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# NEWSLETTER

No 1, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011

## 5th IOAA SILESIA POLAND 2011



### WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?

Today's program

The Opening Ceremony

HUBBLE SPACE TELESCOPE  
– fascinating documentary in 3D

A FEW WORDS IN POLISH

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# Saturday, 27th August 2011

## Today's Schedule

### Students Katowice

- 7<sup>00</sup> - 9<sup>00</sup> breakfast at the hotel
- 9<sup>15</sup> meeting on the buses in front of the hotel
- 10<sup>00</sup> "Hubble 3D" film show in IMAX cinema
- 12<sup>30</sup> - 14<sup>00</sup> lunch at the hotel
- 15<sup>00</sup> - 16<sup>30</sup> team tasks
- 19<sup>00</sup> - 20<sup>00</sup> dinner at the hotel
- 20<sup>00</sup> - 20<sup>30</sup> briefing
- 20<sup>30</sup> - 22<sup>00</sup> getting acquainted with the observational apparatus

### Leaders Kraków

- 7<sup>00</sup> - 8<sup>00</sup> breakfast at the hotel
- 8<sup>00</sup> - 9<sup>00</sup> the translation and printing of team tasks
- 9<sup>30</sup> - 13<sup>00</sup> the discussion of theoretical problems
- 13<sup>00</sup> - 14<sup>00</sup> lunch at the hotel
- 14<sup>30</sup> - 15<sup>30</sup> the discussion of theoretical problems
- 15<sup>30</sup> - 16<sup>30</sup> the broadcasting of the team tasks in Katowice
- 16<sup>30</sup> - 19<sup>00</sup> the discussion and translation of theoretical problems
- 19<sup>00</sup> - 20<sup>00</sup> dinner at the hotel
- 20<sup>00</sup> - 23<sup>00</sup> the translation of theoretical problems

## 5th IOAA Opening Ceremony

A space probe from a foreign planet is scanning the edifice of the Silesian Planetarium. A moment later, the object ascends in a majestic way and disappears on the starlit sky. The presentation, together with the touching film "My Silesia" by Paweł Bogocz greeted the participants of 5th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics.

The official opening ceremony took place in the Entertainment Theatre in Chorzów. For the first time the event is organised in Europe. "I'm proud that the Olympiad is hosted by us," said Adam Matusiewicz, the Marshall of the Silesian Voivodshid. "Once, the region was the centre of Polish heavy industry. Today, it is becoming the centre of modern technologies. I wish all the participants good luck." Lech Motyka, the director of the Silesian Planetarium, and the representative of the Polish educational resort, the minister Jacek Krawczyk, wished the students the same. After a lively and full of funny accents presentation of the teams, Mr Chatief Kunjaya, the General Secretary of the Olympiad, read out the letter written by the Olympiad President, Boonrucksar Soonthornthum. "21st century is the age of knowledge and education. Educating the young astronomers is a long and complicated process. The Olympiad is a brilliant way of promoting this branch of science in the whole world". Almost exactly at noon 30 teams from 27 countries taking part in the Olympic competition heard a very important sentence uttered by Mr Kunjaya: "The 5th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics is opened."

Later, all the guests listened to a thrilling concert of Marcin Wyrostek, a man who can change an accordion into all imaginable music instruments. During his performance, this star of "Poland's got talent" presented such masterpieces as a fragment of Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" and some Balkan melodies. Moreover, into one of the songs, the artist subtly incorporated a "Star Wars" music motif. Nevertheless, it seems that on following days Chorzów will become the place of a peaceful rivalry. The Olympiad is officially opened.

**The photos by Damian Jabłeka**





# IMAX

# Hubble 3D

Hubble images come to vast, three-dimensional life in IMAX movie, "Hubble 3D", that takes audiences through the telescope's 20-year existence and puts them in orbit with astronauts during the latest servicing mission.

The film's goal is to make viewers feel as though they are voyaging through the cosmos, seeing through Hubble's eyes, and peering over the shoulders of astronauts as they work on the telescope – providing an intimacy and immediacy beyond the reach of static images.

The astronomy visualization team at STScI shows how the Hubble 3D images were created. Groundbreaking astronomy visualizations, which allow viewers to soar through objects like the Orion and Eagle nebulae, past stars and embryonic solar systems, were the result of efforts by a group of specialists at the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI).

The team, led by Dr. Frank Summers, drew on the artistic talents of Greg Bacon, Zolt Levay and Lisa Frattare, and the science expertise of Dr. Massimo Roberto and Dr. Jay Anderson. Together they created the Orion Nebula model, developed a way to split the Carina Nebula into layers for 3-D viewing, and created synthetic star fields from Hubble photos, among other feats.

(source: [hubblesite.org](http://hubblesite.org))

## Film review by Jaroslaw Juskiewicz, Science Editor, Polish Radio Katowice

I had been waiting for this moment for a long time. For the first time could I take my 5-year-old daughter to the IMAX-cinema to watch a cosmic film. To tell the truth, two years earlier I had taken her to see „Space Station 3D,“ but at that time Alice was more focused on the signs on the popcorn box than on the film itself. Now, I hoped my daughter would become more interested in cosmos.

"Hubble 3D" was filmed in a spectacular way. The director and the scriptwriter, Toni Myers, did stunning job combining a few different film materials - archival recordings presenting the preparations for the launching of a Hubble telescope in 1990, materials filmed in Houston and at the Cape, photos taken by astronauts at the time of the last servicing mission in 2009 and finally computer animations - into one fascinating blend. Undoubtedly, they are the best film elements. The travel to the inside of the Orion Nebula – the place where new stars and galaxies are born, and the perspective the Universe is observed – in real world something reserved exclusively for God, moved me to tears. I don't often cry in cinemas, seriously!



CREDIT: NASA



CREDIT: NASA

But at that time I probably ran out of my tears supply for the next few years; splendid sequences with 3D stars were not the only moments that touched me. The launching of Atlantis space shuttle literally made me breathless. There was also a whimper of grief that I would never become an astronaut.

It's a brilliant film. Finally, I cannot resist temptation to share a certain reflection with the viewers. Am I the only one who, while looking at millions of stars and galaxies forming the amazing three-dimensional network, associate this view with the map of neurons of the human brain?

# Polish Everyday Phrases

Hello	Witam (formal) / Cześć (informal)	[vitam] / [tcheshtch]
Good morning/day	Dzień dobry	[jen dobre]
Good evening	Dobry wieczór	[dobre vyetchoor]
Excuse me / I'm sorry	Przepraszam	[psheprasham]
Please	Proszę	[proshe]
Thank you	Dziękuję	[jenkuje]
You're welcome	Proszę bardzo	[proshe barco]
Are you Polish?	Czy Pan jest Polakiem? / Czy Pani jest Polką?	[tchy pan yest Polakyem] / [tchy pani yest Polkom]
Do you speak English?	Czy Pan/Pani mówi po angielsku?	[tchy Pan/Pani moovi po angielsku]
Could you speak more slowly, please?	Czy mógłby Pan (m)/Pani (f)mówić wolniej?	[tchy mogwby pan/pani moovic volnyey]
I don't understand	Nie rozumiem	[nye rozumyem]
Yes	Tak	[tak]
No	Nie	[nye]
Open	Otwarte/Czynne	[otwarte/tchyne]
Closed	Zamknięte	[zamknyente]
Goodbye	Do widzenia	[dowicenia]
Good night	Dobranoc	[dobranoc]

## Poland. Practical information.

- The official Polish currency is zloty. It is divided into 100 groszy, abbreviated to gr. Banknotes come in denominations of 10zł, 20zł, 50zł, 100zł and 200zł, and coins in 1gr, 2gr, 5gr, 10gr, 20gr, 50gr, and 1zł, 2zł and 5zł. The banknotes feature Polish kings. They come in different colours and sizes and are easily distinguishable.
- Most towns and cities have bankomaty (ATMs), and the majority accept Visa, MasterCard, Cirrus and Maestro cards.
- Poland's VAT is calculated at three levels: zero (books, press, some basic food products); 7% (most food); and 23% (fine food, hotels, restaurants, petrol, luxury items). The tax is normally included in the advertised price of goods and services.
- Polish is the official and commonly used language. All people use the standard language; dialects may be encountered in Highlands and in some rural regions. English and German are the most common second languages spoken in Poland, though some middle-aged people may also be contacted in Russian.
- Electric current: alternate current, 230 V, 50 Hz. Sockets are identical with those in Germany.
- Telephones: developed fixed-line system completed with mobile-cellular service. International code: 48. Internal direct dialing with automatic extensions.