

## FORESIGHT

How do attempts to foresee the future actually change it? For thousands of years, humans have called upon foresight to shape their own actions in order to adapt and survive; as Charles Darwin revealed in his theory of natural selection, the capacity to do just that is key to the origin of species. The uses of foresight, however, can also be applied to help us further our understanding across a variety of realms in everything from warfare, journalism and music, to ancient civilizations, space weather and science. In a thought-provoking new addition to the Darwin College Lecture Series, eight distinguished authors each present an essay from their area of expertise devoted to the theme of 'foresight'. This provocative read reveals foresight as a process that can be identified across all areas of human endeavour; an art which can not only predict the future, but make it anything but inevitable.

### Contributors

Geoffrey Lloyd, Bridget Kendall, Robert J. Sawyer, Hasok Chang, Nicholas Cook, Jim Wild, Terrie E. Moffitt and Francesca Rochberg.

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## Notes on Contributors

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**Bridget Kendall** became Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge in 2016. She joined the BBC in 1983 as a radio production trainee for BBC World Service. She rose to the post of the BBC's Moscow correspondent from 1989 to 1995, witnessing the power struggles in the Soviet Communist Party as Mikhail Gorbachev tried to introduce reform, reporting on the break-up of the Soviet Union and the internal conflicts in Chechnya, Georgia, and Tajikistan. She sent reports of the coup in August 1991 and covered Boris Yeltsin's rise to power. She moved to the BBC's Washington, D.C. desk from 1994, and became the Corporation's diplomatic correspondent in 1998. Kendall speaks fluent Russian and has interviewed world leaders including Vladimir Putin live from the Kremlin as part of an internet webcast in March 2001. She is the host of the talk show *The Forum* on BBC World Service radio.

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Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America's Nebula Award, for *The Terminal Experiment* (1996); and the John W. Campbell Award in 2006 for *Mindscan*. His influence in the genre extends well beyond his award-winning example, though, as his work with young writers and public engagement has made him one of Canada's most influential publishing industry figures. Over his twenty-two novels, he has looked at science and its meaning in culture across a vast array of disciplines and applications, and his contributions culminated in October 2013 in the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association's Lifetime Achievement Award, only the fourth time in thirty years the award has been given to an author.

**Hasok Chang** is the Hans Rausing Professor of History and Philosophy of Science at Cambridge. His research interests include the history and philosophy of chemistry and physics from the eighteenth century onward; philosophy of scientific practice; other topics in the including measurement, realism, evidence, pluralism, and pragmatism. He was President of the British Society for the History of Science (2012–14) and is a founding member of the Committee for Integrated History and Philosophy of Science. His intriguing publications include *Is Water H<sub>2</sub>O? Evidence, Pluralism and Realism* (2012) and *Inventing Temperature: Measurement and Scientific Progress* (2004).

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### Notes on Contributors

Space Physics at Lancaster University's Department of Physics. His research investigates the physics behind the aurora borealis (sometimes known as the northern lights), the impact of space weather on human technology, and the interaction between the Martian atmosphere and the interplanetary environment. In 2010, he was awarded a Science in Society fellowship by the UK Science and Technology Facilities Council. Wild is a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and a member of the European Geosciences Union and American Geophysical Union.

**Terrie E. Moffitt** is the Knut Schmidt Nielsen Professor at Duke University's Department of Psychology & Neuroscience and Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences. Her main course of research looks at the interplay between nature and nurture in the origins of problem behaviors with particular interest in antisocial and criminal behaviors. She is Associate Director of the Dunedin Multidisciplinary Health and Development Study in New Zealand, and she also directs the Environmental-Risk Longitudinal Twin Study ("E-risk"), which follows a 1994 birth cohort of 1116 British families with twins. For her research, she has received the American Psychological Association's Early Career Contribution Award (1993), Distinguished Career Award in Clinical Child Psychology (2006), and the Stockholm Prize in Criminology (2007). She is a fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences (1999), the American Society of Criminology (2003), the British Academy (2004), and Academia Europaea (2005).

**Francesca Rochberg** is the Catherine and William L. Magistretti Distinguished Professor of Near Eastern Studies at the University of California at Berkeley. Her early academic career included honors as a fellow with the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Her current research focuses on Assyriology, with an emphasis on Akkadian scholastic texts of the second and first millennia BCE, Babylonian astronomy and astrology, and the impact of the philosophy of science on the historiography of ancient science. In 2010, she was posted at the Ludwig-Maximilian Universität, München as a research fellow, and is a member of the American Philosophical Society. In 2007 she became a member of the Princeton, Institute for Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies, and has received the John Frederick Lewis Award for *Babylonian Horoscopes* (American Philosophical Society, 1998).