Communiversity

compelling. cultural. conversations.
COMPELLING

Thought-provoking themes take center stage as global experts share their expertise and comprehension of the world we share.

CULTURAL

Arts, nature, society, science, and the environment are catalysts for building community in our pursuit of deeper connection, understanding, and enlightenment.

CONVERSATIONS

Celebrated journalists from Crosscut and KCTS 9 lead each discussion and integrate your questions of our special guests.

The only thing new in the world is the history you do not know.

Harry S. Truman

COMMUNIVERSITY

Centrum’s new arts and lectures series, a partnership with KCTS and Crosscut, blends the building of community and wisdom into an active, stimulating, and affirming experience. Curated to appeal to learners of all ages, the series is designed to inspire thought-provoking conversations, highlighting a wide range of topics affecting our world. Each 90-minute event will feature selected guest speakers in dialog with journalists and reporters from Crosscut and KCTS public media. Fifty ticket holders may also enjoy the opportunity to extend the discussion over dinner with our guests at nearby restaurants following each presentation, available on a first-come, first-served basis, per event. Please join us. Seating is limited in our venues throughout Jefferson County.

This series is made possible with generous lead support from the estate of M. Jean Fisher, Carl Westphal and Davonne Loup, and Anne and Dick Schneider.
Fred de Sam Lazaro
in conversation with Knute Berger
Monday, February 3, 2020 | 5:30 p.m.
Salish Coast Elementary School
Restaurant Finistère

PBS NewsHour correspondent and Executive Director of the Under-told Stories Project at the University of St. Thomas in Minnesota, Fred de Sam Lazaro has directed films from India and the Democratic Republic of Congo for the documentary series, Wide Angle. Fred has reported from more than 70 countries with a focus on stories and issues that are under-reported in mainstream U.S. media outlets. In our inaugural event, Knute and Fred will discuss his current work documenting the myriad causes and consequences of poverty and the work of change agents addressing them, screening vivid video excerpts from his documentary library.
Indian ragas were first envisioned by Hindus as a manifestation of the divine—a musical expression treated as god or goddess with its own intricate personality. The art form has two foundational elements, raga and tala. The raga, based on swara (notes including microtones), forms the fabric of a melodic structure, while the tala measures time. The raga gives an artist a palette to build the melody from sounds, while the tala provides them with a creative framework for rhythmic improvisation.

Hindustani vocalist, composer, and world musician, Srivani Jade, will join master tabla artist and accompanist, Ravi Joseph Albright, in discussion with Wes Cecil and Brangien Davis illuminating the history of Indian classical music. The evening will feature a complete raga performed by an ensemble of professional musicians.
Hundreds of thousands of people around the world contribute bird observations to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology each year, providing data on a scale once unimaginable. Scientists use these data to reveal how birds are affected by habitat loss, pollution, disease, climate, and other environmental changes. NestWatch, the Lab’s citizen-science project on nesting birds, has been monitoring nesting birds’ reproductive success since the 1960s. This long-term database is the nation’s richest source of information on avian reproductive biology. Project Leader, Robyn Bailey, will join Ted Alvarez in a discussion about current research, education, and communication initiatives for NestWatch. Learn about small things we can all do to help birds every day.
Richard Ross is an internationally-recognized photographer focusing on the American juvenile justice system and social equity. Recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Annie E. Casey and MacArthur Foundations, Mr. Ross was awarded both Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowships. His most recent work, the In Justice series, turns a lens on the placement and treatment of American juveniles housed by law in facilities that treat, confine, punish, assist and, occasionally, harm them. Shaminder Dulai will join Richard, in conversation, about his life’s work, many books, and traveling exhibitions of the work that continues to see great success while Ross collaborates with juvenile justice stakeholders, using the images as a catalyst for change.
Marian Maxwell
in conversation with Ted Alvarez
Monday, October 26, 2020 | 5:30 p.m.
South Bay Club
Inn at The Resort at Port Ludlow

Former member of the Board of the Puget Sound Mycological Society, Marian Maxwell will explain the basics of mushroom collecting, including seasons for mushroom hunting, permits required, types of mushrooms to look for, cooking, dangers, and where to hunt. Marian studied mycology under the renowned Dr. Daniel Stuntz and received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Washington. She is a Past President of the Puget Sound Mycological Society (2010-2015) and has served as one of their lead identifiers, educators, and scientific display chairpersons for over 20 years. Ted Alvarez will moderate a dialog with Marian and our audience as we learn how to explore the outdoors by foraging for a vast Northwest resource—mushrooms!
Director of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, Eric Dorfman joins Knute Berger to unveil the science, planning and the process of acquisitions for the Museum’s upcoming 2021 exhibition, “Nature’s Rainbow,” illuminating diversity in gender and sexuality among fish, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals, including primates. In this talk, Eric will share how this diversity develops from the action of genes and hormones and how people come to differ from each other in all aspects of body and behavior.
Brangien Davis is Crosscut’s arts and culture editor. Prior to Crosscut, she was the arts and culture editor at Seattle magazine, and has contributed cultural profiles, previews and essays to the Seattle Times, Lit Hub, City Arts, Arcade and Ampersand. In addition, she has been a scholar-in-residence at Town Hall Seattle, an editorial manager at Amazon, founded the literary magazine Swivel, and taught creative writing and arts journalism. Email her at brangien.davis@crosscut.com

Ted Alvarez is an editor at Crosscut and KCTS 9 focused on science and the environment. His work has also appeared in Backpacker, Grist.org, Air Canada En Route, Outside, Alaska Beyond, Rolling Stone, Men’s Health, Skiing, Scientific American and many other outlets. He is the author of The Survival Hacker’s Handbook and National Parks Coast To Coast: 100 Best Hikes. Find him on Twitter @Tedster or email at ted.alvarez@crosscut.com.

Knute “Mossback” Berger is Crosscut’s Editor-at-Large and host of the Mossback’s Northwest TV series on KCTS 9. He writes about politics and regional heritage. Previously he served as Editor-in-Chief of Seattle Weekly, Editor & Publisher of Eastsideweek, and as Managing Editor of Washington Magazine. He is Editor-at-Large for Seattle Magazine and has written two books, “Pugetopolis” and “Space Needle, Spirit of Seattle.” He is a regular commentator on KUOW-FM and a Rainier Club Fellow. Find him on Twitter @KnuteBerger or email at knute.berger@crosscut.com.

Shaminder Dulai is Crosscut’s head of visuals. He is an award-winning photo/video journalist and creative technologist with 20 years of experience producing stories for newspapers, magazines, TV and digital newsrooms across the United States. He is a Poynter Fellow, an International Center for Journalists Fellow, a Hearst Fellow and recently, was Managing Editor for NBC Left Field, an experimental long-form documentary unit. Prior, he was Global Director of Photography and Multimedia for Newsweek magazine, where he founded Newsweek Films and PhotoLab. He is co-founder of StatelessVoices and founder of PhotoWalk. His personal projects have been published with Last Week Tonight with John Oliver, Newsweek, PBS, CJR, Everyday Projects, MSNBC, NBC, Global Post, The Guardian, and the AP, among others. Email him at Shaminder.Dula@Crosscut.com.
General Admission seating in all venues.
Dinner guests will be seated in a designated block of seats at each venue – limit 50 per event.