



Launceston Planetarium
QVMAG

Galileo's Legacy

A TALK BY RENOWNED ASTROPHOTOGRAPHER DAVID MALIN

7.30 pm Wednesday 21 October 2009

Auditorium at Inveresk

Galileo is famous for being among the first to use a telescope to explore the night sky, in 1609. His fame was spread by the rapid publication of his discoveries of previously unseen objects and phenomena and his outspoken views on matters that drew him to the attention of the established church. Today, using telescopes in Earth's orbit and radio telescopes on the ground, we can make images of things we can ever see directly, revealing a Universe much bigger and more dramatic than Galileo could have imagined.

**RSVP by 19 October is essential.
Please call the Museum on 6323 3718.**

This talk will be repeated for the public on Thursday, October 22 at 7.30 pm. Friends will be invited to book for the Thursday public talk if the Wednesday event becomes booked out.

David Malin is the world's best-known astronomical photographer.

He was born in England and trained as a chemist, working for many years with a large international chemical company in the north of England. There he used optical and electron microscope and X-ray diffraction techniques to explore the very small before turning his attention to much larger and more distant things in Australia.

His expertise led him to join the Anglo-Australian Observatory as a photographic scientist and astronomer in 1975.

Using the Anglo-Australian Telescope and the UK Schmidt Telescope, located on Siding Spring Mountain in NSW, David produced a series of stunning images of celestial objects.

David's images made use of special photographic techniques such as unsharp masking, which yielded far more detail than normally seen. His colour images were made using a combination of three separate plates representing red, green and blue light.

David's novel image enhancement techniques quickly led to the discovery of two new types of galaxy. Their discovery was a significant advance in photographic astronomy and research on galaxies.

David is a renowned speaker and writer, inspiring an interest in science and communicating the wonders of the night sky to all in an entertaining and understandable way.

