

The Keck Institute for Space Studies presents the following lecture:

Telescopes, Astronomical Discoveries, and Their Influence on Literature

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Thursday, September 26, 2019

4:30 PM Refreshments 5:00 PM Lecture

Lees-Kubota Lecture Hall
Guggenheim Building
California Institute of Technology



"I found and visited the famous Galileo grown old..."

These are the words of John Milton in 1644. His most famous work, the epic poem Paradise Lost, was published in the wake of transformative discoveries and controversies enabled by the use of the telescope for astronomy.

Centuries earlier, Geoffrey Chaucer wrote a technical treatise on an astronomical instrument, the astrolabe; it was one of his most widely circulated works, second only to The Canterbury Tales.

In this talk, the speaker will discuss Chaucer and Milton and other artists who grappled with developments in astronomy, and who incorporated an updated understanding of the universe into their dialogue and imagery.



Seating is limited and is available on a first come, first served basis.