XLII National Congress of the Italian Society for the History of Physics and Astronomy



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C'erano una volta le nebulose. Episodi del viaggio oltre i bastioni della Galassia

Tuesday, 27 September 2022 10:40 (25 minutes)

We are preparing a book that introduces the reader to the history of extra-galactic astronomy. The evolution of telescopes in 1700s and the introduction of the photographic plate in the first decades of the 1800s led to the debate on the nature of nebulae in 1920. The last century, widely referred to as The Cosmic Century, has seen unimaginable developments in the study of galaxies, starting with the Milky Way and ending almost as far back as the Big Bang. Aimed at high school students, born out of the experience of "alternanza scuola-lavoro", the book focuses on astronomers, their ideas and techniques. Although rigorous, the book aims to have the lightness of a watercolour, which is why we have chosen to illustrate it only with drawings and explanatory plates.

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