



2007 International Solvay Chair in Physics
Solvay Colloquium

“MAKING LIGHT OF MATHEMATICS”

Professor Michael Berry

Bristol University,
UK

Abstract

“Many ‘mathematical phenomena’ find application and sometimes spectacular physical illustration in the physics of light. Concepts such as fractals, catastrophe theory, knots, infinity, zero, and even when $1+1$ fails to equal 2, are needed to understand rainbows, twinkling starlight, sparkling seas, oriental magic mirrors, and simple experiments on interference, polarization and focusing. The lecture is strongly visual, and nontechnical, though the concepts are subtle.”

Tuesday 2 October 2007 at 16h00

*COFFEE AND TEA WILL BE SERVED AT 15H45 IN FRONT OF THE SOLVAY ROOM
DRINK AT 17H15 IN FRONT OF THE SOLVAY ROOM*

« SALLE SOLVAY » - SOLVAY ROOM

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