

**Dear Readers,**

Dive into the world of pictures – pictures from space, pictures from cities and life on our planet and pictures from the nano world. Let us fascinate you with images that deliver factual information as well as tell stories about the variety of life. Marcel Proust wrote that “the writer’s work is merely a kind of optical instrument that makes it possible for the reader to discern what, without this book, he would perhaps never have seen in himself.”

**From the vastness of the universe**

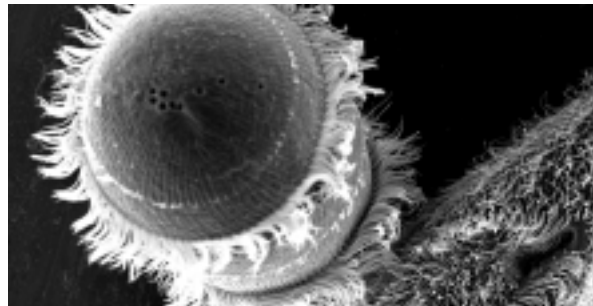
Pictures from space, as difficult as they are to make, give us an idea of how immense the universe really is. For centuries, or rather millennia, mankind has been fascinated and impressed by the beauty of the cosmos. For thousands of years, we have attempted to interpret and understand the inner workings of the heavens. Our knowledge of how and why has been increasing for hundreds of years. In the beginning, man simply observed the light from the stars and attributed laws to it. The first optical instruments provided us with more detailed images of the stars and also helped us discover moons and rings. Much of the knowledge from this time led to a heliocentric view of the universe. Today, we leave our planet to explore the universe, to explore our origins and to see the universe up close. Using state-of-the-art instruments, we analyze the light from the heavens and get an idea of just how complex the universe actually is. The more of it we know, the more we are amazed at how intricate and unfathomable it is.



**Source of information**

Important optical advances and inventions have also paved the way for further developments such as photography. Since the early days of photography, photographers have used pictures to tell stories, to deliver information and to communicate with the observer. Images of scenes in the cities on our planet offer an insight into events in our lives, show our organizational structures and impart a sense of being.

Scanning electron microscopy, still a relatively new invention, provides fascinating pictures which make it possible to delve into the details and structures of nature and the environment. This technology makes structures and dimensions visible that would otherwise remain hidden to the human eye.



Sophisticated optical techniques in nano-structuring help configure electronic circuits for cutting-edge communications equipment. As a result, modern communications become faster and more reliable and have a wider range of use.

**Make it visible**

True to the company’s motto “We make it visible,” optical systems from Carl Zeiss help deliver many new and sometimes unexpected insights and perspectives. Key optical technologies use light to recognize new phenomena and create new products.

Enjoy reading

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