



Inspiring Stars

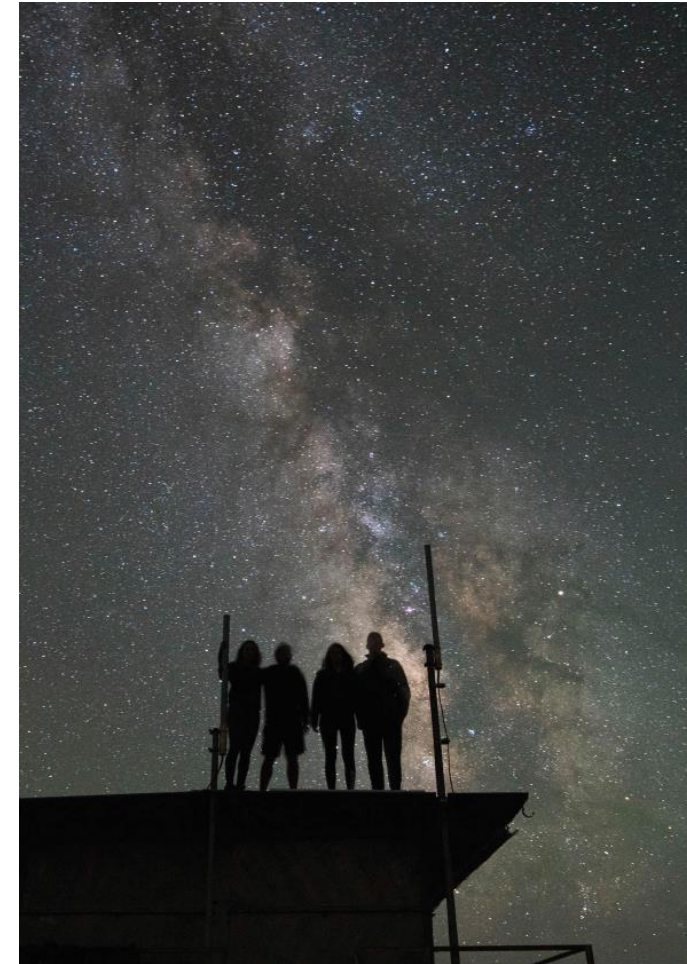
Astronomy for inclusion

Vienna, 14 June 2019

Piero Benvenuti

Astronomy is a very special science...

- The most ancient and universal science
- It has connection with philosophy, poetry, religion, superstition...
- Its fascination persists across ages
- The only science for which the number of amateurs outnumber – by orders of magnitude – the professionals



In 1919 astronomers founded the International Astronomical Union – IAU

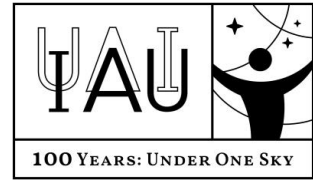


- To promote and safeguard the science of astronomy in all its aspects, including research, communication, education and development, through international cooperation
- To facilitate the preservation and protection of the world cultural and natural heritage of dark and quiet skies
- To use the natural fascination of astronomy for the progress of the society

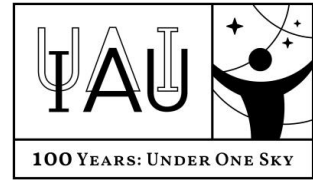


IAU in a nutshell

- 73 National Members (aka Countries)
- More than 13.000 individual members from about 80 Countries
- 9 Thematic Scientific Divisions
- 4 International Offices:
 - ✓ OAO – Astronomy Outreach
 - ✓ OAD – Astronomy for Development
 - ✓ OYA – Young Astronomers
 - ✓ OAE – Astronomy Education (TBD)



2019 – a year of astronomical celebrations



Activities registered in
106 countries/regions



Over 2600 registered events as of April 2019
100 national nodes

- IAU 100yrs
- 50° of Moon landing
- 100th of Einstein GR crucial experiment
- ...

Astronomy for inclusion



WOMEN & GIRLS in Astronomy



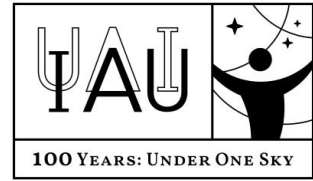
**Women astronomers
in the IAU**

IAU globally: 18%

2018 cohort: 30%

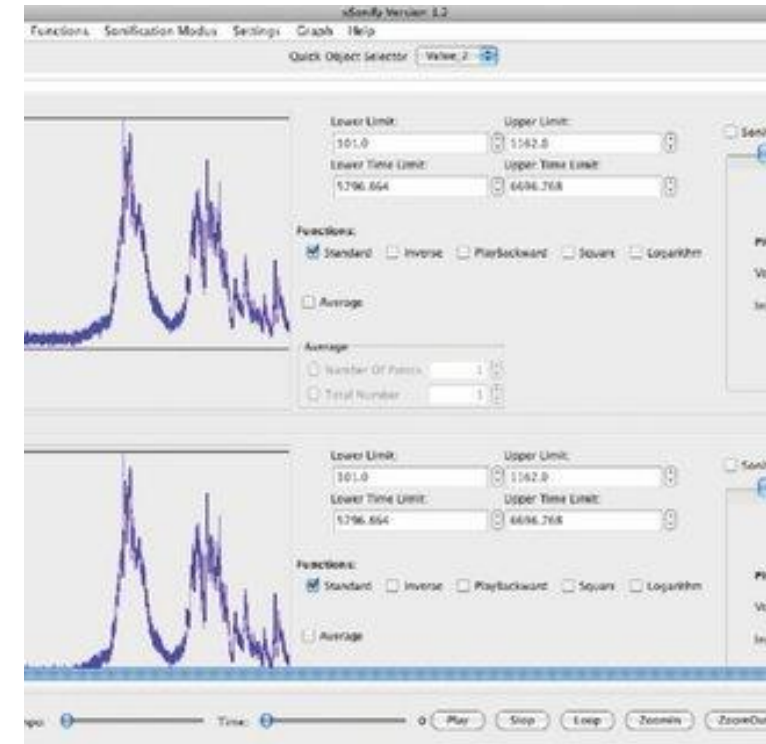
Launched around UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science on February 11th

Inspiring Stars - an inspirational project



- **Everybody, with their own diverse capabilities, shall contribute to the progress of knowledge and wisdom**

Our testimonial – Wanda Díaz-Merced



Data sonification



Inspiring Stars - a travelling exhibit



2019 National Programs planned:

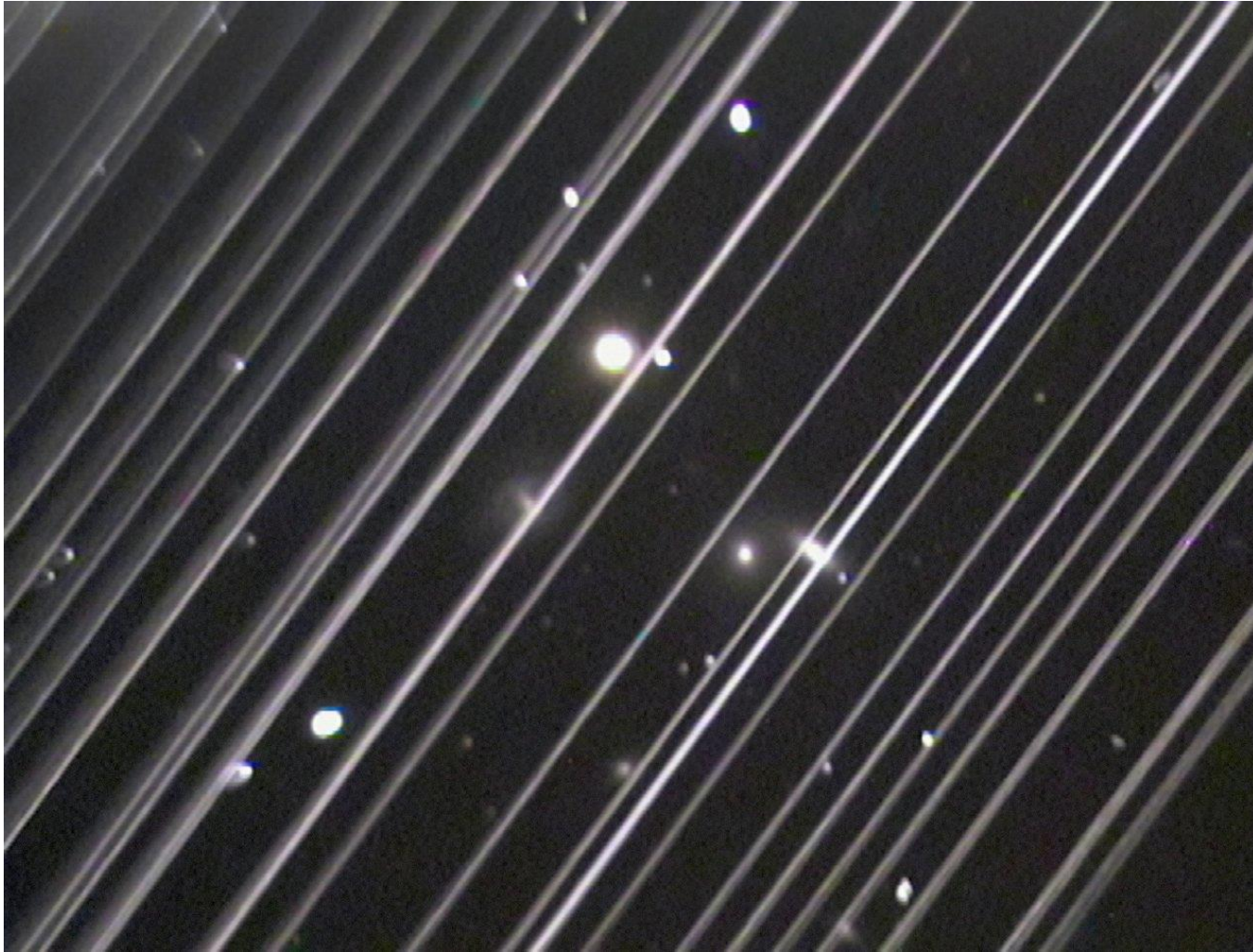
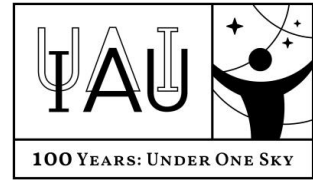
Ethiopia		Italy	
Mongolia		France	
UK		Portugal	
Belgium		Ecuador	
Thailand		Colombia	
Japan		Chile Argentina	

The Inspiring Stars exhibit at UNOOSA

- The exhibit will be presented this afternoon in Room C6 7th floor at 2:00 pm
- A guided visit to the exhibit will follow
- A version of the exhibit will become permanent at UNOOSA
- ... You are all invited
- **THANK YOU, UNOOSA !!**



Will we all become blind-like astronomers ?



- The new constellations of space web satellites are threatening the visibility of the pristine night sky.
- Without impacting the objective of the projects, mitigating measures shall be considered
- IAU believes that the issue should be addressed by COPUOS

<https://www.iau.org/news/announcements/detail/ann19035/>



Name an Exoplanet

IAU 100 gives every country in the world the opportunity to name an exoplanet and its host star

More info at <http://www.nameexoworlds.iau.org/>