

INVITATION



J C Bose Science Heritage Museum (JCBSHM)

Presents a Lecture

on

“Science City: How Father Lafont Brought Pop Science to Kolkata”

by

Professor Jeffrey Stanley
Faculty, New York University and Drexel University, USA

May 3, 2019, 02:30pm – 04:00pm

Venue

Acharya Bhaban

Sir J C Bose Trust

93 APC Road, Kolkata 700009

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Program Coordinator

Prof. Parul Chakrabarti

JCBSHM & Sir J C Bose Trust

Advisory Committee

Prof. Indrani Bose, Prof. Bikas Chakrabarti &

Prof. Partha Pratim Majumder

P R O G R A M M E

2:30 PM : Welcome Address by Prof. Parul Chakrabarti, Coordinator,
JCBSHM & Trustee, Sir J C Bose Trust

Chairperson : Prof. Joyoti Basu, J C Bose Fellow, Bose Institute, Kolkata

2:40 PM : Introduction and felicitation of the speaker

2:50 PM : Professor Jeffrey Stanley, Faculty, New York University
and Drexel University, USA (Abstract and bio-note attached)

“Science City: How Father Lafont Brought Pop Science to Kolkata”

3:30 PM : Discussions and Concluding Remarks

3:45PM : Vote of thanks
Mrs. Nabaneeta Law, Advisor, Sir J C Bose Trust

3:50 PM : Tea

Abstract

"Science City: How Father Lafont Brought Pop Science to Kolkata"

Professor Jeffrey Stanley, Faculty, New York University
and Drexel University, USA

This won't be merely an introductory recap of Lafont's biography that one can find many places online, but based on Jeffrey Stanley's own research which aims to separate fact from folklore. Legendary Belgian Jesuit Father and St. Xavier's founding faculty Eugene Lafont was not only J.C. Bose's professor and lifelong friend and colleague, he was also instrumental in bringing pop science to Kolkata. Lafont inadvertently helped give birth to India's record industry as well as, perhaps, its film industry. The lecture is a detective story of sorts, tracing Stanley's journey to learn about the connection between Lafont and pioneer Bengali filmmaker Hiralal Sen.

Bio-note

US Fulbright-Nehru Scholar Jeffrey Stanley is a playwright, filmmaker, performance artist, and screenwriting faculty at New York University Tisch School of the Arts and at Drexel University Westphal College of Media Arts & Design. He is the author of the acclaimed stage play *Tesla's Letters* published by Samuel French. He has also written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and other publications.