Physics & Astronomy Colloquium – Fall 2018

Tuesday, Oct 2nd at 3:30 pm in SC 234

Dr. Joseph Romano
Texas Tech University

Mathematics in the artwork of M.C. Escher

Maurits Cornelis Escher was a Dutch graphic artist who produced over 400 prints--mostly woodcuts and lithographs--during his lifetime (1898-1972). He is noted mostly for his symmetric tilings of the plane using recognizable figures (e.g., birds, fish, lizards), various representations of infinity, scenes with ambiguous or unconventional perspective, and the depiction of physically impossible objects. Although Escher never considered himself to be a mathematician, the majority of his artwork is based on rather sophisticated mathematical concepts, some of which even anticipated mathematical developments of his time. In this talk, I'll focus on the mathematics associated with symmetry in the context of periodic tilings of the plane and other 2-dimensional surfaces.

Refreshments at 3:00 pm in SC 103