

**Report on the 1<sup>st</sup> year (June 2023-June 2024) of activities  
of the “Astronomy and Culture” SEA commission**

Organization of the **“Astronomy and Culture” Symposium**, that was celebrated in 16-17 July 2024 in Granada (Spain), within the framework of the XVI Meeting of the Spanish Astronomy Society (SEA2024)

**Sample of initiatives related to the goals of the “Astronomy and Culture” commission in which  
its members have participated from June 2023 to July 2024**

**January-June 2024**

**Montserrat Villar** gave the conference **“2000 years of reflections about extraterrestrial life”** at the **International Astrobiology School organized by AbGradE** (Astrobiology Graduates in Europe) and the Arcetri Astrobiology Laboratory. Florence, 05/24/2024.

The Prado Museum published on 04/03/2024 the documentary **“Reflections of the cosmos in the Prado Museum”** that was made on the occasion of the exhibition itinerary of the same title in this museum in 2022. It has a **script and presentation by Montserrat Villar**, curator of said itinerary.

**Juan Antonio Belmonte** was speaker in the course **“Archaeoastronomy, methodologies and approaches for cultural astronomy”** (Incipit-CSIC, Santiago de Compostela, 8-12 April 2024). He participated imparting with three lectures:

- **Archaeology, culture and heritage**
- **Middle East: Egypt and Kush**
- **Middle East: Fertile Crescent**

**Juan Antonio Belmonte** co-authored the book chapter: **“Caral, the Moon, and the River in the Preceramic Andes”**, C. González-García, J.A. Belmonte. In CALA (Cultural Astronomy in Latin America). Ed. S. Gullberg and C. Zen Vasconcellos (2024), 135-155. Singapur, World Scientific.

**Nerea Maestu** gave the conference **“Fiery stars that appear in the air: visual codification of comets in Late Middle Ages”**, at the Seminarios del **Centro de Astrobiología (CAB-CSIC)**. Torrejón de Ardoz, 27/04/2024.

**Nerea Maestu** gave the conference **“Astros de vapor y fuego: imágenes de cometas en la Baja Edad Media entre el tratado científico y la crónica histórica”**, at **Encuentros en la Quinta: Seminario de Investigadores en Historia del Arte**, held at the **Facultad de Geografía e Historia** of the Complutense University of Madrid. Madrid, 13/06/2024.

**Amelia Ortiz-Gil** was involved in the **organization of the annual “Aula del Cel” exhibition** with artistic astronomical creations by Primary and High-School students. **Museo de Historia Natural UV**, 16-19 June.

**Enrique Pérez Montero** participated together with CSIC researchers Carmen Fernández (chemist) and Juan Francisco Gibaja (archaeologist) in the **round table “The universe, life and humanity”** that had a multidisciplinary and inclusive perspective. 04/10/2024 at the **ONCE Bibliographic Service Assembly Hall** (Madrid)

**Ana Ulla Miguel** was co-coordinator, together with Minia Manteiga Outeiro, of the course **“Frontiers, from the origin of the universe to space exploration”**, organised by the **Royal Galician Academy of Sciences (RAGC)** as part of their cycles **“Advances in Sciences and Technology”**. The course, open to the public, took place in four different Galician locations, from **June 10 to 13/2024**.

### June-December 2023

**Montserrat Villar** gave the **conference “The beauty of the cosmos” at Caixaforum** (Madrid, 10/18/2023) within the cycle **“The logic of beauty”**, which explored aesthetics from the scientific method.

**Fernando Buitrago** participated in the **round table “Let's think about cosmology: from the Big Bang to dark matter”** within the Philosophy cycle **“Valladolid piensa”** (11/17/2023) in the auditorium of the **Science Museum of Valladolid**

**Juan Antonio Belmonte** co-authored two books:

- **“Los paisajes culturales y el celaje en los sitios de la UNESCO: canarias como paradigma”**, C. Marín and J.A. Belmonte Avilés; Las Palmas, Gobierno de Canarias (2023). ISBN13: 978-84-7947-835-3
- **“Astronomy of Ancient Egypt: a cultural perspective”** J.A. Belmonte and J. Lull. Cham, Springer (2023). ISBN 978-3-031-11828-9

**Nerea Maestu** also gave the **conference “Searching for comets in Late Medieval manuscripts”** at the **Helena Avelar Seminar on Ancient Astronomy and Astrology**, held at the Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia da **Universidade de Lisboa**. Lisboa, 23/11/2023.

**Nerea Maestu** gave the **conference “Del pergamino a la piedra: visiones del cosmos en los siglos del románico”** at the **“V Jornadas sobre Románico en Segovia”**: "Templum, iter ad caelum: construir mirando al cielo", organized by Caminos del Románico. Segovia, 18/09/2023

**Enrique Pérez Montero** authored the **book “Temporal encounters between astronomy and prehistory”**, published by **Ed. Catarata** in September 2023, also with a transversal approach.