

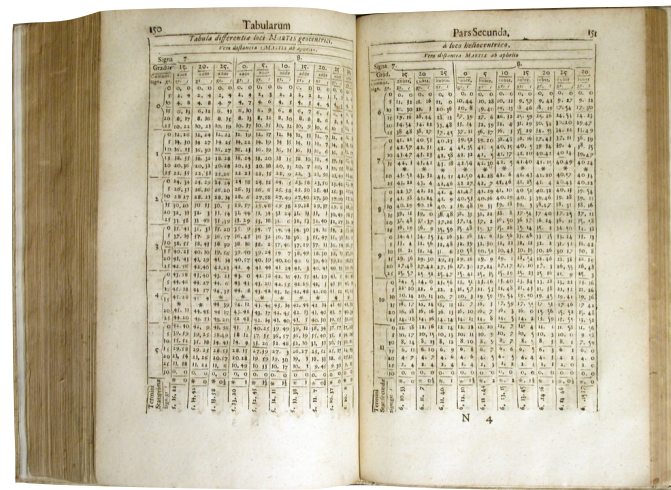
Maria Sybilla Merian, *Erucarum ortus* (Amsterdam, 1717)

Merian, an artist and naturalist, studied the relationships between flowers and insects; she also bred her own insects for this purpose. She was particularly interested in metamorphosis. The city of Amsterdam sponsored Merian's research expedition to South America, accompanied by her daughter Johanna Helena. This Latin work was also published in German, French and Dutch.



Maria Cunitz, *Urania propitia* (Oels, 1650)

This beautiful book lifted its author to the status of one of the most accomplished mathematical astronomers of the Scientific Revolution. Galileo was typical of his time in rejecting what we now know as Kepler's three laws. But this book demonstrated that Kepler's laws for the motions of the heavens were more accurate than anything that had come before. It was written by a self-educated woman, Maria Cunitz, who recast Kepler's planetary predictions into logarithmic tables that were easy to use. Maria's husband nicknamed her *Urania Propitia*, "Near the Heavens." On the title page, Cunitz applied that nickname to Kepler himself. Kepler's laws take us nearer the heavens.



2-minute stories of women & science from ***Galileo's World: Bringing Worlds Together***

Galileo's World, an exhibition at the University of Oklahoma, will bring worlds together. How does it relate to women and science? Perhaps you have read Dava Sobel's book about *Galileo's Daughter*, Sister Maria Celeste, who helped Galileo edit the famous *Dialogue on the Two Chief Systems of the World* (1632) and encouraged her father's work throughout his life. Maria Celeste is one of many women in the world of 17th-century science whose stories will be told in *Galileo's World*. The exhibition will launch in 21 galleries at 7 locations across OU's three campuses in August 2015 to celebrate the 125th anniversary of OU. It will feature more than 300 rare works from the History of Science Collections of OU Libraries, along with instrument replicas, digital resources, special events and class activities. See oulynx.org for more information about *Galileo's World* opportunities for K12 educators.

GALILEO'S WORLD
BRINGING WORLDS TOGETHER
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
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Engage. Explore. Interpret.
Explore connections between Galileo's world & your world during OU's 125th anniversary.

Francesco Algarotti, // *Newtonianismo per le dame* (Naples, 1737)

Algarotti's popular introduction to Newtonian science went through many editions and aided in the dissemination of Newtonian ideas on the European continent. This edition includes a frontispiece depicting Madame du Châtelet, who translated Newton's masterpiece of physics, the *Principia Mathematica*, into French.



Catherine Whitwell, An *Astronomical Catechism* (London, 1818)

This beautiful plate appeared in an engaging and delightful introduction to the night sky, written as a dialogue between a mother and her daughter. Whitwell taught at Robert Owen's innovative school at New Lanark, Scotland, in the 1820's. She also wrote on economics and education. This book of 400 pages includes 23 engraved plates, drawn by Whitwell, including four spectacular hand-colored folding plates. One of the colored plates depicts the constellations of Corvus, Crater and Hydra; another conveys a dramatic impression of the Full Moon at night, shown against a striking black background.

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Levinus Vincent, *Wondertooneel der nature* (Amsterdam, 1706-1715)

Women often formed hidden communities who, although easily overlooked today, nevertheless made scientific endeavor possible. Levinus Vincent, a wealthy Dutch merchant with ties to the East Indies, created a spectacular natural history museum in Haarlem. Visiting dignitaries admired his museum, including Peter the Great and King Charles III of Spain. The beautiful depictions of interior spaces include figures of women patrons, collectors and curators. In contrast to universities at the time, museums offered women manifold opportunities for involvement in natural science.

