

# Telescope shoots for the stars

## SALT to provide better view of space

BY DON CAMPBELL  
STAFF WRITER

Stars, galaxies and quasars a billion times too faint to be seen with the naked eye soon will be viewable.

Expected to be completed in November, the Southern African Large Telescope is the largest telescope in the Southern Hemisphere.

With a hexagonal mirror array 11 meters wide, it will allow people to see light as faint as a candle flame at the distance of the moon, according to the SALT Web site.

A team of 11 partners in South Africa, Poland, the U.S., Germany, New Zealand and the United Kingdom have worked on the telescope since January 2000. The project had an estimated \$30 million budget.

UNC, Rutgers University, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Carnegie Mellon University and Dartmouth College are the U.S. universities on board.

While some of those schools had

direct involvement in instrument building, UNC's contribution primarily was financial, said astronomy professor Daniel Reichart.

UNC is a 3-percent partner, which required a \$1 million buy-in. That share was well worth it, Reichart said, because there are only eight astronomers on faculty.

"We're kind of a small group, but that means our students get tremendous opportunities," he said.

SALT rounds off a three-telescope series. The Panchromatic Robotic Optical Monitoring and Polarimetry Telescopes and Southern Observatory for Astrophysical Research, both in Chile, are the other telescopes in the series.

SOAR is currently in the commissioning phase, Reichart said, and is beginning early science.

"PROMPT collaborators will have access in January," he said. "We'll begin training students in the spring and the teaching method will be incorporated probably by the next academic year."

Together, the telescopes make for quite the educational tool, said Gerald Cecil, an astronomy professor involved with the project.

"The interesting thing about these telescopes is that they all work together," Reichart said.

"PROMPT finds and identifies objects, then we follow up with SOAR ... then as the earth rotates, SALT monitors them much more closely."

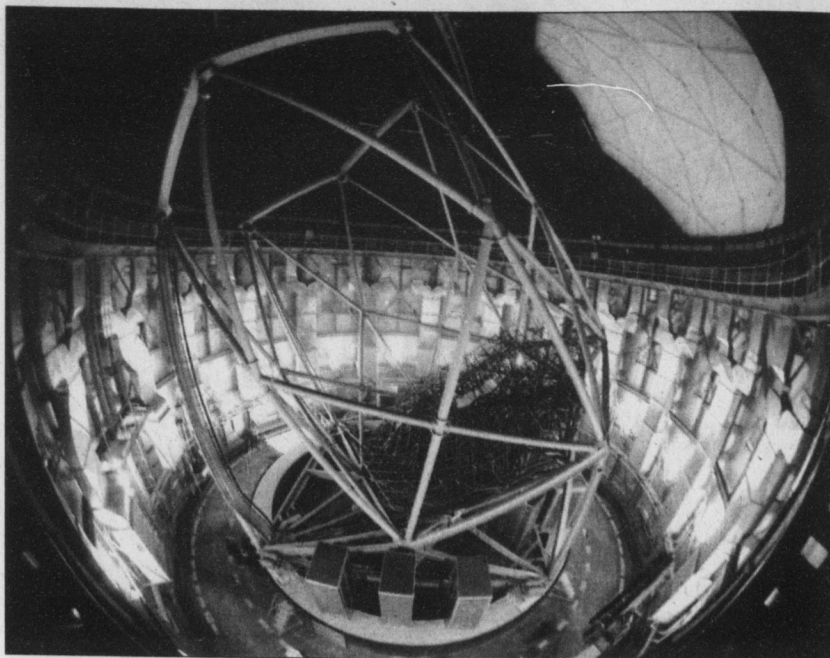
N.C. high school students at all levels will have Internet access to visuals from all three satellites and will be able to interact with SOAR and PROMPT.

SALT is too large for interactivity, Cecil said, so it will be more of an information provider for students.

UNC students not only will have access to SALT but also will be able to propose projects on it and receive Internet results on a slight delay.

Reichart said, "We now have more guaranteed access to the southern hemisphere sky than any U.S. academic institution."

Contact the University Editor at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).



COURTESY OF DANIEL REICHAUT

The photo depicts the inner workings of the Southern African Large Telescope, which is due for completion in November. UNC helped fund the construction of the telescope, which is the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.

# Professor's film earns circuit spot

BY JACKY BRAMMER  
STAFF WRITER

There is no film department at the University, but that doesn't mean there is not any film.

One University filmmaker in particular, who won an award at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival for her work, is gaining regional recognition for her abstract animation films.

Communications professor Francesca Talenti recently had some of her work picked up by the Southern Circuit tour, a yearly program that showcases independent filmmakers to a southern audience.

"The biggest goal is audience development for independent film in the South," said tour Director Susan Leonard.

Southern Circuit is designed to support the independent film business and provide a dialogue between the filmmaker and audience, Leonard said.

The tour, now in its 30th year, receives submissions from a wide variety of filmmakers from all backgrounds. It is a program of the South Carolina Arts Commission



Professor Francesca Talenti garners regional recognition for her abstract animation films.

and local sponsors.

A young New York University film student named Spike Lee is among the people who have had their films considered for the tour. Lee, who went on to direct the critically acclaimed film "Do the Right Thing," actually was declined a spot on the tour at the time.

But the tour does select a wide variety of artists for its showcase. Organizers also send out invitations to established artists in hopes of gaining their participation.

Talenti is one such artist. "She has a range of visual styles but her sensibility is I think the outstanding feature — how she combines these elements is unusual," Leonard said.

"There are surprises in the elements of the image."

After all the entries have been received through open solicitation and invitation, tour organizers typically choose from about 60.

That number is soon narrowed to 45 through a pre-screening process.

Six finalists are selected to be on the Southern Circuit's tour. This year, the tour will be going through six southern cities in Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi and Virginia.

"It's an honor," said Talenti on being selected for the tour.

"I think it'll be fun — a week of visiting the South and presenting my work."

Southern Circuit tour representatives said they look forward to the event and the inherent exposure.

"There is an untapped audience for many of these films," Leonard said, noting the growing popularity of independent films.

"It says something about the changing movie culture and changing lifestyles of the audiences."

Contact the A&E Editor at [artsdesk@unc.edu](mailto:artsdesk@unc.edu).

## POLICE LOG

■ A generator was reported stolen at 5 p.m. Monday from a home on Willow Drive, Chapel Hill police reports state. The victim reported that a \$400 generator was removed from his porch.

■ A larceny was reported at the Pharmacy Ambulatory Care Center on Monday, according to University police reports.

An employee of the center reported that \$200 was stolen from her wallet, which was placed on a filing cabinet between Sept. 30 and Oct. 15, reports state.

■ A larceny was reported Monday by a UNC student, according to University police reports. Two bicycle wheels were stolen from a bike secured on a rack between Connor and Winston residence halls, police reports state.

A student reported that the wheels, valued at \$50, were stolen sometime between 8 p.m. Oct. 12 and 4 p.m. Oct. 16, according to reports.

■ A Chapel Hill man reported larceny from a vehicle Monday morning, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

The victim reported the wheels and tires, valued at \$500, stolen from his green 1995 Jeep Wrangler at 8 a.m. from the corner of Village Drive and Bluff Trail, reports state.

■ A Durham man was arrested Monday evening on charges of larceny, according to Chapel Hill police reports.

Maurice Antonio Baines, 34, was arrested without incident at Eastgate Shopping Center, 1800 E. Franklin St., and released on a written promise to appear in district criminal court Nov. 28, reports state.

■ A Chapel Hill man was arrested Monday night on charges of trespassing, Chapel Hill police reports state.

Ronney Eugene Jones, 53, was warned by police not to return to the Kangaroo Texaco station at 1501 E. Franklin St., and was arrested when he came back one hour later, according to reports.

He was released from Orange County Jail on a \$100 secured bond and is scheduled to appear Nov. 28 in district criminal court.

■ A purse and cell phone belong-

ing to a Raleigh woman were stolen Monday evening, Chapel Hill police reports state.

Both items, valued at \$50 each, were reported stolen at 6:40 p.m. from Hold Your Own, 1800 E. Franklin St., according to reports.

■ A Chapel Hill man was issued a trespassing warning Monday for suspected panhandling at McCorkle Place, University police reports state.

Officers responded to a suspicious person call at McCorkle Place behind Hyde Hall. Willie Graham Burton, 41, was photographed and asked to leave campus, according to police reports.

■ A UNC student reported damage to her vehicle Monday afternoon, according to University police reports.

The student discovered damage to her 2003 Dodge Neon on Country Club Road on Saturday morning, reports state.

The officer who responded said the damage appeared as if someone had jumped on the hood of the car. The victim reported seeing similar damage on the car parked behind her, according to police reports.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ Carolina V-Day Initiative is looking for a director(s) for its production of The Vagina Monologues. If interested, pick up a director's proposal form at the information hub in the Student Union or e-mail [jboos@email.unc.edu](mailto:jboos@email.unc.edu). Return forms to the hub or via e-mail today or during fall break.

■ Orange County Girl Scouts will continue running their weeklong "Blanket the Community" service project today. Donate new or clean blankets to benefit local women's shelters and foster homes, among other organizations. For a list of drop-off sites, go to [www.pinesofcarolina.org](http://www.pinesofcarolina.org) or call 1-800-282-GIRL.

■ The Chapel Hill Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. today in town hall. It will host public hearings on amendments to the land-use ordinance and a special-use permit for the Family House at UNC Hospitals and a concept plan for a clinical facilities at UNC Hospitals.

■ The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Carrboro Elementary media center. The board will consider the approval of a district technology plan and hold a work session on implementing a seven-period schedule for the 2006-07 school year.

■ The Orange County Democratic

Women will host a forum for Carrboro and Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education candidates at 7:30 p.m. today in the Southern Human Services building, 2501 Homestead Rd.

■ There will be a candlelight vigil at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Five Points Park, across from Peace Fire Galleries. The event is called "Remembering The Victims" and is for domestic abuse victims.

■ Ladyfest, a festival designed to celebrate and encourage the artistic and organizational talents of women, will be held from Friday to Sunday in Durham for the first time. There will be various workshops and musical performances.

■ Robin & Linda Williams and Their Fine Group will perform at 7 p.m. Friday at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Durham. The event will benefit Urban Ministries of Durham.

■ There will be a poetry slam at 8 p.m. Friday at Hayti Heritage Center in Durham. The center is located at 804 Old Fayetteville St. Tickets are \$10 for the public and \$5 for participating poets, senior citizens and students with valid ID.

■ The Tito Puento Jr. Orchestra will play with the Duke Jazz Ensemble and Duke Djembe Ensemble at 8

p.m. Friday in Baldwin Auditorium. Admission is \$5 for students. Senior citizens get in free.

■ Chris Cates & the MasterPlan will be playing at 10 p.m. Friday at Goldies, 137 E. Franklin St.

■ Nathan Asher & the Infantry will continue its Sex Without Love album release tour Saturday at the Local 506. Admission is free.

■ An exhibit featuring abstract paintings and blown glass opens at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Somerhill Gallery in Chapel Hill.

■ 100 Men in Black Male Chorus is performing its annual concert at 5 p.m. Sunday at King's Park International Church. The concert is free to the public.

To make a calendar submission, visit [www.dailytarheel.com](http://www.dailytarheel.com) for a list of submission policies and contacts. Events must be sent in by noon the preceding publication date.

### The Daily Tar Heel

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