

Making cosmic particle accelerators visible and audible

In a collaboration between astroparticle physicists, animation artists from the award-winning Science Communication Lab, and musician Carsten Nicolai (a.k.a. Alva Noto), two cosmic particle accelerators have been brought to life: the massive binary star Eta Carinae, and the exploding star, which resulted in the gamma-ray burst GRB190829A. For Eta Carinae, the computer-generated images are close to reality because the measured orbital, stellar and wind parameters were used for this purpose. Particle acceleration in the jet of GRB190829A has also been animated at a level of detail not seen before. The internationally acclaimed multimedia artist Carsten Nicolai, who uses the pseudonym Alva Noto for his musical works, exclusively composed the sound for the animations. The multimedia projects aim at making the discoveries more accessible to the general public, and to mediate scientific results and their reference to reality from an artistic point of view

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