

SLS 12 Understanding Darwinism: Special Event

The Double Helix Revisited

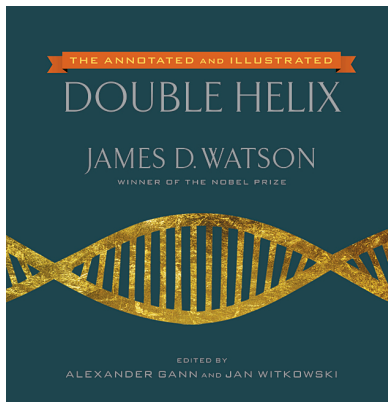
Dr. James Watson is returning to Harvard with **Dr Alex Gann** and **Dr Jan Witkowski**, the editors of a newly published, annotated and illustrated edition of *The Double Helix*, Watson's classic account of the deduction of the structure of DNA.

They will discuss the book with **Andrew Berry**

Wednesday, November 14th, 2012

Science Center, Hall B

5.00–6.00pm



The Double Helix, Jim's Watson 1968 memoir, was something new: a description of science in action written in the voice of a brash, ambitious young man who knew the big question in biology and wanted the answer.

In this edition, Watson's text is unchanged, but Alex Gann and Jan Witkowski have added over three hundred annotations on the events and characters portrayed, with facsimile letters and contemporary photographs, many previously unpublished. Their sources include newly discovered correspondence from Crick, the papers of

Franklin, Pauling, and Wilkins, and they include a chapter dropped from the original edition.

Published to mark the 50th anniversary of the Nobel Prize for Watson, Crick, and Wilkins, and the 60th anniversary of the discovery itself, this new edition adds depth and richness to one of the most famous stories in science.

"The Double Helix is the best book I know about a scientific discovery—this new edition suffuses the whole with social history, fascinating documentation, photography, and cunning background research. The early fifties, the beginning of the modern age of molecular biology, spring to life."

—**Ian McEwan**, author of *Atonement*

"The Double Helix is an extraordinary book: a thrilling, novelistic account of one of the most surprising of all scientific discoveries. This new edition draws upon a remarkable and eclectic archive of information to bring to life the stories of those who found the secret of life."

—**Matt Ridley**, author of *Genome* and *Francis Crick*