

JOURNAL OF ASTRONOMICAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE

ISSN 1440-2807

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Papers on all aspects of astronomical history are considered, including studies that place the evolution of astronomy in political, economic and cultural contexts. Papers on astronomical heritage may deal with historic telescopes and observatories, conservation projects (including the conversion of historic observatories into museums of astronomy), and historical or industrial archaeological investigations of astronomical sites and buildings. All papers are refereed prior to publication. There are no page charges, and *in lieu* of reprints authors are sent a pdf or Word camera-ready version of their paper so that they can generate their own reprints on demand.

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COVER IMAGE

This shows Jusepe Ribiera's oil-on-canvas painting, "Allegory of Sight", which is in the Franz Meyer Museum in Mexico City. Painted in about 1615, this is thought to depict the Neapolitan astronomer Francesco Fontana, who claims to have invented the astronomical telescope (i.e. with two convex lenses) in 1608. For more on Fontana and the birth of the astronomical telescope see the paper by Paolo Molaro on pages 271–288 in this issue of JAHH.