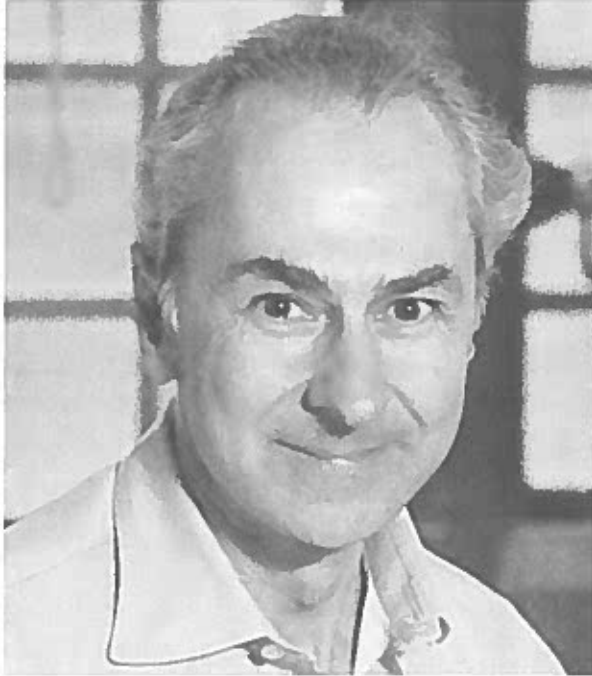


SERGE LANG



SERGE LANG
YALE UNIVERSITY

will deliver the
LEONIDAS ALAOGU MEMORIAL LECTURE

Regularized harmonic series in Number Theory

Thursday, February 22, 1995, 4:15 p.m.
151 Sloan
California Institute of Technology

Serge Lang was born in Paris; he lived and was educated there until the 10th grade when he came to the United States with his family. He completed high school in California, then entered Caltech where, in 1946, he was awarded a B.S. degree in Physics.

After a year and a half in the U.S. Army, he went to Princeton University, spent a year in the Philosophy Department, then switched to mathematics, receiving a Ph.D. in 1951. He taught at the university and spent a year at the Institute for Advanced Study. He was an Instructor at the University of Chicago, 1953-1955; Professor at Columbia University, 1955-1970; and spent 1958 in Paris as a Fulbright Scholar. At present, he is a professor of mathematics at Yale, a position he has held since 1972.

Serge Lang has published 37 books and more than 70 research articles. The books range from high school texts to advanced research monographs. He received the Cole Prize in the United States in the fifties, and the Prix Carrière in France in the sixties.

Although his principal interest has always been mathematics, his other interests range from music – he has played piano and lute – to political, social, and academic activism. In the sixties, when the United States faced numerous problems deeply affecting the universities, his concern was with the financing of universities and the accompanying threat to intellectual freedom due to political and bureaucratic interference. Around 1980, he led the academic community against just such financial bureaucratic encroachment.

Since exposing serious defects in a national survey of the American professoriate by sociologists in 1977, he has been concerned continuously with the maintenance of standards in the academic world, especially the scientific world as it involves scientific periodicals, the press at large, and the scientific establishment. His concerns have been expressed across a broad spectrum of fields and issues – currently the politics of HIV and AIDS – wherever there is a perceived need for activism. As Lang says, "He puts scholarship in the service of action to stop the nonsense."



CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**LEONIDAS ALAOGU
MEMORIAL LECTURE
IN MATHEMATICS
1996**



The Leonidas Alaoglu Memorial Lecture was established by friends and family of the late Leonidas Alaoglu in recognition of his great talents, his distinguished contributions to mathematics, and his long friendship with Caltech. The Institute is privileged to honor his memory with a lecture each year by an outstanding mathematician.