

Thomas Banchoff lecture titled "The Fourth Dimension and Computer Animated Geometry" sponsored by the math department

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Brown University mathematician Thomas Banchoff will conduct a visually spectacular filmed excursion to the fourth dimension during a lecture at the University of California, San Diego, at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 13.

Banchoff's talk, "The Fourth Dimension and Computer Animated Geometry," is sponsored by the mathematics department and will be given in room 107 Third College Lecture Hall. The public is invited and admission is free.

During his lecture Banchoff will show his award-winning computer graphics film "The Hypercube: Projections and Slicing."

A recent article in "Science '80" described the film as "a grand tour of an object basic to four-dimensional research that has never been built and never could be built. Viewers are given a first-hand view of a multicolored geometric constellation that tumbles, reels, and contorts against a shadowy background and seems at times to rotate within and through itself.

"Different perspectives of the object yield additional properties as Banchoff stretches the audience's imagination with a description of what is happening on the screen," the article continues. "As the hypercube's image seems to mutate and waver, the audience is challenged to understand things it has never seen before."

The film has been shown to full houses at college campuses and scientific meetings around the country. Said one woman after viewing it: "I still don't understand exactly what the fourth dimension is, but who cares? I've seen the fourth dimension- I wish Albert Einstein were as lucky."

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