De: CRM CRM@CRM.UMontreal.CA

Objet: SÉANCE DE DÉDICACES / BOOK SIGNING EVENT - Michael Harris "Mathematics without apologies"

Date: 2 février 2016 09:40

À: activites@crm.umontreal.ca

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Séance de dédicaces / Book Signing Event

Michael Harris (Université Paris-Diderot, Columbia University)

"Mathematics without apologies"

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DATE:

Le jeudi 11 février 2016 / Thursday, February 11, 2016

HEURE / TIME : 16 h / 4:00 p.m.

CONFERENCIER(S) / SPEAKER(S):

Michael Harris (Université Paris-Diderot, Columbia University)

TITRE / TITLE:

MATHEMATICS WITHOUT APOLOGIES

An unapologetic guided tour of the mathematical life

- \*\* Le livre sera en vente sur place au prix de \$25 (comptant seulement) \*\*
- \*\* You may purchase the book on site for \$25 (cash only) \*\*

## LIEU / PLACE:

Concordia University, Library Building, 9th floor, Salle/Room 920

## RESUME / ABSTRACT:

What do pure mathematicians do, and why do they do it? Looking beyond the conventional answers—for the sake of truth, beauty, and practical applications—this book offers an eclectic panorama of the lives and values and hopes and fears of mathematicians in the twenty-first century, assembling material from a startlingly diverse assortment of scholarly, journalistic, and pop culture sources.

Drawing on his personal experiences and obsessions as well as the thoughts and opinions of mathematicians from Archimedes and Omar Khayyám to such contemporary giants as Alexander Grothendieck and Robert Langlands, Michael Harris reveals the charisma and romance of mathematics as well as its darker side. In this portrait of mathematics as a community united around a set of common intellectual, ethical, and existential challenges, he touches on a wide variety of questions, such as: Are mathematicians to blame for the 2008 financial crisis? How can we talk about the ideas we were born too soon to understand? And how should you react if you are asked to explain number theory at a dinner party?

Disarmingly candid, relentlessly intelligent, and richly entertaining, Mathematics without Apologies takes readers on an unapologetic guided tour of the mathematical life, from the philosophy and sociology of mathematics to its reflections in film and popular music, with detours through the mathematical and mystical traditions of Russia, India, medieval Islam, the Bronx, and beyond.

Michael Harris is professor of mathematics at the Université Paris Diderot and Columbia University. He is the author or coauthor of more than seventy mathematical books and articles, and has received a number of prizes, including the Clay Research Award, which he shared in 2007 with Richard Taylor.

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http://www.crm.umontreal.ca/Harris
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