

Eyes on the Skies

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THE INVENTION OF THE TELESCOPE has been by far the most revolutionary development in the history of astronomy. For thousands of years, astronomers had to rely on their eyes in unraveling the mysteries of the Universe. The telescope revealed an embarrassment of astronomical riches, and led to a dramatic increase of knowledge about the wider world we live in.

The Eyes on the Skies movie and accompanying book explore the many facets of the telescope — the historical development, the scientific importance, the technological breakthroughs, and also the people behind this ground-breaking invention, their triumphs and failures...

The Eyes on the Skies book will be available in English and German in November 2008. We are discussing collaborations for the Finnish, Italian, Dutch, Chinese, and Portuguese versions, and are looking for publishers for other languages.

The book's and movie's web site www.eyesontheskies.org will be activated during the summer to lead up to the launch promotion campaign.

The book

- Similar in style to the popular "Hubble — 15 years of discovery" (English, German, Portuguese, Finnish, Chinese)
- ~120 pages containing 50 pages of Word text (~20,000 words)
- Aimed at laypeople
- To be launched in November 2008 well before the Christmas 2008 sales in time for the International Year of Astronomy 2009
- Lots of full-page photographs
- Boxes and illustrations give an understandable overview of processes, telescopes and backgrounds.
- Trim size: 247 mm (W) x 297 mm (H)

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The movie

- IYA2009 official DVD
- 53 minutes running time, with narrated text, comments from experts, and one program host
- Visual elements: animations, computer simulations, science results, footage from observatories, interviewees
- On average 8 minutes for each 'chapter'
- Produced by ESA/Hubble (the same team as behind the widely distributed 83 minute movie "Hubble — 15 Years of Discovery")
 - Directed by Lars Lindberg Christensen
 - Visual Design by Martin Kornmesser
- Written by Govert Schilling and Lars Lindberg Christensen
- Presenter: Dr. J aka Dr. Joe Liske from ESO, host of the *Hubblecast* video podcast.
- Subtitles in many different languages (up to 20 languages possible)