

Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform
Subject: EM: DNS Seminar: Sam Shoemaker - Friday, Feb 13 @12:15PM

From: Lauran Soto

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT:

Feces, Corpses, and the Business of Fungal Decay

Sam Shoemaker
Mycologist and Artist

Friday, February 13, 2026
12:15PM - 1:15PM
Nucleus - E007 / Burns Lecture Hall

Mushrooms are being marketed as the solution to decomposing our waste and even our bodies. Are their methods effective? This seminar investigates the companies in this emerging market, what they promise, what's scientifically supported, and where the excitement meets the limits of biology.

Artist Bio: Sam Shoemaker is a Los Angeles-based sculpture artist whose work is a collaboration between himself and living fungi. Shoemaker's work has been shown at Craft Contemporary, Fulcrum Arts, Armory Center for the Arts, Vielmetter, David Horvitz's Garden, Make Room, Emma Gray HQ, and OCHI, among others. He was also included in World Without End: The George Washington Carver Project at the California African American Museum, an official exhibition of PST ART: Art & Science Collide presented by Getty. Shoemaker has been featured in many publications and news outlets, including the Guardian, Los Angeles Times, Galerie Magazine, W Magazine, Contemporary Art Review Los Angeles, and Graphite. He lives and works in Los Angeles and is represented by OCHI. Shoemaker has led numerous mushroom cultivation workshops across Southern California, at venues including Art Center College of Art and Design, Yucca Valley Material Lab, Otis College, College of the Redwoods, Vielmetter, Claremont Botanical Garden, Pitzer College, South Coast Botanic Garden, and Hahamonga Native Plant Nursery.

DNS & 5C Chemistry Seminars can be found here: <https://natsci.claremont.edu/student-resources/seminars/>

Department of Natural Sciences Seminar Series

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For more information, contact Pete Chandrangs (pchandrangs@natsci.claremont.edu))

Best,
Lauran Soto (she/they)
Administrative Assistant
Department of Natural Sciences
Pitzer and Scripps Colleges
Office Phone: (909) 621-8489

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<lsoto@natsci.claremont.edu>)