

# THE PLAGUE!

Making Sense of Epidemics, Contagions and Pestilence

**THURSDAY, MAY 16**

**7:00 PM**

**Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History – Fleischmann Auditorium**

**Bubonic Plague. Yellow Fever. Cholera. HIV AIDS.** For thousands of years, humans have faced devastating epidemics that suddenly kill millions and cause massive social and economic disruption. How have different cultures grappled with these catastrophic events? In this innovative program, three scholars explore social, religious, and artistic responses to massive epidemics. Ranging from 19th century Italy to Buddhist Japan to 20<sup>th</sup> century America, the program shows the diversity of responses to contagion, while at the same time highlighting our common humanity in response to unimaginable death and suffering.

The inaugural event of the the "Culture and Nature" series, the program will include a performance of selected scenes from the award-winning play *Angels in America*.

## UC SANTA BARBARA PRESENTERS

**Irwin Appel**, Professor, Department of Theater and Dance

**Fabio Rambelli**, Professor, Department of Religious Studies; Chair, Department of East Asian Culture and Languages; and the International Shinto Foundation Chair in Shinto Studies.

**Jon R. Snyder**, Professor, Department of French and Italian

Members: \$8; Non-Members \$10

Pre-registration encouraged, tickets available at: [www.sbnature.org/tickets](http://www.sbnature.org/tickets)

For more information, contact Justin Canty, [jcanty@sbnature2.org](mailto:jcanty@sbnature2.org) or 805-682-4711 ext. 170

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Santa Barbara  
**Museum of Natural History**

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