

THE EINSTEIN LECTURE 2016

The eleventh annual Australian Institute of Physics and Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences demonstration lecture exploring the current output from Einstein's original work.

Wednesday 17 August 6.00pm

Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris St, Ultimo

Professor Chris Tinney

Prof Chris Tinney is an astronomer whose research focuses on the search for and study of planets orbiting nearby stars. He obtained his PhD at Caltech (well before TV's The Big Bang Theory told anyone other than academics what that place was like), has worked with the European Southern Observatory and Anglo-Australian Observatory before joining UNSW in 2007. His Exoplanetary Science at UNSW research team targets planets discovered as they transit their host stars, planets discovered by the wobble they impose on their host star, and direct imaging searches. They also study the coldest free-floating planet-like objects (brown dwarfs) discovered in the space near our Sun. His team has discovered over fifty extra-solar planets (or exoplanets), and in December 2015 they announced the discovery of Wolf 1061b - the closest potentially habitable planet yet discovered to our Sun.



The Exo-Planetary Age

The two decades since the discovery of exoplanets – planets that orbit around a star other than our Sun – have been remarkable ones for astronomers. They have seen us discover thousands of exoplanets orbiting other stars, and in the process revealed that our own solar system is truly unusual. In many ways, twenty years of exoplanetary discovery has raised more questions than it's answered. What have we learned about how the Universe build planets? How common are so-called habitable environments like Earth's? What does it even mean for a planet to be habitable? The coming decade is set to deliver exciting answers to these questions, as new generations of telescopes, satellites and exquisitely precise cameras are trained on the nearby stars. Join astronomer Professor Chris Tinney to find out what's ahead.

Tickets: \$7 adult, \$5 under 18s, Bookings essential

Book now at www.sydneyscience.com.au

Information: Dr Frederick Osman on fosman@trinity.nsw.edu.au or 0418 444 477

Presented by the Australian Institute of Physics in partnership with Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences