

# ESO/ESA/IAU/Excellence Cluster 'Universe'

## Astronomy Communication Seminars

— Monthly half-hour seminars about contemporary issues in astronomy communication

Wednesday, 11 March 2009 - 14:00-14:30

ESO Auditorium



## Multi-expressive explorations inside and outside Astronomy

*Ferdinando Patat (ESO)*

**Abstract:** Performed in Italy last May, the show *L'Ombra della Terra* (The Shadow of the Earth) was born out of the desire to share the passion for astronomy with the public. To do this, an unconventional trio was put together: a jazz composer (Glauco Venier), an actor (Massimo Somaglino) and, of course, an astronomer (Ferdinando Patat). The underlying idea was not to give a lecture or teach a lesson, but rather to stir up emotions, and free the public to elaborate with their imagination. It all begins with a monologue, a letter sent to a friend, describing a trip to Paranal. The long way to the Chilean Andes does not stop there; it leads the public much further, treading the fine line between the emotional and the rational sides of human thought. During this talk, Ferdinando Patat will talk about his experience as astronomer/musician, the lessons learnt from the show and will present some movies from the performance.

