



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BIRMINGHAM



## **DARWIN 200@bham**

### **A Bicentenary Celebration of The Life, Work and Legacy of Charles Darwin (1809-1882)**



**The Medical School,  
University of Birmingham,  
Vincent Drive, Birmingham, B15 2TT**

**Thursday, 12 February 2009  
09.00 – 21.00**

This bicentennial symposium is being held as part of the International Darwin Day Programme ([www.darwinday.org](http://www.darwinday.org)) and the Darwin200 national programme of events ([www.darwin200.org](http://www.darwin200.org))

Register at [www.darwinday.bham.ac.uk](http://www.darwinday.bham.ac.uk)

Organised by Professor Mark Pallen  
[m.pallen@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.pallen@bham.ac.uk), 0121 414 7163/0759 0540559

*Sponsored by the Medical School, The BBSRC, The Lunar Society and The British Council*

## DAYTIME PROGRAMME

---

09.00 Arrival and welcome

---

### Session 1: Darwin and Biology: Leonard Deacon Lecture Theatre

- 09.15 – 10.00 **Keynote Speaker: Professor Fred Spoor** (UCL, London)  
*We were not alone: human evolution and species diversity*
- 10.00 – 10.30 Dr Richard Emes (University of Keele)  
*Evolution of the mammalian synapse*
- 10.30 – 11.00 Dr Juliet Coates (Biosciences, University of Birmingham)  
*From Armadillo to Angiosperms: the evolution of multicellularity in plants*
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee
- 11.30 – 12.00 Dr Sebastien Gagneux (NIMR, London)  
*The evolution of tuberculosis*
- 12.00 – 12.30 Professor Jon Sadler, (GEES, University of Birmingham)  
*Urban terrorists: the evolution of invasive species in our cities*
- 12.30 – 13.00 Dr Alan Thomas, (GEES, University of Birmingham)  
*Ancient seers: evolution of the trilobite eye*
- 13.00 – 13.45 Lunch
- 13.45 – 14.15 Dr Ivan Sansom, (GEES, University of Birmingham)  
*Bring on the backbones: the origins and evolution of early vertebrates*
- 

### Session 2: Darwin, the Wider Legacy: Leonard Deacon Lecture Theatre

- 14.15 – 15.00 **Keynote Speaker: Stephen Baxter** (Science Fiction Writer)  
*From Deep Time to Far Future:  
Darwin's Legacy in Science Fiction*
- 15.00 – 15.45 Coffee
- 15.45 – 16.15 Professor Vince Egan (University of Leicester)  
*Sex and crime: do criminal and antisocial behaviour reflect mating behaviour?*
- 16.15 – 16.45 Franziska Schenk (artist in residence, University of Birmingham)  
*In the Eye of the Beholder: The Art of Evolution*
- 

### Session 3: Darwin, the Celebration: Common Room, Wolfson Centre for Medical Education

- 17.00 – 18.00 **Wine Reception**, with an informal speech (*the Rough Guide to Darwin*) and bicentennial toast:  
Professor Mark Pallen  
(University of Birmingham and Author of *The Rough Guide to Evolution*)

Sponsored by *The Lunar Society* (<http://www.lunarsociety.org.uk>)



---

## EVENING PROGRAMME

---

18.00 – 19.00

*The Devil in Dover: An Insider's Story of  
Dogma v. Darwin in Small-town America*

**A first-hand account of evolution on trial in a US courtroom from  
journalist Lauri Lebo, accompanied by plaintiff, Cynthia Sneath**

19.30 – 21.00

*The Rap Guide to Evolution*

---

## **THE RAP GUIDE TO *EVOLUTION***

A unique celebration, in music and poetry, of Darwin's legacy realised through the medium of Rap Music, by Canadian Lit-Hop Artist **Baba Brinkman** ([www.babasword.com](http://www.babasword.com)) and African-American Atheist Rapper, **Greydon Square** (self-styled the "Black Carl Sagan", the "Walking Stephen Hawking"), complete with rap freestyle battling over Darwin's legacy.

