

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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The University of Arizona's Lunar and Planetary Laboratory presents the ***Art of Planetary Science 2023: Big Worlds, Small Worlds***, an exhibition of art celebrating the beauty and elegance of science.

The exhibition features 174 works of fine art from Tucson and around the world inspired by the solar system, the universe, and the scientific data we use to explore it. We also present art created from the images, data, equations, and instruments used to study the cosmos, revealing the underlying meaning that inspires scientists in their work. Being able to view Data Art and Fine Art side by side offers insights into the cosmic arena in which we reside.

The special theme of this year's exhibition, *Big Worlds, Small Worlds*, aims to highlight the vast range of scales of objects in our universe; from asteroids, to Earth and other planets, to black holes.

The galleries open on **Friday, February 17th, 2023**. Art will be displayed in-person at the Kuiper Space Sciences building on 2/17 (5-9pm), Saturday 2/18 (1-5pm), and Sunday 2/19 (1-5pm) (all times are MST).

Along with our galleries, we will have out of this world opening night events. Free telescope viewing will be presented by the University of Arizona's Astronomy Club from 7-9 pm on Friday 2/17. Telescopes will be viewing planetary objects and bright astronomical objects in our current Tucson night sky. Local Tucson band, Daytrails, will also play a free music set outside the Kuiper Building on Friday, 2/17 (7-9pm).

Space-themed clothing is also encouraged on opening night, Friday 2/17! It could be as small as wearing your favorite space t-shirt or as big as dressing up as an entire celestial object.

Winning art pieces will be announced on our website and are listed below. Members of the public can cast their vote for their favorite art for the "People's Choice Award" during the in-person exhibition weekend.

Data Art Winners:

- 1st Place: Krug, Title: "Chaos in the Cosmos"
2nd Place: Malhotra, Title: "Stormy seas of chaos in the three body problem"
3rd Place: Meng, Title: "Rock Glacier Confetti: The Only Constant is Change"

Fine Art Winners:

- 1st Place: Busby, Title: "107"
2nd Place: Klar, Title: "Night of Falling Stars"
3rd Place: Krzemień, Title: "Jupiter Clouds"

Big Worlds, Small Worlds Winners:

- 1st Place: Vermette, Title: "Kodachrome Basin"
2nd Place: Kelly, Title: "Empty and Full"
3rd Place: Daytrails, Title: "Strangers"

The Lunar and Planetary Laboratory (LPL) is an academic institution that pursues scholarly research and education across the broad discipline of planetary and solar systems science. *The Art of Planetary Science* exhibition is a volunteer outreach event founded and coordinated by the graduate students, staff, and scientists of LPL.

Kuiper Space Sciences Building
1629 E. University Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona, 85721

For more information, go to www.lpl.arizona.edu/art or email lpl-art@list.arizona.edu



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