

## RSVP

### DEADLINE IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2003.

Please RSVP early, as a similar event in London drew more than 500 attendees and our space is limited. If you plan to attend, complete the form below and send via fax (319/335-1079) or mail to: Sounds of Space, UI Alumni Association, 100 Levitt Center for University Advancement, Iowa City, IA 52242. To register online, visit [www.iowalum.com/clubs/space/](http://www.iowalum.com/clubs/space/).

For phone reservations or questions, please contact Jane Kirsch at the UI Alumni Association (800/IOWALUM). Or, for more information, please visit Professor Gurnett's "Sounds of Space" website at [www-pw.physics.uiowa.edu/space-audio/](http://www-pw.physics.uiowa.edu/space-audio/).

**Yes, I/we plan to attend**

NAME(S) OF THOSE ATTENDING SOUNDS OF SPACE AND "SUN RINGS" (PLEASE PRINT)

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NAME(S) OF YOUNGER GUESTS ATTENDING

"EXPLORING SPACE"

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (DAY) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (EVENING) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS YEAR(S) AND DEGREE(S) IF IOWA GRADUATE

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COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

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There is no cost to attend Sunday's events, which are being held in conjunction with the Kronos Quartet's Tuesday, October 14 performance of *Sun Rings* and a pre-concert talk by professor Gurnett and Terry Riley.

#### Ticket Information for Sun Rings

Tuesday, October 14, 2003  
Orange County Performing Arts Center  
Seegerstrom Hall

7 p.m. Pre-concert talk by  
Professor Gurnett and Terry Riley  
8 p.m. Kronos "Sun Rings"

Ticket prices range from \$15 to \$39.

For more information, call 949/553-2422 and ask for the ticket office. If you mention you are with the University of Iowa, you will receive a 20% discount.  
[www.eclecticorange.org](http://www.eclecticorange.org)

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**The University of Iowa Alumni Association**  
100 Levitt Center for University Advancement  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1797

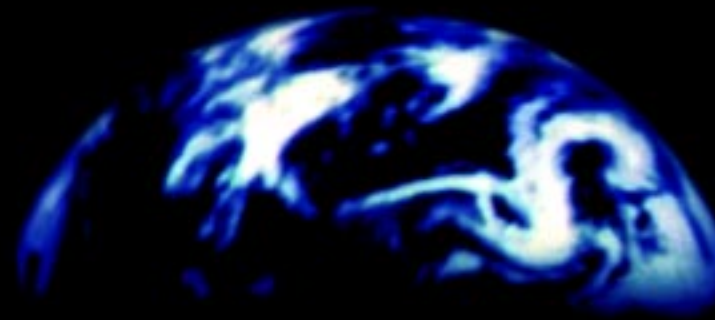
*your gateway to the university*



# Space Odyssey

*Please join us  
for an afternoon  
celebrating world-renowned  
space exploration  
at the University of Iowa  
Sunday, October 12,*

Sponsored by  
the University of Iowa  
Department of Physics and Astronomy,  
the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,  
the UI Alumni Association/Orange County  
Iowa Club and the Philharmonic Society  
of Orange County.



*Sunday, October 12, 2003*

### **Sounds of Space and "Sun Rings": A Multimedia Experience of Space 3 p.m.**

The Westin South Coast Plaza  
Santa Ana Room  
686 Anton Boulevard  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

A unique opportunity to hear UI Professor Don Gurnett (62BSEE, 63MS, 65PhD) discuss his role in "Sun Rings," a multimedia production based on his 40-year collection of the sounds of space.

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### **"Exploring Space" For Younger Guests (Ages 6 to 12) 3 p.m.**

Orange County Performing Arts Center  
600 Town Center Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
(meet in the Westin's Santa Ana Room  
and then walk as a group to the Performing Arts  
Center. Children will re-connect with their parents  
at the 4 p.m. reception)

Bring the kids to this interactive presentation by UI physics and astronomy faculty and staff on the exploration of space. Philharmonic Society volunteers and Iowa alumni will be available to assist with this event.

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### **Reception 4-6 p.m.**

The Westin South Coast Plaza  
Lido Room and Waterfall Terrace  
686 Anton Boulevard  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres  
and sodas/coffee (cash bar will be available)

While enjoying refreshments, you'll also have the chance to visit with Professor Gurnett, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean Linda Maxson, and Alumni Association President and CEO Vince Nelson.

**Sounds of Space**

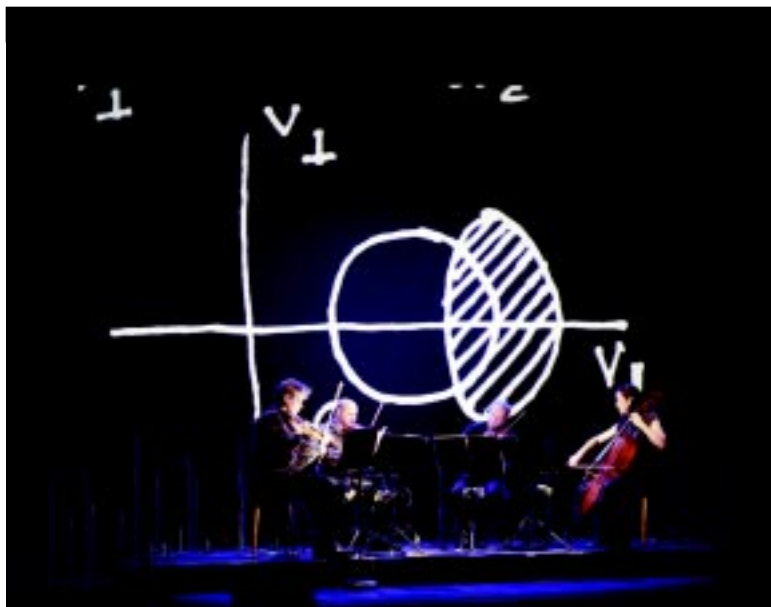
Most people think of space as a vacuum, but in fact the Sun and the planets are surrounded by a tenuous ionized gas called a plasma. An astonishing variety of waves propagate in plasmas, many of which have distinctive out-of-this-world musical sounds. In this presentation, Professor Gurnett will discuss his work in the field of space plasma waves, as well as his multimedia collaboration with Kronos Quartet composer Terry Riley and visual designer Willie Williams to produce *Sun Rings*, a musical production based on his 40-year collection of space sounds.

A unique collaboration between art and science commissioned by the NASA Arts Program and co-commissioned by the Philharmonic Society, Hancher Auditorium, the University of Iowa, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, and other organizations, *Sun Rings* will be presented at the Orange County Performing Arts Center October 14, 2003.

Quoted in *The Los Angeles Times* (by Mark Swed) on November 10, 2002, Gurnett said:

"Think about how few natural sounds there are here on Earth. If you rule out animate objects, like birds and whales, what is left? Thunder, wind blowing through trees, the tones you can get from the tension on a wire or a telephone line, crashing ocean waves. That's about it. But space is just full of weird musical tones that come and go."

"I call some space sounds musical, but that raises an interesting philosophical question: Does music have to be made by humans?"



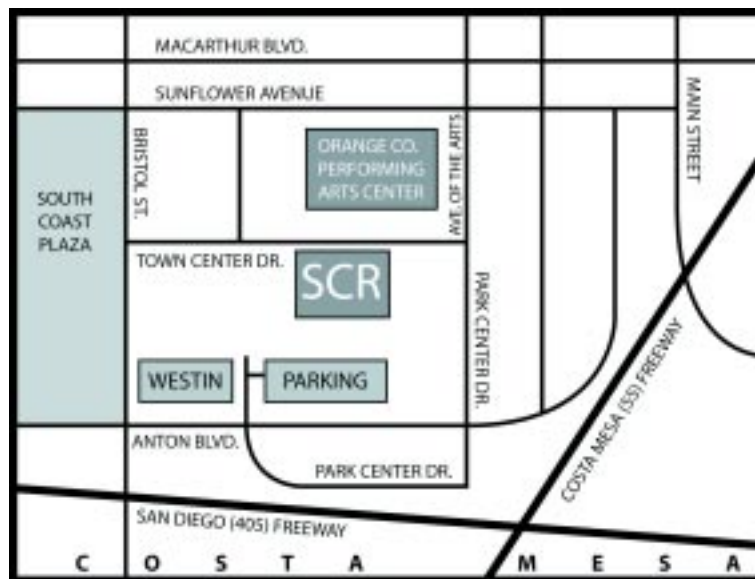
Cover photo courtesy of Willie Williams  
 Kronos Quartet photos courtesy of Kronos Quartet  
 Don Gurnett photo courtesy of the University of Iowa



**Don Gurnett**

Professor of physics in the UI Department of Physics and Astronomy, Gurnett specializes in the study of space plasma physics and has participated in more than 30 projects—most notably the Voyager 1 and 2 flights to the outer planets, the Galileo mission to Jupiter, and the Cassini mis-

sion to Saturn. His most recent project involves the development of a low-frequency radar for the Mars Express spacecraft, launched on June 2, 2003. He is the author or co-author of more than 430 scientific publications, primarily in the area of space radio and plasma wave research, and has supervised 50 graduate thesis projects. Gurnett has received numerous awards for his research. He teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses in physics and astronomy, and in 1990 he received the M. L. Huit Faculty Award for outstanding service and dedication to students at the University of Iowa. In 1994, he received the Iowa Board of Regents Award for Faculty Excellence, and in 1998 he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.



*We hope  
 you can join us!*

**Sunday, October 12, 2003**

**Sounds of Space and "Sun Rings":  
 A Multimedia Experience of Space  
 3 p.m.**

The Westin South Coast Plaza  
 Santa Ana Room  
 686 Anton Boulevard  
 Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Featuring Don Gurnett,  
 62BSEE, 63MS, 65PhD

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