

# Many Cheerful Facts

Organizers: Michael Pejic & Damien Mondragon

Tuesday, 2:10-3:00 pm, 939 Evans

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Mar. 31     **Theodore Johnson-Freyd**, UC Berkeley  
*On Atoms, Mountains, and Rain*

This talk won't include very many *facts*, but it will include many *almost facts*, aka "lies". A few lies we will tell: rocks are made of rock atoms, liquid water is a perfect cubic crystal lattice, and  $1 = 2$ . Using these and similar "facts", we will derive from first principles the radius of an atom, the height of a mountain, and the volume of a raindrop. Doing so honestly, even if we knew all the fundamental equations of the universe, would be impossible; lying makes everything work out nicely.