

Vistas de la Galaxia



Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile/ESO

The recently released book *Vistas de la Galaxia* (Vistas of the Galaxy) by Dante Minniti, Joyce Pullen and Ignacio Toledo describes some of the discoveries of the VISTA Variables in the *Via Lactea* (VVV) public survey being conducted with the Visible and Infrared Survey Telescope for Astronomy (VISTA).

VVV is a near-infrared survey of the Galactic Bulge, including the monitoring of many variable stars, to determine the structure and properties of the central 520 square degrees of the Galaxy. The PI is Dante Minniti of Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. The survey was described in Saito et al. (2010). One of the recent results from this survey (Saito et al., 2012) is the 84-million-star colour-magnitude diagram and density map of

the central ~ 315 square degrees of the Galaxy, featured on p. 44–45 and in Release eso1242.

References

- Minniti, D., Pullen, J. & Toledo, I. 2012, *Vistas de la Galaxia*, Ograma Impresores, Santiago
 Saito, R. K. et al. 2010, *The Messenger*, 141, 24
 Saito, R. K. et al. 2012, *A&A*, 544, 147

DVD of *Europe to the Stars*

To celebrate its 50th anniversary year, ESO has released the documentary *Europe to the Stars – ESO's first 50 years of Exploring the Southern Sky*. The DVD is included here with this 150th issue of *The Messenger*.

The movie consists of eight chapters each focusing on an aspect of ESO Observatories and is presented by Joe Liske (Dr J). The running time is 63 minutes and includes bonus material. The narration language is English and there are subtitles in 20 languages.

