Astrophysics Lecture Series

Leacock Bulding, Room 132, McGill University downtown campus

Black Holes, New Worlds and the Universe

Origins and Aliens: The Search for Other Earths

September 21st 2009, 6pm



October 19th 2009, 6pm



Professor
Sean Carroll

California Institute of Technology

The Origin of the Universe and the Arrow of Time

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

For thousands of years people have wondered, "Are we Alone?" With over 350 planets discovered to orbit nearby stars, the existence of "exoplanets" is firmly established. Astronomers are now able to routinely measure planetary sizes, masses, and atmospheres for a subset of hot, big exoplanets.

The race to find "habitable" exoplanets is on with the realization that big Earths orbiting small stars can be both discovered and characterized with existing technology. Professor Seager will present highlights of recent exoplanet discoveries and discuss when we might find another Earth and what kinds of signs of life we are looking for.





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Lorne Trottier Chair in Astrophysics and Cosmology