

Dr. Phil Plait

Speaker, Author, Astronomer

For as long as he can remember, Phil Plait has been in love with science: "When I was maybe four or five years old, my dad brought home a cheapo department store telescope. He aimed it at Saturn that night. One look, and that was it. I was hooked," he says.



After earning his doctorate in astronomy at the University of Virginia, he worked as a NASA contractor at the Goddard Space Flight Center, working with the Hubble Space Telescope. Dr. Plait began a career in public outreach and education with the 'Bad Astronomy' website and blog, debunking bad science and popular misconceptions. In 2008 he became the President of the James Randi Educational Foundation, a non-profit educational foundation dedicated to promoting critical thinking.

Dr. Plait has given dozens of talks about science and pseudo-science across the US and internationally. He uses images, audio, and video clips in an entertaining and informative multimedia presentation packed with humor and backed by solid science.

BAD ASTRONOMY

He has spoken at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, the Space Telescope Science Institute (home of Hubble), the Hayden Planetarium in NYC and many other world-class museums and

planetaria, conferences, astronomy clubs, colleges & universities, and community groups. He has appeared on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, Pax TV, Tech TV, the SciFi Channel, Radio BBC, Air America, NPR, and many other television and internet venues. The Bad Astronomy website receives more than 6 million hits per year and received the 'Best Science Blog' Weblog award in 2007. His writing has appeared in Sky and Telescope, Astronomy magazine, Night Sky magazine, Space.com, Maxim, the Skeptical Inquirer, and the Huffington Post, and more. His latest book, *Death From The Skies!*, was released in Fall 2008. Lecture topics include:

Bad Astronomy

In this general discussion of popular science myths, Dr. Plait demolishes a wide array of scientific misconceptions, from standing eggs on end, to blowing up asteroids. Using video clips from several blockbuster movies and television shows including "Armageddon", "Deep Impact", "Enterprise", and "The Simpsons", he talks about Hollywood science (or the lack thereof).

In The Beginning

A dissection of young-Earth creationist claims about the age of the Earth and the Universe, and why they are wrong. While religious beliefs need to be respected, so does the truth. Dr. Plait takes an unflinching look at some of the deceptions and lies told by proponents of a young Earth.

The Moon Hoax Hoax

Dr. Plait gleefully tears apart the 'evidence' that NASA faked the Apollo Moon missions.



SAMARA
LECTURES

For booking information, contact
info@samaralectures.com
www.samaralectures.com
(206) 529-4711