

## Hillel Schwartz' "Century's End" book signing at UCSD Book Store March 13

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NEW BOOK, "CENTURY'S END," TELLS ABOUT FEARS AND FANTASIES OF THE TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY CULTURE

Hillel Schwartz's new book, "Century's End" (Doubleday 1990), is an entertaining yet scholarly read about the fears and fantasies society places on the closing of a century.

Schwartz, an independent scholar who has taught for the University of California, San Diego Revelle College Humanities Program, will sign copies of his book from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. March 13, in the UCSD Book Store.

The ends of centuries, according to Schwartz, bring with them feelings of anxiety and concerns for the future. "There is an idea that the world is decaying, and we must save it. It is evident in the sudden attention we are paying to the decay of the country's highways, bridges and cities, and also to the chronic fatigue of our bodies."

Schwartz states that people want to look at the larger global picture, to get their children safely into the next millennium. "There is a sense of bequeathing and a sensitivity to problems," he said. "A sort of calendar versus crises mentality. Our culture has gathered so much fin-de-siecle momentum now we can't escape the changes. The year 2000 stands for personal and societal feelings we cannot shake off. As early as the 1988 elections, politicians were making grand promises for the turn of the century, including a cleaner planet and a safer environment."

Schwartz, an Encinitas resident, received his Ph.D. in history from Yale, and was graduated summa cum laude from Brandeis University. He has written three other books, among them "Never Satisfied: A Cultural History of Diets, Fantasies and Fat," which has just been released in paperback by Doubleday.

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