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Book Review: From the Realm of the Nebulae to Populations of Galaxies: Dialogues on a Century of Research, Astrophysics and Space Science Library, 435

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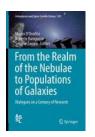
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From the realm of the nebulae to populations of galaxies : dialogues on a century of research , Astrophysics and space science library, 435



ed. by Mauro D'Onofrio, Roberto Rampazzo, and Simone Zaggia Springer, 2016 785p bibl index afp, 9783319310046 \$279.00, 9783319310060 \$219.00 LC Call Number: QB857

How do astronomers know about galaxies that are millions of light-years away, even if they only appear as fuzzy spots in the sky? This book has the answer. The publisher's description as "a short stopover, a moment of self-reflection of the past century of achievements" in extragalactic research is an understatement. This is a remarkably detailed, 800-page compendium of information currently known about galaxies, told in an unusual question and answer interview format by dozens of experts in the field. This approach offers the kind of experience that can typically only be found in a professional meeting. Beginning with the initial discovery of the Milky Way galaxy, readers are led through the Local Group galaxies, all the way to the edge of the observable universe. Along the way, the observational data, technologies used, and theoretical models are put into their historical context. This 800-page book is well referenced and makes excellent use of diagrams and images, many of which appear in color. It is an essential reference for any individual with a technical interest in galaxies.

Summing Up: Essential. Upper-division undergraduates and above; faculty and professionals.

Reviewer: T. D. Oswalt, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Recommendation: Essential Readership Level: Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Researchers/Faculty, Professionals/Practitioners Interdisciplinary Subjects: Subject: Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy Choice Issue: apr 2017 vol. 54 no. 8