

„Tribute to Apollo“

The Swiss Space Museum celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Apollo moon landings with the event „Tribute to Apollo“.

When the two Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon 50 years ago, the Swiss were involved in the moon landing in many ways.

Four Swiss time witnesses were guests at the anniversary event "Tribute to Apollo" of the Swiss Space Museum, which took place at *Kosmos Zurich* in Switzerland on Saturday, 20 July.

Guido Schwarz, founder of the Swiss Space Museum, took his audience on a journey in the footsteps of the Apollo astronauts. He told their stories with original footage, photos, and artifacts from his huge collection. "On the way to the moon" he talked with his guests that were involved in the Apollo missions in different ways.

The first guest was Ruedi Fricker, member of TASA or *Team Apollo Switzerland America*. Together with several young adults from Gretzenbach, he simulated a 14-day journey to the moon and back in a self-built Apollo capsule. Schwarz spoke with Fricker about the experience of that time, which attracted attention beyond the village boundaries. A vintage video clip of the Swiss TV can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/8mmjIVkS48s>



Guido Schwarz talks to TASA member Ruedi Fricker about the simulated Apollo mission he carried out with his colleagues in 1970.

Photo:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/105282120@N03/48335660162/in/album-72157709776615971/>

Aldo Lardelli from the Kern Aarau study group told a story that until recently was hardly known: the landing of the Lunar Module "Eagle" was filmed through a Swiss lens! The Maurer Data Acquisition Camera, which hung in the right window of the lunar module, also filmed the historical moonwalk by Neil Armstrong. You can see the footage that was taken by this camera here: <https://youtu.be/IOdbzJpzNHY>



Guido Schwarz talks to Aldo Lardelli about the Apollo Data Acquisition Camera, which was equipped with core lenses from Aarau.

Photo: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/105282120@N03/48335329061/in/album-72157709776615971/>

The third guest on the show stage was Jürg Meister, a former physicist at the University of Bern. Meister was instrumental in the development of the Solar Wind Composition experiment, the only non-American experiment that was brought to the moon by the Apollo 11 astronauts. The experiment even was set up before the American flag. An oral history video can be seen here: <http://nccr-planets.ch/blog/2019/06/24/the-story-of-the-swiss-moon-experiment/>



Guido Schwarz talks to Jürg Meister about the solar wind experiment that flew to the moon with Apollo 11.

Photo: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/105282120@N03/48335327186/in/album-72157709776615971/>

Finally, Otto Eugster, a former physics professor at the University of Bern, reported on how he analyzed lunar samples of all Apollo missions at the time and was later even able to examine moon samples from the Soviet Luna probes in the laboratory.



Guido Schwarz talks to Otto Eugster about his investigations of moon samples from NASA astronauts and the Soviet Luna probes.

Photo: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/105282120@N03/48335324961/in/album-72157709776615971/>

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A recording of „Tribute to Apollo“ can be seen here:

<https://www.yourstage.live/videos/ksm-190720-moon>

On behalf of the University of Bern, Guido Schwarz produced oral history videos with various former space explorers to record their stories for future generations. All videos can be seen here:

http://www.bernimall.unibe.ch/hintergrund/videoportraits_zu_berner_weltraumforschenden