

Sounds of the Universe: Acoustic Astronomy

By Dr. Fiorella Terenzi

Look up at the stars. Can't you hear them? Dr. Fiorella Terenzi is an astrophysicist, musician and professor of physics and astronomy at Florida International University, Miami. Through Dr. Terenzi's ground-breaking research we can now listen to the cosmos. This entertaining and informative multimedia lecture includes sounds from radio galaxies, pulsars, the Sun, Saturn, Earth, the Big Bang, quasars and an x-ray black hole. Learn what sounds can tell us about the Universe, and hear the instrumental harmonies created with the help of celestial bodies, as we expand our human senses and extend them into the cosmos. Dr. Terenzi brings to life an ACOUSTIC UNIVERSE where each celestial object is now recognized thru its acoustic signature- one where the Big Bang and astrophysics theories melded with the world of art and fashion to stand center-stage in a recent showing of Italian fashion powerhouse Ermenegildo Zegna's 2014 men's collection.

BIO: Internationally-renowned astrophysicist, author and recording artist, Dr. Fiorella Terenzi has a doctorate in physics from the University of Milan. In research at the Computer Audio Research Laboratory, University of California, San Diego, she pioneered techniques to convert radio waves from galaxies into sound - released by Island Records on her acclaimed CD "Music from the Galaxies". Her award-winning CD-ROM "Invisible Universe" and best-selling books "Heavenly Knowledge", "Musica Dalle Stelle", "Der Kosmos ist weiblich" weave astronomy and music, science and art into a tapestry for the senses. She has appeared on CNN, The Wall Street Journal, People, Time, Glamour and lectured at UCSD, Stanford, MIT. Ermenegildo Zegna's acclaimed fashion designer Stefano Pilati recently commissioned Dr. Terenzi to create a journey into space, using real images and her acoustic astronomy sounds in a ground-breaking video for Zegna's Fall-Winter 2014 Men's Collection, a collaboration described by the New York Times as "Zegna's Very Big Bang".

Wall Street Journal "Now, thanks to Fiorella Terenzi, an astrophysicist and musician, stargazers can peek through a telescope, glance at the Milky Way and listen to the cosmos. ... Initially, Dr. Terenzi kept acoustic astronomy to herself. But now she turned performer, and Earth people are tuning in."

Time Magazine: Another practitioner on the rise is Italian astrophysicist, Fiorella Terenzi, who has been described as a cross between Madonna and Carl Sagen. Terenzi has used radio telescopes to intercept radio waves from a galaxy 180 million light-years away, then fed them into a computer, applied a sound-synthesis program to convert her data into music and produced "Music From the Galaxies". Result: part New Age, part Buck Rogers sound track, played on an oscilloscope

Setup Requirement:

Audio/Video connection for computer to video project and loudspeakers, vocal microphone.

Dr. Fiorella Terenzi
Physics & Astronomy
Florida International University, Physics Dept CP 243
University Park, Miami Florida 33199 USA; Phone: 305.348.1287

Fterenzi@fiu.edu

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiorella_Terenzi

