

"In Search of our Cosmic Origins" lasts 30 minutes, and will be available in multiple languages. The show will be presented in many planetariums in Europe and throughout the world, with accompanying material.

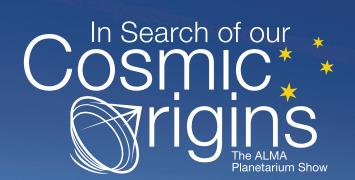
The ALMA Project is a partnership between the scientific communities of East Asia, Europe and North America with Chile. ESO is the European partner in ALMA.

Please visit www.cosmicorigins.org for more details.











In Search of our Cosmic Origins

"In Search of our Cosmic Origins" is an inspiring show, introducing ALMA, the largest astronomical project in existence. Follow us on two interwoven journeys, through the Chilean Andes and through the Universe. ALMA, the Atacama Large Millimeter/ submillimeter Array, is the leading telescope for observing the cool Universe — the relic radiation of the Big Bang, and the molecular gas and dust that constitute the building blocks of stars, planetary systems, galaxies, and life itself. It is currently being built in the extreme and arid environment of the Chajnantor plateau, at 5000 metres altitude in the Chilean Andes, and will start scientific observations around 2011.

About 400 years ago, in Padua, Italy, Galileo observed the sky with a new instrument, the telescope, and our view of the world was transformed. Now, follow "In Search of our Cosmic Origins" with our guide, the young astronomer Ariane, as we discover how astronomers are continuing Galileo's guest to understand the Universe. ALMA is a revolutionary astronomical telescope, comprising a state-of-the-art array of 66 giant 12-metre and 7-metre diameter antennas observing at millimetre and submillimetre wavelengths. Ariane takes us on a journey from ALMA's unique site high in Chile's arid Atacama region, through our Milky Way and onward to some of the most distant galaxies, seen as they were in the early Universe. Closer to home, we learn about the formation of stars and planets, and how ALMA will help us answer questions about our origins.