



The Spacetime of Dreams

This talk examines the higher-dimensional time theories of the British aviator and writer John Dunne, whose *Experiments with Time* (1927) offered anecdotal evidence that dreams and other visionary experiences allowed people to perceive events from the future. Dunne's view that human beings transcend time and space in dreams inspired writers, including H. G. Wells, the British broadcaster and novelist J. R. Priestley and Christian writers such as J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis. Developing these notions in sermons, articles and fictional worlds, these thinkers used dreams and higher-dimensional theories to argue that human consciousness was more powerful and free than most people suspected.

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018
5:30–7 PM
CSWR COMMON ROOM
42 FRANCIS AVENUE



CHRISTOPHER WHITE received his MTS from Harvard Divinity School and his PhD from Harvard's Center for the Study of Religion. His first book, *Unsettled Minds: Psychology and the American Search for Spiritual Assurance* (University of California Press) examined how modern

Europeans and Americans used psychological and medical insights to fashion new, more scientific ways of testing, analyzing and sometimes even fostering religious trances, visions and experiences. His second book, *Other Worlds: Spirituality and the Search for Invisible Dimensions* (Harvard University Press, 2018), examines the cultural and religious history of the idea that the universe has hidden dimensions, spaces and worlds.