PennState
Behrend

"Capturing the Stars that Light Pollution has Taken From Us"

YAHN PLANETARIUM FEATURES

Harun Mehmedinovic
Director of Photography, *HBO*

Gavin Heffernan
Filmaker & Screenwriter, *National Geographic, CBS, & USA Today*

Monday, November 13, 2017
Reed 117 Auditorium

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Harun Mehmedinovic, and Gavin Heffernan, have created an extraordinary multimedia presentation to let us glimpse the wonders of space with their sweeping long exposure photos and time-lapse videos series that reveal the cosmos in all its glory. The renowned time lapse photographers are proud presenters of breathtaking photos of North America's remaining magnificent night skies, many of them as a backdrop to natural monuments and iconic vistas. In addition, their work reveals and documents the grave threat light pollution has on our fragile environment.

Light pollution, creating an obscuring blanket between us and the sky above, also is known to encourage the growth of cancer tumors, disrupt sleep patterns, play havoc with migratory birds, alter the predator-prey relationship, cause the disappearance of species, and contribute to climate change.

"When I came to the United States and landed in Phoenix, it took me a while to realize I couldn't see the stars at all," Mr. Mehmedinovic says. "It wasn't until I started doing road trips across the country that I saw them, and had a flash back to my childhood."

That loss inspired both men to embark on a journey of rediscovery, one that took 3 grueling years and 150,000 miles and 3,000,000 photographs and resulted in a book and DVD that present their images alongside research on light pollution, astronomy, and the "impact of stars on imagination, mythology and the sciences." Experience the night sky through the creative imagery and insightful commentary by two award winning filmmakers

****Free and appropriate for general audiences****