:14:54,190 --> 00:14:52,190

stretching the metaphor too far and do

324

00:14:57,640 --> 00:14:54,200

we have to consider extended

325

00:15:00,880 --> 00:14:57,650

consciousness and spirituality able to

326

00:15:02,890 --> 00:15:00,890

choose the title of artist for myself

327

00:15:06,220 --> 00:15:02,900

because it provides the most possible

328

00:15:09,190 --> 00:15:06,230

freedom to discuss these ideas right I

329

00:15:10,690 --> 00:15:09,200

don't claim to be a scientist I play I

330

00:15:12,880 --> 00:15:10,700

don't claim to be a theologian or

331

00:15:14,860 --> 00:15:12,890

philosopher I claim to be an artist and

332

00:15:18,430 --> 00:15:14,870

so what I do is I work with aesthetic

333

00:15:22,260 --> 00:15:18,440

values okay to elicit emotional

334

00:15:26,350 --> 00:15:22,270

responses hopefully you know uplifting

335

00:15:30,430 --> 00:15:26,360

so now my personal human response to

336

00:15:33,580 --> 00:15:30,440

what you're saying is hey if whether

337

00:15:35,740 --> 00:15:33,590

there's any empirical data or some kind

338

00:15:37,990 --> 00:15:35,750

of strong correspondence between what a

339

00:15:40,090 --> 00:15:38,000

person's feeling and some actual entity

340

00:15:42,250 --> 00:15:40,100

that's that's we're transferring

341

00:15:45,340 --> 00:15:42,260

information across and kind of veil or

342

00:15:48,160 --> 00:15:45,350

something I'm not you know this is a

343

00:15:50,770 --> 00:15:48,170

very old idea this is maybe the oldest

344

00:15:52,630 --> 00:15:50,780

idea as far as the human beings are

345

00:15:54,130 --> 00:15:52,640

concerned you know with with burying of

346

00:15:56,620 --> 00:15:54,140

the dead and send the idea of an

347

00:15:58,960 --> 00:15:56,630

afterlife and so forth right it's that

348

00:16:02,230 --> 00:15:58,970

idea is not gonna go away should it be

349

00:16:04,780 --> 00:16:02,240

taken seriously in social sciences

350

00:16:08,200 --> 00:16:04,790

absolutely should it be taken seriously

351

00:16:11,080 --> 00:16:08,210

in family counseling I think so should

352

00:16:13,480 --> 00:16:11,090

yeah taken seriously in physics I mean

353

00:16:15,480 --> 00:16:13,490

the implications are there in quantum

354

00:16:20,830 --> 00:16:15,490

physics you know I just had this

355

00:16:22,510 --> 00:16:20,840

conversation with a guy who is name's

356

00:16:23,080 --> 00:16:22,520

dr. Sean Carroll maybe you've run across

357

00:16:25,960 --> 00:16:23,090

him

358

00:16:28,360 --> 00:16:25,970

Caltech Harvard trained physicist number

359

00:16:31,060 --> 00:16:28,370

one best-selling book yes yes science

360

00:16:34,240 --> 00:16:31,070

right now interviewed staunch

361

00:16:36,790 --> 00:16:34,250

materialist is not backing off one bit

362

00:16:39,880 --> 00:16:36,800

we had this discussion in which I said

363

00:16:42,940 --> 00:16:39,890

well kind of long lines of our movie

364

00:16:46,360 --> 00:16:42,950

I said well Niels Bohr in Schrodinger

365

00:16:48,760 --> 00:16:46,370

and many of the leading people saw this

366

00:16:50,800 --> 00:16:48,770

issue as consciousness collapsing the

367

00:16:53,110 --> 00:16:50,810

wavefunction as central to the

368

00:16:55,269 --> 00:16:53,120

philosophical underpinnings of quantum

369

00:16:57,389 --> 00:16:55,279

physics and he said no no

370

00:17:00,100 --> 00:16:57,399

he said no you got it completely wrong

371

00:17:01,540 --> 00:17:00,110

they didn't think that at all what we

372

00:17:03,670 --> 00:17:01,550

went back and looked and I showed him

373

00:17:04,899 --> 00:17:03,680

that after the show I should have you

374

00:17:08,350 --> 00:17:04,909

know that's not true you're just

375

00:17:11,649 --> 00:17:08,360

completely I don't know how you alright

376

00:17:13,720 --> 00:17:11,659

get a PhD from Harvard in physics and

377

00:17:16,059 --> 00:17:13,730

not know these things but he didn't know

378

00:17:19,960 --> 00:17:16,069

these things but the the real point I

379

00:17:22,539 --> 00:17:19,970

guess is just that what Schrodinger says

380

00:17:25,980 --> 00:17:22,549

and Morse is almost the same thing but

381

00:17:30,340 --> 00:17:25,990

Schrodinger says it directly

382

00:17:33,610 --> 00:17:30,350

consciousness must survive death he just

383

00:17:37,690 --> 00:17:33,620

says it completely so from a physics

384

00:17:39,640 --> 00:17:37,700

standpoint this idea is not out it comes

385

00:17:42,159 --> 00:17:39,650

with the package I guess what I'm saying

386

00:17:46,630 --> 00:17:42,169

not just in this surviving bodily death

387

00:17:48,250 --> 00:17:46,640

comes with the package doesn't it yeah

388

00:17:54,430 --> 00:17:48,260

absolutely and part of the problem is

389

00:17:58,590 --> 00:17:54,440

the divvying up of philosophy into the

390

00:18:02,649 --> 00:17:58,600

sciences and you know psychology and

391

00:18:04,779 --> 00:18:02,659

religion it's ah Sophie the thing is

392

00:18:10,180 --> 00:18:04,789

that all philosophy and Plato understood

393

00:18:12,970 --> 00:18:10,190

that ideas about what constitutes an

394

00:18:17,020 --> 00:18:12,980

object in a self and a reflection and

395

00:18:22,120 --> 00:18:17,030

you know that must precede the

396

00:18:23,529 --> 00:18:22,130

experience okay so obviously it follows

397

00:18:25,090 --> 00:18:23,539

the experience as well so yes

398

00:18:26,649 --> 00:18:25,100

consciousness survives because it

399

00:18:27,669 --> 00:18:26,659

preceded the experience to begin with

400

00:18:29,980 --> 00:18:27,679

appreciate everything you're saying but

401
00:18:33,100 --> 00:18:29,990
I am gonna pull you back to the question

402
00:18:35,440 --> 00:18:33,110
are you stretching the metaphor too far

403
00:18:38,139 --> 00:18:35,450
when you say we live in a pixelated

404
00:18:43,630 --> 00:18:38,149
world and it works like a computer

405
00:18:45,580 --> 00:18:43,640
simulation you know a lot of hay is made

406
00:18:46,570 --> 00:18:45,590
with this idea that consciousness is

407
00:18:49,060 --> 00:18:46,580
like a computer

408
00:18:51,220 --> 00:18:49,070
I think his the site the history of

409
00:18:53,350 --> 00:18:51,230
science shows us that whatever our

410
00:18:55,690 --> 00:18:53,360
latest technology is is that's what we

411
00:18:58,090 --> 00:18:55,700
latch on to we say oh we're just like

412
00:18:59,830 --> 00:18:58,100
that you know we're just like the river

413
00:19:02,049 --> 00:18:59,840

you know before we had any technology

414

00:19:04,090 --> 00:19:02,059

and then oh we're just like the machine

415

00:19:04,990 --> 00:19:04,100

when the machine and now we're just like

416

00:19:06,760 --> 00:19:05,000

the computer

417

00:19:08,419 --> 00:19:06,770

oh we're just like a computer simulation

418

00:19:10,970 --> 00:19:08,429

are we stretching the metaphor

419

00:19:13,909 --> 00:19:10,980

far well it depends on the individual

420

00:19:16,279 --> 00:19:13,919

that's receiving that narrative right I

421

00:19:17,840 --> 00:19:16,289

mean how are they receiving it what kind

422

00:19:20,269 --> 00:19:17,850

of emotional response are they having it

423

00:19:21,590 --> 00:19:20,279

is it possible that the the metaphor is

424

00:19:24,710 --> 00:19:21,600

being stretched too far sure of course

425

00:19:26,299 --> 00:19:24,720

it is but but when you're designing a

426

00:19:28,669 --> 00:19:26,309

narrative to elicit an emotional

427

00:19:32,269 --> 00:19:28,679

response you back yourself into this

428

00:19:35,180 --> 00:19:32,279

corner where you have to provide some

429

00:19:38,090 --> 00:19:35,190

kind of logical conclusion otherwise

430

00:19:40,879 --> 00:19:38,100

it's just empty meaningless drivel right

431

00:19:43,220 --> 00:19:40,889

so you have to like wind up somewhere

432

00:19:44,989 --> 00:19:43,230

and that's the kind of place that you

433

00:19:47,930 --> 00:19:44,999

have to have to wind up at because

434

00:19:49,430 --> 00:19:47,940

that's the imagery and the metaphor that

435

00:19:51,139 --> 00:19:49,440

works for people that are having this

436

00:19:53,480 --> 00:19:51,149

experience in the information age that

437

00:19:55,399 --> 00:19:53,490

we live in now right so you've provided

438

00:19:57,850 --> 00:19:55,409

an example that's already within their

439

00:20:01,489 --> 00:19:57,860

experience if they can relate the

440

00:20:05,869 --> 00:20:01,499

narrative to and go oh I see yes this

441

00:20:08,600 --> 00:20:05,879

could be I could be an avatar in a game

442

00:20:12,409 --> 00:20:08,610

or you know I could be a character in

443

00:20:14,090 --> 00:20:12,419

another beings dream or whatever see

444

00:20:16,730 --> 00:20:14,100

what I'm saying but you know I do it's

445

00:20:19,909 --> 00:20:16,740

awesome from your lips to rakers Wells

446

00:20:22,100 --> 00:20:19,919

ears that's what I say because it's like

447

00:20:24,080 --> 00:20:22,110

but I guess that goes with where you're

448

00:20:27,080 --> 00:20:24,090

going with your PhD and this kind of

449

00:20:29,119 --> 00:20:27,090

broadly looking at how we respond to new

450

00:20:30,950 --> 00:20:29,129

information and integrate it in because

451

00:20:34,580 --> 00:20:30,960

I think you've captured it beautifully

452

00:20:38,210 --> 00:20:34,590

is that it it works for us in a way and

453

00:20:41,570 --> 00:20:38,220

it matters less the extent to which it

454

00:20:44,060 --> 00:20:41,580

that the narrative conforms to something

455

00:20:46,549 --> 00:20:44,070

we're going to call a real or anything

456

00:20:48,470 --> 00:20:46,559

like that it propels us forward is what

457

00:20:51,049 --> 00:20:48,480

I hear you saying in a way that that

458

00:20:53,210 --> 00:20:51,059

relates is relatable for a lot of us and

459

00:20:55,009 --> 00:20:53,220

what's really real is the emotional

460

00:20:55,190 --> 00:20:55,019

experience that you have yeah there you

461

00:20:58,430 --> 00:20:55,200

go

462

00:21:00,590 --> 00:20:58,440

if you feel satisfied at the end of

463

00:21:04,129 --> 00:21:00,600

receiving the narrative that's what's

464

00:21:07,759 --> 00:21:04,139

real you're you're scared in a scary

465

00:21:10,100 --> 00:21:07,769

dream and your fear is real the thing

466

00:21:11,810 --> 00:21:10,110

that's chasing you is part of your dream

467

00:21:13,730 --> 00:21:11,820

but the emotion that you're experiencing

468

00:21:16,609 --> 00:21:13,740

is the only reality that can ever be

469

00:21:20,330 --> 00:21:16,619

traced back to anything is this PhD at

470

00:21:21,490 --> 00:21:20,340

Maine is that right yeah and so how is

471

00:21:24,310 --> 00:21:21,500

that coming along

472

00:21:26,920 --> 00:21:24,320

how's this film project working out for

473

00:21:28,630 --> 00:21:26,930

you and what do you have going on in the

474

00:21:31,600 --> 00:21:28,640

future in terms of films or other

475

00:21:33,550 --> 00:21:31,610

projects I'm sure you're probably bogged

476

00:21:35,230 --> 00:21:33,560

down and trying to wrap up that PhD I

477

00:21:36,340 --> 00:21:35,240

know that's a lot of work but do you

478

00:21:39,550 --> 00:21:36,350

have some film projects you're working

479

00:21:41,800 --> 00:21:39,560

on as well the PhD is going very well my

480

00:21:45,220 --> 00:21:41,810

advisers name is dr. Tina Passman she's

481

00:21:47,380 --> 00:21:45,230

fantastic and we're dealing with it's an

482

00:21:48,970 --> 00:21:47,390

interdisciplinary ph.d and so we're

483

00:21:50,410 --> 00:21:48,980

trying to pull together people from a

484

00:21:54,700 --> 00:21:50,420

lot of different disciplines and reach a

485

00:21:57,730 --> 00:21:54,710

consensus that there is a thing called

486

00:21:59,440 --> 00:21:57,740

emotional bias and it affects us in the

487

00:22:01,990 --> 00:21:59,450

way that we accept ideas and then the

488

00:22:03,850 --> 00:22:02,000

way that we act on those ideas and the

489

00:22:05,980 --> 00:22:03,860

kind of narratives that we reinforce and

490

00:22:08,920 --> 00:22:05,990

the kind of narratives that we try to

491

00:22:12,880 --> 00:22:08,930

diminish in our in our social circle in

492

00:22:15,700 --> 00:22:12,890

our consensus group okay yes that's a

493

00:22:18,040 --> 00:22:15,710

lot of work and I that I'm kind of just

494

00:22:19,450 --> 00:22:18,050

putting that over there I still have two

495

00:22:20,590 --> 00:22:19,460

years technically to finish it but I

496

00:22:25,660 --> 00:22:20,600

think it's going to be wrapped up here

497

00:22:30,250 --> 00:22:25,670

within the next maybe six months PhD

498

00:22:32,200 --> 00:22:30,260

students always say that it's been so

499

00:22:35,200 --> 00:22:32,210

long getting it to the point where it is

500

00:22:36,910 --> 00:22:35,210

now yes oh yeah I could talk about just

501
00:22:40,000 --> 00:22:36,920
the process that I've been going through

502
00:22:44,050 --> 00:22:40,010
since I left Berkeley and and proposed

503
00:22:47,560 --> 00:22:44,060
this idea it's it's changed tremendously

504
00:22:49,480 --> 00:22:47,570
and I knew there would be some problems

505
00:22:52,300 --> 00:22:49,490
getting people to agree but I never

506
00:22:55,840 --> 00:22:52,310
thought that the content of the concept

507
00:22:58,180 --> 00:22:55,850
itself would be so divisive to try to

508
00:23:00,340 --> 00:22:58,190
get people to agree that human beings

509
00:23:02,770 --> 00:23:00,350
have emotions and that if bias is what

510
00:23:04,570 --> 00:23:02,780
you accept it's like nobody wants to

511
00:23:06,610 --> 00:23:04,580
reinforce that idea because they feel

512
00:23:08,770 --> 00:23:06,620
like they are endangering the validity

513
00:23:10,540 --> 00:23:08,780

of their position in whatever discipline

514

00:23:12,850 --> 00:23:10,550

they're in because what if you're a

515

00:23:15,730 --> 00:23:12,860

scientist oh my gosh that invalidates my

516

00:23:17,200 --> 00:23:15,740

scientific thing if you're in religion

517

00:23:18,880 --> 00:23:17,210

oh well wait a minute now you're

518

00:23:22,180 --> 00:23:18,890

reducing my religious position to a

519

00:23:23,830 --> 00:23:22,190

narrative you know you know so it's like

520

00:23:28,200 --> 00:23:23,840

nobody wants to admit they're human

521

00:23:30,910 --> 00:23:28,210

nobody wants to admit their bias and Hey

522

00:23:34,620 --> 00:23:30,920

but anyway and then so as far as film

523

00:23:38,110 --> 00:23:34,630

goes this is kind of a secret but I'm

524

00:23:41,650 --> 00:23:38,120

working with Bernardo castro on science

525

00:23:44,680 --> 00:23:41,660

film called escape from the cult of

526
00:23:47,080 --> 00:23:44,690
materialism that really talks more about

527
00:23:50,110 --> 00:23:47,090
the social constructs and the sort of

528
00:23:53,830 --> 00:23:50,120
cult-like mentality in terms of coercion

529
00:23:57,310 --> 00:23:53,840
and brainwashing that allows the false

530
00:24:00,010 --> 00:23:57,320
claims of materialism to be carried

531
00:24:02,530 --> 00:24:00,020
through and maintained in a social

532
00:24:05,830 --> 00:24:02,540
system the way that false teachings do

533
00:24:09,730 --> 00:24:05,840
in any other cult environment so you

534
00:24:12,280 --> 00:24:09,740
know hostak starting from grade school

535
00:24:15,280 --> 00:24:12,290
you're indoctrinated into this

536
00:24:17,950 --> 00:24:15,290
materialist you know viewpoint and then

537
00:24:20,980 --> 00:24:17,960
information is basically closed off at

538
00:24:23,050 --> 00:24:20,990

least it always was okay and we you know

539

00:24:24,880 --> 00:24:23,060

in my life you didn't really have access

540

00:24:27,010 --> 00:24:24,890

to information like young people do

541

00:24:28,690 --> 00:24:27,020

today with the internet but the cult

542

00:24:31,510 --> 00:24:28,700

really tries to limit your information

543

00:24:35,020 --> 00:24:31,520

and shut off any views that would

544

00:24:37,630 --> 00:24:35,030

contradict their truth claims and if

545

00:24:42,850 --> 00:24:37,640

anyone knows this you do I mean you know

546

00:24:48,610 --> 00:24:42,860

people will respond negatively and put

547

00:24:51,970 --> 00:24:48,620

out negative reviews or whatever you

548

00:24:55,300 --> 00:24:51,980

know trying to prevent people from even

549

00:24:57,220 --> 00:24:55,310

looking at alternative viewpoints that

550

00:24:59,530 --> 00:24:57,230

contradict the materialist view and this

551
00:25:01,540 --> 00:24:59,540
is just it would be expected in any cult

552
00:25:03,850 --> 00:25:01,550
environment any information that tends

553
00:25:06,480 --> 00:25:03,860
to contradict the claims of the cult is

554
00:25:08,920 --> 00:25:06,490
going to be viewed with suspicion right

555
00:25:12,040 --> 00:25:08,930
so yeah that's called escape from the

556
00:25:14,370 --> 00:25:12,050
cult of materialism and that'll probably

557
00:25:17,200 --> 00:25:14,380
be done sometimes september/october

558
00:25:18,760 --> 00:25:17,210
fantastic Bernardo has been a great

559
00:25:21,700 --> 00:25:18,770
friend of the show and he's been on many

560
00:25:23,830 --> 00:25:21,710
times and I think you couldn't partner

561
00:25:25,690 --> 00:25:23,840
with a better person to kind of bring

562
00:25:27,970 --> 00:25:25,700
forth that idea so that's fantastic

563
00:25:30,190 --> 00:25:27,980

we'll definitely have to have both you

564

00:25:32,470 --> 00:25:30,200

guys back on let me wrap that up so we

565

00:25:34,420 --> 00:25:32,480

can talk about it more but until that

566

00:25:36,130 --> 00:25:34,430

next time can I've taken a lot of your

567

00:25:38,170 --> 00:25:36,140

time here but I really appreciate it

568

00:25:39,370 --> 00:25:38,180

and I'd super appreciate your work and

569

00:25:40,240 --> 00:25:39,380

what you've brought forward to people

570

00:25:42,910 --> 00:25:40,250

it's terrific

571

00:25:45,250 --> 00:25:42,920

thank you Alex I'm a big fan thank you

572

00:25:47,419 --> 00:25:45,260

very much

573

00:25:49,310 --> 00:25:47,429

everybody I hope you liked the video if

574

00:25:51,260 --> 00:25:49,320

you want more please check out the

575

00:25:53,440 --> 00:25:51,270

website all sorts of stuff on

576

00:25:57,110 --> 00:25:53,450

consciousness science spirituality

577

00:25:59,510 --> 00:25:57,120

skepticism many many interviews all over

578

00:26:02,539 --> 00:25:59,520

300 of them on the website so be sure to

579

00:26:04,340 --> 00:26:02,549

check it out also subscribe like to all

580

00:26:06,350 --> 00:26:04,350

that good stuff tell other people about