

IDEA

Chomsky joins Forum

Skype and screening event this Friday

SUBMITTED BY SS FORUM

What is democracy?

According to Noam Chomsky, democracy is when the people determine the actions of a government. Democracy, in theory, puts power into the hands of the general population.

This simple definition raises many questions: What role can corporate power play in a functioning democracy? How does income inequality affect democracy? Are we actually living in a democracy in Canada (or the United States) today?

On Friday, April 21 at ArtSpring, Noam Chomsky will join the Salt Spring Forum in a livestream discussion on these questions and more. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a Salt Spring audience to speak directly with one of the greatest thinkers of our time.

The event begins at 10:30 a.m. with a screening of the documentary *Requiem for the American Dream*, which is made up of four years' worth of interviews with Chomsky. In the interviews, Chomsky argues that the bulk of America's wealth and influence has been transferred to the hands of a few, and illustrates the devastating effects this has on democracy.

"Even people who have already seen the documentary will gain greatly from watching it again," said Salt Spring Forum manager Julian Paquette. "The film sheds light on how Donald Trump came to power, and what this could mean for democracy."

At 12 noon, following the film, attendees are invited to a reception with light snacks and beverages generously provided by the Country Grocer.

Then, at 12:30 p.m., Chomsky

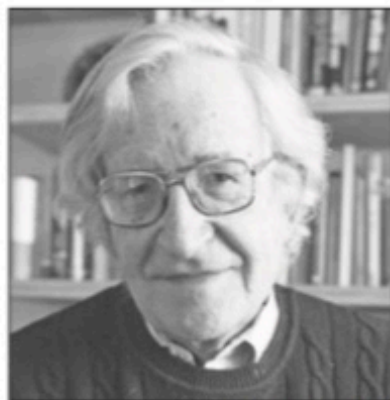


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Noam Chomsky is the Salt Spring Forum's guest speaker on democracy this Friday.

joins the Salt Spring Forum exclusively for a live, fully interactive discussion from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology via video-conferencing software.

Chomsky is professor emeritus at MIT where he taught for more than five decades. A linguist, philosopher, historian, social critic and activist, he is the author of more than 100 books.

Chomsky has been politically engaged throughout his life. His first published article, written when he was only 10 years old, was against fascism. He is renown for both his insightful critiques of political systems and his groundbreaking contributions to linguistics.

No stranger to controversy, Chomsky remains a highly respected and much sought-after thinker who continues to shape public discourse in profound ways.

Salt Spring Island's own Jennifer Abbott, who directed the award-winning documentary *The Corporation*, will moderate the discussion.

Tickets are on sale while quantities last at ArtSpring and Salt Spring Books. The forum will also put 25 tickets, for seats with imperfect sightlines, on sale 10 minutes prior to the 10:30 a.m. event — on a first come, first serve basis.