

Film series commemorates 400th Anniversary of Kepler's birth

May 24, 1972

A series of short films, made to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the birth of German astronomer Johannes Kepler, will be shown at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, June 1, in room 2722 of the Undergraduate Sciences Building at the University of California, San Diego.

The showing, to be presented by Dr. Martin W. Wierschin, Associate Professor of German Literature and German Philology at UCSD, is free and open to the public.

The films are "The Stars," "The Outlawed Astronomer," "Kepler and His Work," and "Retracing Johannes Kepler's Life." They were furnished to the campus by the Goethe Institute of Munich, Germany.

Kepler, born in 1571, intended to discover "the harmony of the universe" and succeeded in formulating the three basic laws of planetary motion. The films provide an insight into Kepler's fascinating life, work, and ideas. They depict the interesting relationships between Kepler's discoveries, modern astronomy, and modern surrealist art. They also provide a look at the cultural background of an era of religious tensions and political unrest.

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