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Book Review: The Cambridge Atlas of Herschel Objects

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The Cambridge atlas of Herschel objects



Mullaney, James. by James Mullaney and Wil Tirion Cambridge, 2011

183p, 0521138175 \$35.00, 9780521138178 \$35.00

LC Call Number: [QB65](#)

Experienced observer Mullaney and celestial cartographer Tirion have compiled an excellent observing reference on the nebulous objects that William and Caroline Herschel cataloged two centuries ago. Although they did not know it, the Herschels truly ushered in the modern age of extragalactic astronomy. The atlas begins with a short biography of the Herschels, observing tips, a concise observing list of the best "Herschel showpieces," and useful references. It is spiral bound in a large "night friendly" format, with lightly colored alternate lines in tables to facilitate low-light reading. The bulk of the atlas consists of charts and data tables for all 2,500-plus Herschel objects, organized in declination bands from north polar cap to south, each in order of right ascension. Special charts are provided for the rich fields in Coma and the Magellanic Clouds. The charts are of high quality--similar to those in Tirion's previous sky maps. Many other atlases list deep sky objects, but Mullaney and Tirion claim this is the only one with all the Herschel objects. Any deep-sky observer will want a copy.

Summing Up: Highly recommended. Students of all levels and general readers/observers.

Reviewer: [T. D. Oswalt](#), Florida Institute of Technology

Recommendation: Highly recommended

Readership Level: General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Two-Year Technical Program Students

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: [Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy](#)

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