



The World At Night

One People, One Sky

www.twanight.org



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Abstract

The World at Night (TWAN) is an international collaborative network of astronomical photographers, dedicated to produce and present a collection of stunning photographs and time-lapse videos of the world's landmarks and celestial attractions. TWAN is a designated special project for International Year of Astronomy 2009.

Established in 2007, TWAN has rapidly developed an international collection of astronomical photography. Over 46 countries and over 330 sites around the world are represented in The World At Night. Almost 100 TWAN events were held during the International Year of Astronomy.

TWAN's long term goals will ensure that a global audience will continue to benefit from TWAN's astronomical photography exhibits and initiatives.

The Goal of The World At Night

The goal of the World At Night is simple, yet large in scope; to create a collection of stunning photographs of the world's most beautiful and historic sites against the night-time backdrop of stars, planets and celestial events (Simmons and Tafreshi, 2008).



The World At Night photographers

The team of 29 TWAN photographers make up the core network of The World At Night. TWAN members are based throughout the world, including Australia, USA, Greece, Spain, Sweden, France, Korea, Finland, Germany, Iran, Russia, Japan, Taiwan, Chile, Hungary, England and Canada.



The World at Night

With more than 1380 photographs and timelapse videos, The World At Night has developed an important archive of images, for use in photographic exhibitions and a wide range of complementary uses. The TWAN archive continues to grow as new astronomical events and new regions are added to the collection.

TWAN members use a variety of photographic techniques, including astronomical time-exposure photography, panoramic, 360° spherical images and time-lapse photography.



Future Directions.

The World At Night is expanding its global activities, including exhibitions, imaging missions and workshops in existing and new regions.

Building on the success of TWAN during IYA 2009, future developments will include;

- Participation in the Global Astronomy Month 2010 in conjunction with Astronomers Without Borders,
- Further develop the TWAN photo archive featuring World Heritage sites,
- Continue to promote dark sky awareness,
- TWAN books, produced in a variety of languages,
- TWAN film productions,
- Further collaboration with media and popular online sources, such as National Geographic,
- TWAN website in major non-English languages,
- New online informative sections on TWAN website, and
- TWAN tours to some of the most exotic places to see and photograph the night sky.

Contact TWAN

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Achievements during IYA2009

The World at Night has, during the International Year of Astronomy, 2009, exhibited in many countries around the world.

TWAN began IYA2009 with an exhibit at UNESCO, Paris, during the International Astronomical Union Symposium 260 "The Role of Astronomy in Society and Culture". Since then, almost 100 TWAN events have taken place around the world, in countries including:

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|----------------|-------------|------------|
| • France | • Chile | • Thailand |
| • Germany | • Australia | • Hungary |
| • Korea | • Norway | • Nepal |
| • Italy | • Hong Kong | • Sweden |
| • USA | • Brazil | |
| • South Africa | • Algiers | |

Further reading.

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