

# **BIANCHI PLANETARIUM SCHEDULE MAR - MAY 2014**

**DURING SECOND HALF OF 2014 SPRING SEMESTER PLANETARIUM PROGRAMS WILL BE GIVEN AS SCHEDULED BELOW. WEATHER PERMITTING TELESCOPE VIEWING OF CELESTIAL OBJECTS USING CSUN'S CAMPUS OBSERVATORY WILL FOLLOW EACH PROGRAM.**

## **Fri Mar-28 7:30pm Spring Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during early spring of this year.

### **8:30pm An Introduction to Eclipse Science and Travel,**

Eclipses of the sun and moon were once thought to be bad omens or unnatural interruptions of the common course of Nature. But today these very predictable grand celestial spectacles are pursued by scientists, amateur astronomers and other enthusiasts for their visual and photographic splendor. Tonight's speaker, Mr. Matt Ventimiglia, will present a photo slide program covering a brief history of eclipse science and lore, offering a look back to past eclipse-travel experiences and forward to upcoming eclipse events, in particular to a total lunar eclipse visible in Los Angeles on the night of April 14/15.

## **Thu Apr-17 7:30pm Spring Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this spring.

### **8:30pm MarsQuest.**

*MarsQuest* is a chronicle tracing our centuries-long cultural and scientific fascination with the planet Mars. Set in a theatrical style "three-act" form with an epilogue, it weaves a satisfying narrative of what Mars means to humanity. In the first act, "*Homage*", we trace Mars through history from early cultures to the "canals" which led to famous science fiction stories about Martians. Next act, "*Mars in Focus*", details the Mars of our time – as seen in the night sky through binoculars and telescopes and as discovered from our recent Mars robotic exploration. Finally, "*Mars in the Future*" examines what will be needed to get a manned mission to the Red Planet and what the first landing there might be like. The program ends with "*Rhapsody in a Red Planet*", a poetically styled "ode to Mars", this time from a future perspective; an eloquent soliloquy tracing efforts that led to humanity's first footsteps onto the desolate and dusty Martian surface. This show was produced in collaboration with the Space Science Institute and it is narrated by Patrick Stewart.

## **Fri May-02 7:30pm Spring Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this spring.

### **8:30pm From IRAS to Spitzer and beyond: 30 years of Space Infrared Astronomy.**

The infrared lies beyond the red end of the visible spectrum of light. Cool and dusty things throughout the Universe appear bright in infrared. 2013 was a significant year in infrared astronomy—it marked the 30th anniversary of the launch of IRAS, the Infrared Astronomical Satellite which revolutionized our view of the infrared cosmos and increased the number of known infrared sources by 70%. 2013 was also the 10th anniversary of the launch of the Spitzer Space Telescope, at the time the most sensitive infrared telescope ever built, which has helped to revolutionize our understanding our galaxy evolution, exoplanets, and star formation. 2013 was also the 4th anniversary of the launch of the infrared missions Herschel and WISE, the Infra-Red Survey Explorer. In tonight's talk Dr. Luisa Rebull who is an Associate Research Scientist at Caltech will review some of the major discoveries from these important infrared missions.

## **Thu May-08 7:30pm Spring Sky Show.**

Come and learn about stars, constellations and planets visible in the sky during this spring.

### **8:30pm Hubble Vision: A fascinating tour of the cosmos - from Earth orbit.**

Since its launch in 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope has provided incredible images of unprecedented details to astronomers, and made an astonishing array of discoveries – from nearby objects in our solar system to the most distant galaxies at limits of the observable universe. In this narrated slide program we catch glimpses of solar system objects, such as the Moon and Venus, clouds on dusty Mars, a comet's crash into Jupiter, storms on Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, and the faraway worlds around Pluto. Beyond our solar system we explore protoplanetary disks in Orion and other regions of star births; we also view the deaths of stars like our Sun and the cataclysmic aftermath of a supernova explosion. Finally we observe colliding galaxies, jets of particles shooting from active galactic nuclei powered by super-massive black holes, the effects of gravitational lenses, and deep-field views of the most distant galaxies ever seen.

**For show information:** call 818-677- 5601, or go to:

**[www.csun.edu/physics/departement\\_guide/colloquia](http://www.csun.edu/physics/departement_guide/colloquia) and [planetarium/planetarium.html](http://www.csun.edu/physics/departement_guide/planetarium/planetarium.html), or [www.csun.edu](http://www.csun.edu) and look for Bianchi Planetarium in "CSUN A to Z".**

**For ticket information:** call 818-677-2488, or visit **AS Ticket Office (located in USU)**

**Tickets:** general admission - \$6 for one show, \$10 for two shows

student admission - \$4 for one show, \$7 for two shows