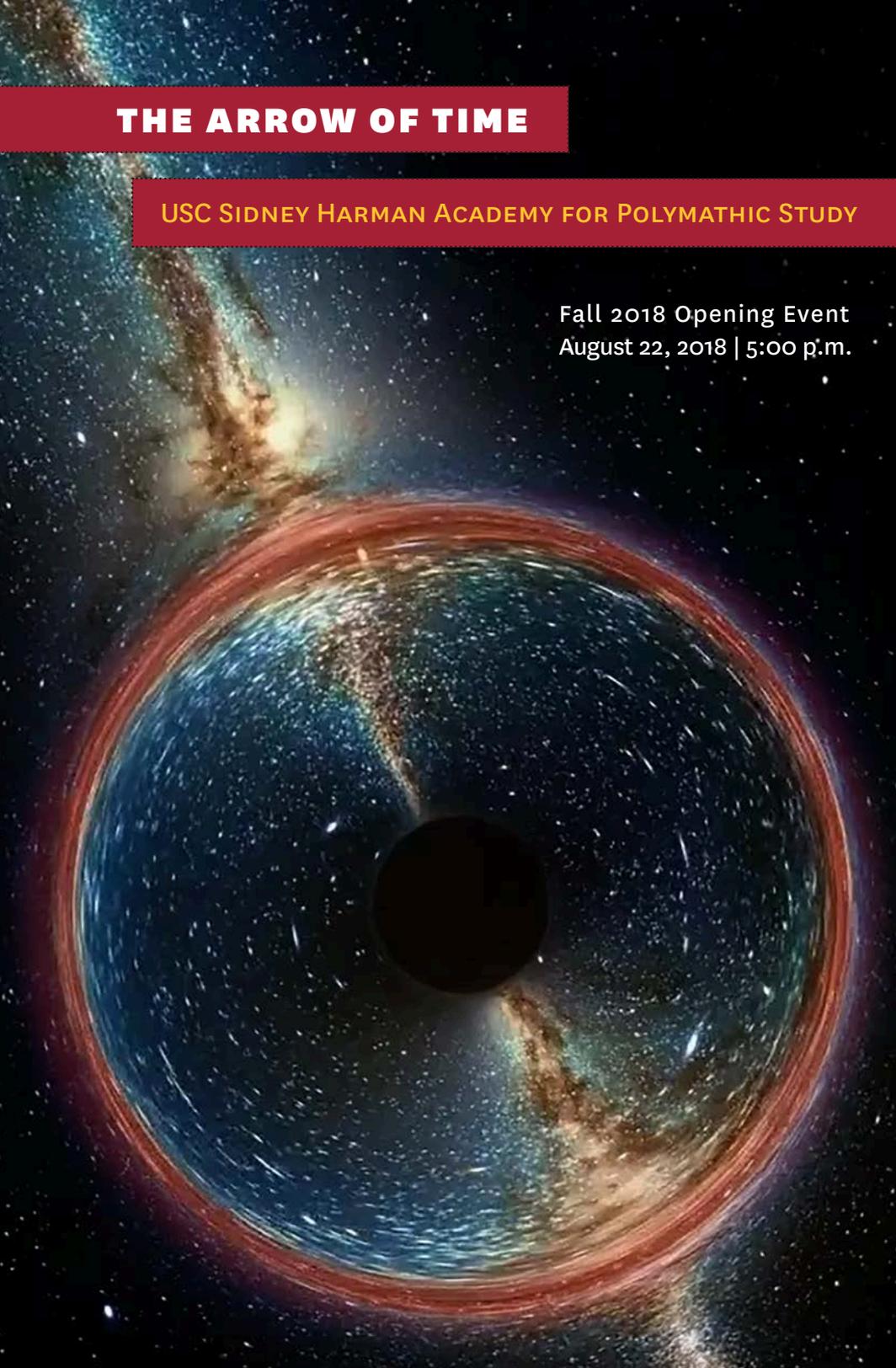


# THE ARROW OF TIME

USC SIDNEY HARMAN ACADEMY FOR POLYMATHIC STUDY

Fall 2018 Opening Event  
August 22, 2018 | 5:00 p.m.



# THE ARROW OF TIME

## Doheny Memorial Library

Friends Lecture Hall, Room 240

RSVP at [www.usc.edu/esvp](http://www.usc.edu/esvp) and use the code: PIZZA0822

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Alice asked, “what is the matter? Have you pricked your finger?” “I haven’t pricked it yet,” the Queen said, “but I soon shall—oh, oh, oh!” —Lewis Carroll, *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*

The late Stephen Hawking said, “nothing cannot exist forever.” One might have to read this a few times to grasp his meaning, but the line leads one to reflect on the expanding universe. For the USC Sidney Harman Academy for Polymathic Study’s fall 2018 opening event, Academy Director **TARA McPHERSON** leads a conversation with professors **SEAN CARROLL**, **KATE FLINT**, and **CLIFFORD JOHNSON** to expand our understanding of that malleable and mysterious concept—time. Multiverses, string theory, representations of time, flashes, and infinity are just a sampling of the topics that will be explored as we grapple with historical, artistic, and theoretical approaches to time and its various meanings.

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**SEAN CARROLL** is a physicist and author. His research at Caltech focuses on fundamental physics and cosmology. His latest book is *The Big Picture: On the Origins of Life, Meaning, and the Universe Itself*. He has been featured on television shows such as the *Colbert Report*, National Geographic’s *Known Universe*, and *Through the Wormhole* with Morgan Freeman.



**KATE FLINT** is Provost Professor of Art History and English at USC. She previously taught at Bristol and Oxford Universities. Her areas of specialization include Victorian and early-twentieth-century cultural, visual, and literary history; the history of photography; women’s writing, and transatlantic studies. Her most recent publication is *Flash! Photography, Writing, and Surprising Illumination*.



USC Professor of Physics **CLIFFORD JOHNSON** researches ways to understand the origin, past, present, and future of the universe. He mainly works on (super) string theory, gravity, gauge theory, and M-theory, as well as space-time, quantum mechanics, black holes, the big bang, extra dimensions, quarks, and gluons. Johnson’s newly released *The Dialogues: Conversations About the Nature of the Universe* is a graphic novel-style nonfiction science book featuring his own illustrations.

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