

Artist's concept of merging black holes



13th *Annual*

JOHN BAHCALL LECTURE

MONDAY + 8 MAY 2017



Prof. Rainer Weiss

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
on behalf of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration

Observation of the Merger of Binary Black Holes: The Beginning of Gravitational Wave Astronomy

3:00 PM

in the John Bahcall Auditorium of STScI • 3700 San Martin Drive • Baltimore, MD 21218

Rainer Weiss is an American physicist known for his contributions in gravitational physics and astrophysics. He is a professor of physics emeritus at MIT. One of his most notable accomplishments is the invention of the laser interferometric technique, which is the basic operation of LIGO. Prof. Weiss was Chair of the COBE Science Working Group."

Abstract: Some history of gravitational waves will be examined, followed with a description of the waves and the technique for detecting them. Observations will be discussed and a vision for the future of gravitational wave astronomy and astrophysics will be explored.

Reception to Follow Lecture in Café Azafrán



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