UCLA Department of Physics & Astronomy

COLLOQUIUM

Thursday, April 24th at 4 p.m.
1-434 PAB

Opening Pandora's Box: JWST reveals the Hidden Content of a Super Star Cluster

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One of the most spectacular star-forming nebulae in the local universe is in the dwarf galaxy, NGC5253. Gas heated by a young cluster containing a million stars provides a spectacle 1000 times more powerful than the Great Nebula in Orion, the "supernebula". How stars can continue to be born within this tiny cluster, only 10 light years in size, in spite of a hostile environment, is a mystery. The 15 magnitudes of visual extinction have made it difficult to characterize the young cluster, which may contain stars with masses as high as 300 M. Now the probing eye of JWST with the MIRI-MRS IFU can open the cluster to view, revealing the windy inferno within.

Host: Seth Putterman

Refreshments at 3:30 p.m. on the PAB Patio. Undergraduates Welcome!