

# Time Reborn

From the crisis of physics to the  
future of the universe

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Time  
Reborn  
Lee  
Smolin

From the Crisis of Physics  
to the Future of the Universe

**An invitation to attend a talk by Lee Smolin  
organised by the Institute of Physics on 22 May 2013**

# Time Reborn

From the crisis of physics to the future of the universe

**A talk by Lee Smolin**



Is it possible that time is real, and that the laws of physics are not fixed? What are the implications of such a profound re-think for the natural and social sciences? How might this play out in the cultural and political imagination, or inform the way we think about surviving the future?

Throughout history, the idea that time is an illusion and that the laws of physics are fixed has been a religious, philosophical and scientific commonplace. In *Time Reborn* Lee Smolin proposes a radically new hypothesis: that the laws of physics are not fixed, but that they evolve, in real time. This spectacular shift of viewpoint, forced on him by the logic of physics and philosophy, suggests that time and our experience of it passing is truly real. All the laws and everything else evolves within it.

This hypothesis not only opens up the possibility of resolving some of the big open issues in physics today, such as the nature of the quantum world and its unification with spacetime and cosmology. It also places profound importance on human agency, on how our social, political, economic and environmental choices directly affect the range of possible outcomes for the future of this planet.

Since 2001, Lee has been a founding faculty member at Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Toronto. His earlier books are *Life of the Cosmos* (1997), *Three Roads to Quantum Gravity* (2001) and *The Trouble with Physics* (2001). *From the Crisis in Physics to the Future of the Universe* (2013) is published by Allen Lane.

The Institute of Physics is delighted to invite you to attend a talk by Lee Smolin entitled:

# Time Reborn

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To be held at the Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London W1B 1NT

**Registration with tea and coffee:** 6.00 p.m.

**Talk followed by discussion:** 6.30 p.m.

**Refreshments:** 8.00 p.m.

## Speaker

### Professor Lee Smolin

Lee is an American theoretical physicist, a researcher at the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, and an adjunct professor of physics at the University of Waterloo. He is best known for devising several approaches to quantum gravity, in particular loop quantum gravity.

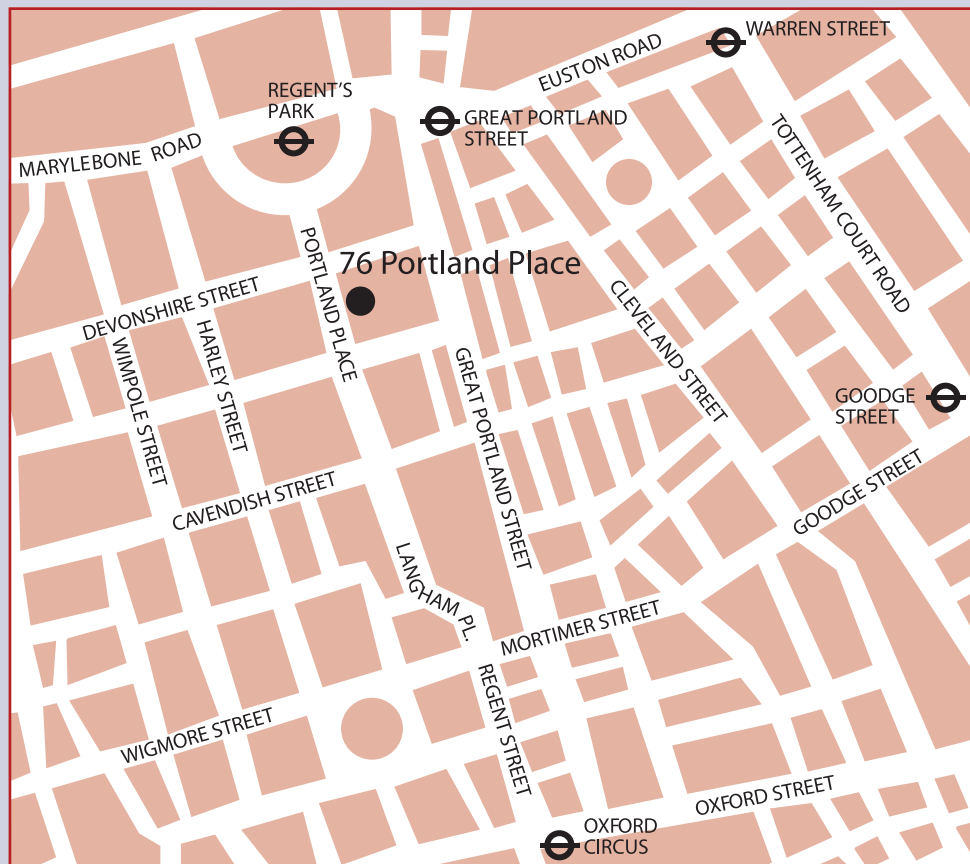
## Registration

The talk is free to attend but places may be limited, so please register your attendance at the earliest possible opportunity.

Please register online at <https://www.eventsforce.net/iop/399/register>.

## How to get to the Institute of Physics

We are located at 76 Portland Place. The nearest tube stations are Great Portland Street (Hammersmith and City, Circle and Metropolitan lines), Oxford Circus (Central, Bakerloo and Victoria lines) and Regent's Park (Bakerloo Line).



### For further information, please contact:

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