



## **Professor Sir Michael Berry**

Melville Wills Professor of Physics

University of Bristol

FRS, National Academy of Sciences

# **Third Annual Baylor Lecture Series in Mathematics**

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 • 7:00 p.m.

Baylor Sciences Building – D109

Baylor University

Waco, Texas

## **Making Light of Mathematics**

Many ‘mathematical phenomena’ find application and sometimes spectacular physical illustration in the physics of light. Concepts such as fractals, catastrophe theory, knots, infinity, zero, and even  $1 + 1$  fails to equal 2, are needed to understand rainbows, twinkling starlight, sparkling seas, oriental magic mirrors and simple experiments on interference, polarization and focusing. Although the concepts are sophisticated, the lecture will be nontechnical and based on pictures.

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