

First of the Joseph Korner Memorial Lectures

“BUDDHISM AND BRAIN SCIENCE”

November 5, 2016 Saturday at 2pm

Free and Open to the Public

Special guest speaker - Dr. Stephen T. Asma



Neuroscience research has exploded in recent years, animating both the sciences and the humanities. Questions about the nature of belief, ethical action, and even addiction have fallen under the new umbrella of neuroscience explanation. Buddhist techniques of mental cultivation and meditation are receiving special attention, being correlated with MRI studies of brain activity. In this illustrated talk, Dr. Stephen Asma will describe the state of the field. What are the meaningful correlations between Buddhism and brain science? Where is the supposed correlation overrated? And why does this new connection matter to contemporary Buddhism?

Stephen T. Asma is Professor of Philosophy at Columbia College Chicago, where he is also Senior Fellow of the Research Group in Mind, Science and Culture. Dr. Asma is the author of ten books, including the highly recommended *The Gods Drink Whiskey* (HarperOne) describing his experiences in the culturally Buddhist countries of Southeast Asia. He writes regularly for the *New York Times* and other internationally known publications. He has researched and taught philosophy throughout Asia including mainland China. He also happens to be a blues/jazz musician who has played onstage with many musical artists, including Bo Diddley and Buddy Guy. Learn more about him at: www.stephenasma.com

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