



For Immediate Release
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"What you and I do is in no way sitting inside our genes."
The Jim Rutt Show with guest *Simon DeDeo*

"What you and I do is in no way sitting inside our genes," says cognitive scientist Simon DeDeo in a new podcast, explaining humans "don't just invent music. We invent the idea of music." That's just one of the amazing insights that surface in a [90-minute podcast](#) just released by **The Jim Rutt Show**. Other surprises in the podcast include:

- Where are the aliens? "I think they're actually here," says DeDeo
- How the twinkling of the stars could be a form of alien communication
- Dealing with "bad actors" and the use of social media *blocklists*
- "Social media is evolution on steroids," says DeDeo
- Remembrances of physicist and Nobel laureate, Murray Gell-Mann
- And much more, including *filter bubbles*, *deplatforming*, and Qualia!

The Jim Rutt Show is an interview podcast series examining cutting-edge thinking in science and technology and the future of our economic, political and social systems and institutions. Recent guests include George Mason University economist and author, [Robin Hanson](#). [Upcoming guests](#) include artificial intelligence pioneer Ben Goertzel, science fiction novelist Cory Doctorow, and astronomer Jill Tarter.

You can find the released podcasts of **The Jim Rutt Show** at [JimRuttShow.com](#) and detailed biographies for committed guests at [jimrutts.com/upcoming-guests/](#). **The Jim Rutt Show** podcast is available on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify, TuneIn, Stitcher, via [RSS](#), or directly from [JimRuttShow.com](#). The website has a complete collection of podcasts, including show transcripts, episode highlights, guest biographies, and links.

About Simon DeDeo

Simon DeDeo is an Assistant Professor at Carnegie Mellon University in the Department of Social and Decision Sciences, and External Professor at the [Santa Fe Institute](#). He is also affiliated with the Cognitive Science program at Indiana University, where he runs the Laboratory for Social Minds. For three years, from 2010 to 2013, he was an Omidyar Fellow at the Santa Fe Institute.

DeDeo and his collaborators study how people use words and signals, and the

ideas they represent, to create a world. They have studied a diverse set of systems that includes the French Revolution, the courtrooms of Victorian London, the research strategies of Charles Darwin, the insurgency of modern-day Afghanistan, the emergent bureaucracy of Wikipedia, the creation of power hierarchies among the social animals, and the collusions and conspiracies of petrol stations in the American Midwest. They combine data from the contemporary world, archives from the deep past, statistical tools from cosmology, and models of human cognition from Bayesian reasoning and information theory to understand how cultures grow, flourish, innovate, and evolve.

About Jim Rutt

The host of ***The Jim Rutt Show*** is Jim Rutt, former CEO of Network Solutions. *The New York Times* referred to him as "[the Internet's bad boy](#)" due to his reputation for creative mischief. Jim is the past Chairman of the Santa Fe Institute, where he continues as a Research Fellow studying conscious cognition and evolutionary artificial intelligence.

Jim is a co-founder of the Staunton Makerspace, a membership maker shop and hacker space, and a member of the Board of Advisers of the Fralin Life Sciences Institute at Virginia Tech. Jim received his B.S. degree in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1975 and is a member of MIT's Visiting Committee for the Department of Brain & Cognitive Sciences. He was Executive Producer of the awarding-winning film [Zombiewood](#).

Suggested Tweets:

Have the aliens already arrived? The Jim Rutt Show with guest Simon DeDeo. <https://www.jimrutts.com/simon-dedeo/> #FermiParadox #AI #CulturalEvolution #Consciousness #JimRuttShow #SimonDeDeo

Remembering physicist Murray Gell-Mann. The Jim Rutt Show with guest Simon DeDeo. <https://www.jimrutts.com/simon-dedeo/> #Gell-Mann #MurrayGellMann #MacArthurAwards #Feynman #whyihatemathematicians #bongos #JimRuttShow #SimonDeDeo

"Social media is evolution on steroids." The Jim Rutt Show with guest Simon DeDeo. <https://www.jimrutts.com/simon-dedeo/> #SocialMedia #Blocklists #BubbleFilters #Curation #Deplatforming #JimRuttShow #SimonDeDeo

How the culture lifted off 5,000 years ago. The Jim Rutt Show with guest Simon DeDeo. <https://www.jimrutts.com/simon-dedeo/> #Evolution #EvolutionaryPsychology #CulturalEvolution #FluidSexuality #JimRuttShow #SimonDeDeo

#OpenCog #Kahneman #FermiParadox #DrakeEquation #FrenchRevolution

#MurrayGellMann #Stonewall #Chomsky #IntegratedInformation #Upanishads
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