



American Repertory Theater  
64 brattle street, cambridge, massachusetts 02138  
617.495.2668 TEL  
617.495.1705 FAX  
617.547.8300 TICKETS  
[www.americanrepertorytheater.org](http://www.americanrepertorytheater.org)

January 7, 2011

Contact: Kati Mitchell (617-496-2000x8881)  
[Kati\\_mitchell@harvard.edu](mailto:Kati_mitchell@harvard.edu)

#### MEDIA ADVISORY

AR.T. ANNOUNCES SPECIAL DISCUSSIONS TO ACCOMPANY PERFORMANCES OF  
**R. Buckminster Fuller: *THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE***

**WHAT:** Hear from artists, scholars, and scientists about how R. Buckminster Fuller inspires their work.

**WHERE:** Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Cambridge.

**HOW:** All discussions are free and open to the public.

#### WHEN & WHO:

Saturday, January 15, following the 7:30 performance:

**Peter Meisen, Founder of GENI (Global Energy Network Institute)**

Peter Meisen is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego (1976) with an Applied Mechanics and Engineering Sciences degree. Meisen founded GENI ([www.geni.org](http://www.geni.org)) in 1989, to conduct research and educate business leaders and policy-makers to the strategy of linking renewable energy resources around the world. [www.wrsc.org](http://www.wrsc.org)

Sunday, January 16, following the 7:30 pm performance:

**Allegra Fuller Snyder, Co-founder, first President, and now Honorary Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the Buckminster Fuller Institute**

Allegra Fuller Snyder is Bucky's daughter. She is Professor Emerita of Dance and Dance Ethnology, UCLA; former Chair of the Department of Dance; and founding Coordinator of the World Arts and Cultures Program. She has served on the Dance Faculty at Cal Arts as well as Professor of Performance Studies at New York University and Honorary Visiting Professor at the University of Surrey, Guildford, England. She is a recent (2006) prestigious Marion Chace Foundation lecturer for the American Dance Therapy Association; and recipient of an

award for Outstanding Leadership in Dance Research from the Congress on Dance Research, as well as 2006 Dance Resource Center of Los Angeles Gary Bates Service to The Field Award, and the 1992 American Dance Guild Honoree of the Year. She began her career as a performer and choreographer and has been concerned with the relation of dance to film since the late 1940s. She has made prize-winning documentary films on dance. She was the recipient of several Fulbright Scholarships and has done dance research around the world. Among many special projects, Snyder was a Core Consultant on the PBS series "Dancing" for WNET/Channel 13.

Tuesday, January 18 and Friday, January 21, following the 7:30 pm performances:

**D. W. Jacobs, writer and director of *R. Buckminster Fuller: THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE***

D. W. Jacobs is a playwright, director, actor and teacher. He co-founded San Diego Repertory Theatre in 1976 with Sam Woodhouse, where he served as Artistic Director until 1997. From 1995 to 2000, he wrote *R. Buckminster Fuller: THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE*, and it had its world premiere at San Diego Rep on March 31, 2000. The production has played in San Francisco, Chicago, and at Seattle's Intiman Theatre, performed by Ron Campbell; in Montreal (under the title *R. Buckminster Fuller: MÉMOIRES (et Mystères) DE L'UNIVERS*, translated by Maryse Pelletier); at the Rubicon Theatre in Ventura, with Joe Spano playing Bucky, followed by a tour through the Western States. Recently Portland Center Stage produced the play with Doug Tompos in the title role. Arena Stage produced it earlier this year in Washington, DC with Rick Foucheux as Bucky. Mr. Jacobs appeared as an actor in *The Time of Your Life* (Joe), *Hamlet* (Claudius), Mac Wellman's *A Murder of Crows* (Howard) and *7 Blowjobs* (Senator Bob), Charles L. Mee's *Limonade tous les Jours* (Andrew), and Caryl Churchill's *A Number* (Salter). He is a member of the National Theatre Conference.

Thursday, January 20 at 6:30 pm:

**Amy C. Edmondson, Novartis Professor of Leadership and Management at the Harvard Business School**

Amy C. Edmondson has been a member of the Harvard faculty since 1996. Her current research examines novel collaborations among individuals and organizations in the development of sustainable urban communities. Previously, she has studied leadership influences on learning, collaboration and innovation in teams and organizations, leading to over 60 articles published in academic journals, management periodicals and books. Professor Edmondson has taught MBA and Executive Education courses in leadership, innovation, service management, and organizational learning. She has served on 23 doctoral committees and is the author of over two-dozen HBS teaching cases, including leadership cases on Prudential Financial, YUM brands, The Cleveland Clinic, IDEO product design, General Motors Powertrain, Simmons Mattress Company, and NASA's failed Columbia mission. Before her academic career, Edmondson was Director of Research at Pecos River Learning Centers, where she worked

closely with founder and CEO Larry Wilson to design and implement organizational change programs in numerous large companies. In the early 1980s, she worked as Chief Engineer for Buckminster Fuller, and her book, *A Fuller Explanation*, clarifies Fuller's mathematical contributions for a non-technical audience. Edmondson received her PhD in organizational behavior, AM in psychology, and AB in engineering and design, all from Harvard University.

Saturday, January 22, following the 2 pm performance:

**Educational Exhibit with Special Geometry Activity Organized by the Synergetics Collaborative (SC), Foundation for New Directions (FND), and the Museum of Mathematics (MoMath).**

SC ([SynergeticsCollaborative.org](http://SynergeticsCollaborative.org)), FND ([fnd.org](http://fnd.org)), and MoMath ([MoMath.org](http://MoMath.org)) are organizing a special exhibit in the West Lobby. Each organization will have several facilitators on hand to engage participants with the displays. George Hart of the Museum of Mathematics (MoMath) will lead participants of all ages in building ("barnraising") a hands-on geometry activity of a human-scale artifact with a connection to the geometrical work of R. Buckminster Fuller and Dr. Marvin Solit whose work was inspired in part by Bucky. This event will give audiences opportunities to explore Fuller's work and views, along with those of Dr. Solit, a friend and colleague of Buckminster Fuller and the Founder of the Foundation for New Directions. As part of the workshop, the Foundation will display models, show videos, and host work/play stations.

Sunday, January 23, following the 2 pm and the 7:30 pm performances:

**Thomas T.K. Zung, Architect**

Thomas Zung, one of Fuller's architectural partners, will give a short overview on the inventions of R. Buckminster Fuller with comments on Bucky's Dymaxion car and the New Car #4 recently unveiled in Madrid by Lord Norman Foster at the Ivory Press Exhibition Gallery. The talk will include Stanford University Library materials.

Tuesday, January 25, following the 7:30 pm performance:

**Donald Ingber, MD, PhD, Director of the Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering**

Donald Ingber, MD, PhD is the Judah Folkman Professor of Vascular Biology in Pathology and Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Children's Hospital Boston. He is also a Professor of Bioengineering at Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Founding Director of the Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering at Harvard University. Ingber has made major contributions to cell and tissue engineering, as well as angiogenesis, cancer, systems biology and nanobiotechnology. He is best known for his discovery that living cells structure themselves using Buckminster Fuller's tensegrity architecture, and his pioneering work explaining how mechanical forces control cell and tissue development. Ingber has been a recipient of awards in diverse disciplines, including Breast Cancer Innovator Award (Department of Defense), Pritzker Award (Biomedical Engineering Society) and Rous Whipple Award (American Association of Investigative Pathologists) and the Lifetime Achievement Award

of the Society for In Vitro Biology; he was also named one of the world's "Best and Brightest" in 2002 by Esquire. Ingber has authored over 300 publications and more than 40 patents in areas ranging from anti-angiogenic therapeutics, tissue engineering, nanotechnology and medical devices to computer software. He also helped to found two biotechnology start-ups, and has consulted for multiple pharmaceutical, biotechnology, cosmetic, venture capital and private investment companies, as well as New York Public Radio.

Wednesday, January 26 at 6:30 pm and Sunday, January 30 at 6:30 pm:

**Annie DiMario, Production Dramaturg discusses the work of R. Buckminster Fuller and offers insights into the A.R.T. production.**

Annie DiMario is a first-year dramaturgy student at the American Repertory Theater Institute for the Advanced Theater Training. She studied History and Theater at Drew University and trained at the Jacques Lecoq School of Physical Theater. She has worked professionally as a dramaturg, actress, and sound designer.

Saturday, January 29, following the 2 pm performance:

**Antoine Picon, G. Ware Travelstead Professor of the History of Architecture and Technology at Harvard Graduate School of Design**

Trained initially in science and engineering, Antoine Picon holds a Masters in architecture and a PhD in history. He is the G. Ware Travelstead Professor of the History of Architecture and Technology at Harvard Graduate School of Design. He has published extensively on the relations between architecture, urban design, science and technology. He is the author of *French Architects and Engineers in the Age of the Enlightenment* (1988 and 1992), *Claude Perrault et la Curiosité d'un Classique* (1988), *L'Invention de l'Ingénieur Moderne* (1992), *La Ville Territoire des Cyborgs* (1998), *Les Saint-Simoniens. Raison, Imaginaire et Utopie* (2002), and *Digital Culture in Architecture* (2010). His research has led him to Buckminster Fuller on various occasions. He was one of the contributors to the book *Buckminster Fuller: Starting with the Universe*, edited by his colleague K. Michael Hays and Dana A. Miller.

Saturday, February 5, following the 2 pm performance:

**Thomas Derrah, Actor (R. Buckminster Fuller)**

Thoma Derrah has appeared in 118 productions at the A.R.T., including most recently as Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret*; as well as *Endgame* (Clov), *The Seagull* (Dorn), *Julius Caesar* (title role), *Oliver Twist* (also at Theatre for a New Audience and Berkeley Repertory Theatre), *The Birthday Party* (Stanley), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Nick Bottom), *Highway Ulysses* (Ulysses), *Uncle Vanya* (Vanya), *Marat/Sade* (Marquis de Sade), *Richard II* (Richard). He was seen on Broadway in *Jackie: An American Life* (23 roles), and Off-Broadway in Dario Fo's one-man show *Johan Padan and the Discovery of the Americas* and *Big Time* (Ted). He toured with the A.R.T. across the U.S., with residencies in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles, and throughout Europe, Canada, Israel, Taiwan, Japan and Moscow. He appeared in several local theater companies, including Boston TheatreWorks, New Repertory Theatre, and

Commonwealth Shakespeare Company; London's Battersea Arts Center, Houston's Alley Theatre, and other theaters throughout the U.S. His awards include the 1994 Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence, 2000 and 2004 IRNE Awards for Best Actor, 1997 Los Angeles DramaLogue Award (for title role of *Shlemiel the First*). He appeared on television in Julie Taymor's film *Fool's Fire* (PBS American Playhouse), "Unsolved Mysteries," "Del and Alex" (Alex, A&E Network), and in the films *Mystic River* and *The Pink Panther II*. He is on the faculty of the A.R.T. Institute and is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.

**R. Buckminster Fuller: THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE**, directed by **D.W. Jacobs** from the life, work, and writings of R. Buckminster Fuller, features **Thomas Derrah** as Bucky Fuller, with set and lighting design is by **David Cuthbert**, costume design by **Darla Cash**, projection design by **Jim Findlay**, and sound/composition by **Luis Perez**.

The production runs January 14 through February 5 at the Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle Street, Cambridge.

For more information about the production, and the balance of the A.R.T.'s 2010-11 Season, log on to [www.americanrepertorytheater.org](http://www.americanrepertorytheater.org), or call 617-547-8300.