

A Conversation with **WILLIAM KENTRIDGE**  
Moderated by **D. GRAHAM BURNETT**

# THE REFUSAL OF TIME

Thursday, April 3  
5-6:30 p.m.  
Shepard Hall Room 95  
City College  
138th St. and Convent Ave

Attendees are strongly encouraged to view *The Refusal of Time*, currently on view at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, before this event.

What happens when art enters into dialogue with the history of science? Find out when the eminent South African artist William Kentridge meets Princeton historian of science D. Graham Burnett. Kentridge's installation *The Refusal of Time*, currently on view at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, comprises five video channels projected around a room, at the center of which is a large kinetic sculpture (the "breathing machine" or "elephant"). The piece was inspired by Albert Einstein's realization, forged through his study of the synchronization of clocks at national railway stations, that in a newly industrialized and interconnected world, time was relative and not absolute. Kentridge places this idea within the history of late 19th century colonialism, contrasting European efforts to standardize time with the persistence of local cultures and experiences of time.

