

COLUMBIA ASTRONOMY OUTREACH PRESENTS:



STARGAZING & LECTURE SERIES

The Explosive Origins of Our Elements

Sarah Pearson

Friday, April 29th, 8:00PM

Pupin Hall, Columbia University

Carl Sagan famously stated that “We are a way for the Universe to know itself”, referring to the fact that we are made of elements (atoms) produced within the stars we observe in the night sky. Stars are enormous nuclear factories that fuse lighter elements to heavier elements within their cores. Certain types of stars die in violent explosions that can outshine entire galaxies. In these explosions, an enormous amount of matter is expelled, enriching their surroundings. In this talk I will walk you through the explosive origin of our elements and explain how the elements expelled in stellar explosions are the very elements we consist of.

These are free lectures at a public level followed by guided stargazing with telescopes (weather permitting).

All events are held at Pupin Hall at Columbia University. No reservations are needed.

Lectures are 30 minutes, stargazing lasts 90 minutes. Stay only as long as you want.

For directions, weather updates and more information, please visit:

<http://outreach.astro.columbia.edu>