



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA



VENICE ASIAGO 2016

DATE: 23rd August 2016

TIME: 9:00 – 10:15

LOCATION: Osservatorio Astronomico di Asiago, via dell'Osservatorio, 8; Asiago, Vicenza

Comets: from ancient China to modern Astrophysics

Prof. Cesare Barbieri

University of Padova

ABSTRACT

During this lecture I will first speak about comets as seen in the past millennia by several civilizations, including Chinese astrologers, and the significance attributed to their apparition. Starting from the fifteenth century, observations became more and more accurate and scientifically oriented, leading to the present day view of comets as important constituents of our Solar System.

DATE: 23rd August 2016

TIME: 10:30 – 12:00

LOCATION: Osservatorio Astronomico di Asiago, via dell'Osservatorio, 8; Asiago, Vicenza

Comets in space: from Giotto to Rosetta

Prof. Cesare Barbieri

University of Padova

ABSTRACT

Observing comets with ground telescopes, the only way possible until 50 years ago, provided and still provides many important contributions. Sending scientific instruments very close to the nucleus has the unique advantage of gaining high spatial and temporal resolution, fundamental for understanding the characteristics of the nucleus and the complex chemical-physical processes that occur there. Two space missions are extremely important, the European Giotto 30 years ago and the still ongoing Rosetta, which will be described in detail.

FURTHER READINGS

1. Yeomas, D.K. and Kiang, T. (1981). The long-term motion of comet Halley. *Mon. Not. Roy. Astron. Soc.*, 197, 633-646.
2. Other provided by lecturer.