



Garvan Institute of Medical Research

# Leaders in Science



## Professor Josef Penninger

Scientific Director of IMBA Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, Vienna, Austria

# “From model organisms to new medicines”

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 | 12PM, NAB AUDITORIUM**

**Host: Professor John Mattick**

Josef Penninger received a High School education in classical humanities and studied Medicine, Immunology, and History of Arts in Innsbruck, Austria. After his graduation in 1990 he left Austria to pursue postgraduate studies at the Ontario Cancer Institute in Toronto. From 1994 to 2002, Josef Penninger worked as a lead researcher at the Amgen Research Institute in Toronto affiliated with the University of Toronto and the Ontario Cancer Institute. In 2002, he accepted the appointment as director of the newly established Institute of Molecular Biotechnology of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, IMBA, and moved back to Vienna. Currently, Josef Penninger is Full Professor at the Departments of Immunology and Medical Biophysics at the University of Toronto, Professor of Genetics at the University of Vienna, Austria, and Honorary Professor of the Chinese Academy of Sciences/Peking Union Medical College. Scientifically, his basic approach is to genetically manipulate and change genes in mice and to determine the effects of these mutations in the development of the whole organism and in diseases. Through these mutations, he tries to establish basic principles of development and basic mechanisms of disease pathogenesis.