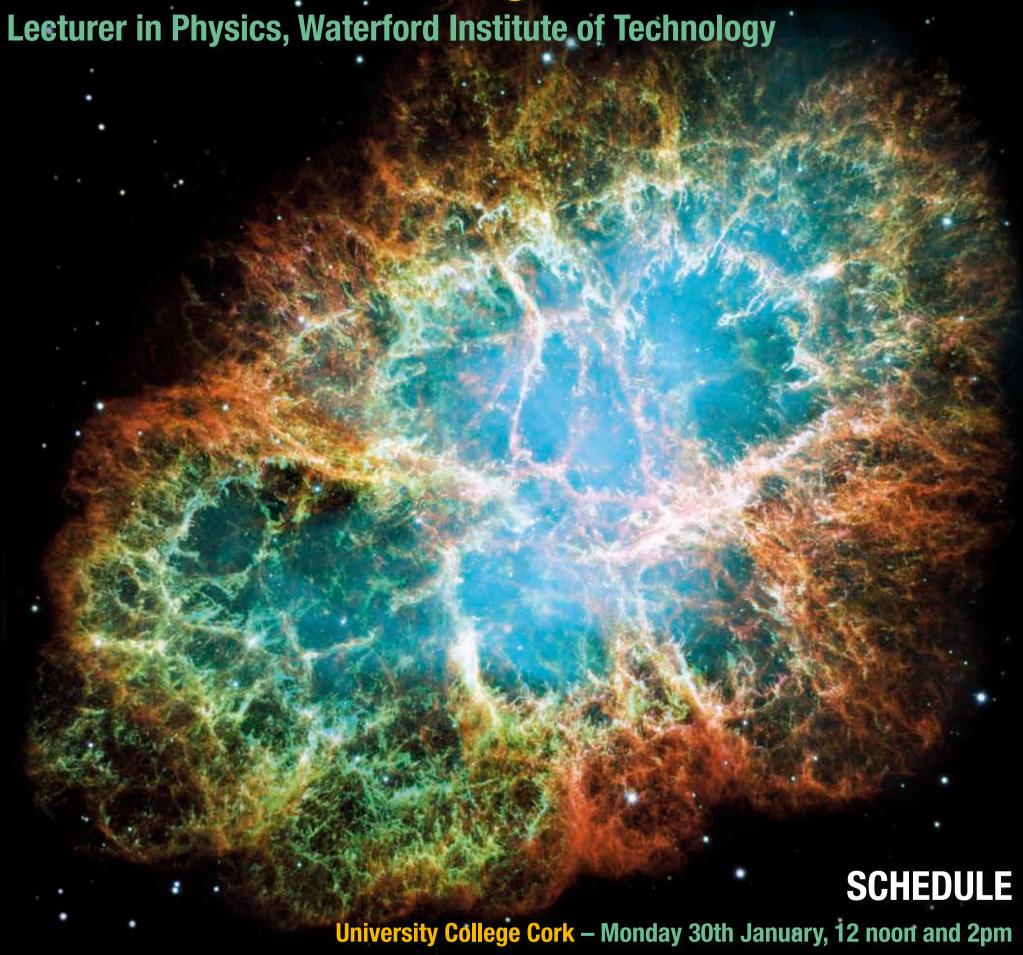
## **TYNDALL LECTURE FOR SCHOOLS 2012**

# The Big Bang — is it true?

# Dr Cormac O'Raifeartaigh



NASA and ESA. The Crab Nebula derived its name from its appearance in a drawing made by Irish astronomer Lord Rosse in 1844, using a 36-inch telescope. University of Limerick – Tuesday 31st January, 12 noon
NUI Galway – Wednesday 1st February, 12 noon
RDS, Dublin – Thursday 2nd February, 12 noon and 2pm
Queen's University Belfast – Friday 3rd February, 2pm
IT Carlow – Monday 6th February, 12 noon
Waterford IT – Tuesday 7th February, 12 noon

### **Tyndall Lecture for Schools 2012**

#### The Big Bang - is it true?

The Big Bang is one of the best known theories of modern physics, it is a model of the origin of the universe that has important implications for philosophy, religion and society. But is it true? The theory and evidence supporting the big bang model will be explored and the limitations of the model explained in an engaging and interactive presentation. Recent discoveries that have revolutionised our view of the universe will also be discussed.

#### Cormac O'Raifeartaigh

Cormac O'Raifeartaigh lectures in physics and mathematics at *Waterford Institute* of *Technology*. He has a PhD in physics from *Trinity College Dublin* and is a frequent participant in scientific debates in the Irish media. He writes regularly on physics in newspapers and magazines and is the author of the well-known science blog ANTIMATTER. He has just returned from a position as Research Fellow with the Science, Technology and Society program at Harvard University.

Date	Time(s)	Location	Contact Person
Monday 30th January	12 noon and 2pm	University College Cork	Susanna Kent/Irene Horne s.kent@ucc.ie or i.horne@ucc.ie 021 4902013
Tuesday 31st January	12 noon	University of Limerick	George McClelland george.mcclelland@ul.ie 061 202469
Wednesday 1st February	12 noon	NUI Galway	Nicholas Devaney nicholas.devaney@nuigalway.ie 091 493788
Thursday 2nd February	12 noon and 2pm	RDS, Dublin	Karen Sheeran Karen.sheeran@rds.ie 01 2407289
Friday 3rd February	2pm	Queen's University Belfast	Robert Bowman r.m.bowman@qub.ac.uk 028 90973541
Monday 6th February	12 noon	IT Carlow	Loranne Vallely VALLELY@itcarlow.ie 059 9175549
Tuesday 7th February	12 noon	IT Waterford	<b>Gabriel Gallagher</b> GGALLAGHER@wit.ie 051 302645

#### Admission

Reservations should be made for all venues and bookings should be made by telephone or e-mail to the contacts listed above. There is no admission charge for this lecture but it is extremely important that tickets are booked for class groups in advance. Cancellations should be made at least 48 hours in advance to facilitate others who may be on waiting lists for tickets.

Talk duration 1 hour

Audience 15-18 year olds

#### A word about our sponsors

Our thanks to the Royal Dublin Society, IT Waterford, IT Carlow, Queens University Belfast, University College Cork, NUI Galway and the University of Limerick who have assisted the organisers through pre-publicity and provision of venues.













