

UC SANTA CRUZ

# Music lecture series set to begin April 6

*Sentinel Staff report*

**SANTA CRUZ »** The Arts Dean's Lecture Series at UC Santa Cruz will offer a series of lectures by scholars and artists this spring to explore the fundamentals of why and how we make and hear music.

Eight guest speakers will be featured from a variety of disciplines, including music, music cognition, biology and language.

The lectures run from 5-6:45 p.m. April 6 through May 27 at the Media Theater at UCSC. Admission to each lecture is free.

This year's series, titled Music, Language, Mind, Evolution, is curated by UCSC music professor Larry Polansky.

"As a composer, theorist

## LECTURE SERIES

The rest of the Music, Language, Mind, Evolution schedule:

**April 13:** Christian Wolff, widely acknowledged as one of the most important American composers of the 20th century.

**April 27:** Katy Payne, acoustic biologist and founder of the Elephant Listening Project, and whale song expert.

**April 29:** Thalia Wheatley, cognitive scientist, leading researcher in the nascent field of perception of emotion.

**May 4:** David Huron, a pioneering and pre-eminent scholar in music cognition and cognitive musicology.

**May 11:** Rex Cocroft, a groundbreaking researcher in insect and plant intelligence and vibrational communication.

**May 18:** Douglas Repetto, composer, sound- and bio-artist, founder of the international DorkBot movement.

**May 27:** Aniruddh Patel, cognitive scientist, author of the major and innovative work 'Music, Language, and the Brain.'

— and well, as someone who thinks a great deal about music, I wanted to broaden the scope to include the various perspectives of thinking about music, and sonic communication," Polansky said.

"It seems to me that there are a number of questions about music that have to be asked in reference to biology, cognition, and evolution."

The series begins April 6 with Carol Padden, a deaf

studies scholar and sign language researcher, who is also a 2010 MacArthur Fellow and dean of social sciences at UC San Diego.

Information: <http://arts.ucsc.edu/lectures>.