

Living World Lecture  
Friday, October 21, 7:30 P.M.  
Earth and Space Sciences 001



**Christian Parenti**  
**Author, Contributing Editor to The Nation**

## **Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence**

The new era of climate war is upon us. Extreme weather brought on by global warming is unleashing cascades of unrest and violence across the globe, from Africa to Asia to the Americas. In *Tropic of Chaos*, award-winning writer Christian Parenti reports from the front lines of this gathering social and environmental catastrophe. Combining historical research with on-the-ground reporting, Parenti shows how the environmental crisis is colliding with the twin legacies of cold war militarism and unbridled free market economics to cause fragile nations to disintegrate into failed states. He critiques the way the countries of the Global North have responded to this dangerous new world: rather than adapt by defusing tensions and embracing cleaner forms of energy, these governments are responding with greater repression, surveillance, and a program of permanent counterinsurgency.

**Christian Parenti** is a Puffin Foundation Writing Fellow, contributing editor at *The Nation* and a visiting professor at Brooklyn College, CUNY. His most recent book is *Tropic of Chaos: Climate Change and the New Geography of Violence* (Nation Books, July 2011). As a journalist, he has reported extensively from Afghanistan, Iraq and various parts of Africa, Asia, and Latin America and his articles have appeared in *Fortune*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *London Review of Books*, *Mother Jones* and *Playboy*. He has a PhD in sociology from the London School of Economics, has held fellowships from OSI, RBF and the Ford Foundation; and has won numerous awards, including the 2009 Lange-Taylor Prize and "Best Magazine Writing 2008" from the Society for Professional Journalists. His three previous books, are: *The Freedom: Shadows and Hallucinations in Occupied Iraq*; *The Soft Cage: Surveillance in America from Slavery to the War on Terror* and *Lockdown America: Police and Prisons in the Age of Crisis*.

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