

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



UTAS presents a comedy show all about maths

A comedy show that unravels the answers to some of the mysteries of the mathematical world will be held tonight at UTAS.

Simon Pampena, writer, performer, comedian and mathematician will present '*Planet of the Primes*', a visually entertaining comedy that seeks to understand why mathematicians have been obsessed with prime numbers for thousands of years.

Simon will create a parallel universe that holds the secrets to a number of mathematical problems. He will delve deep into the world of maths to discover more about primes that will explain, *what is the biggest prime?*

The show is being held as part of National Science Week events in Tasmania and is designed to encourage and stimulate interest in maths in the community.

The Tasmanian Coordinator of National Science Week, Jeannie-Marie LeRoi, says the show uses humour, audio-visual material, live action and animation to bring maths to life.

"We want to show that science and maths are accessible to everyone, and that these areas are relevant in everyday life," Ms Le Roi said.

"Presenting information in an entertaining way makes it a memorable experience for audiences."

'Maths Man' Simon Pampena is regarded as Australia's leading maths communicator and motivator. He has written and performed for ABC1's Catalyst program and has performed at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. He was appointed the National Numeracy ambassador for 2009 and 2010.

Planet of the Prime will be held tonight, Thursday 26 August from 7pm in the Arts Lecture Theatre, UTAS Sandy Bay. For further details, phone: (03) 6226 2125.

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