



Il mondo della luna

Goldoni, Galuppi, and the Scientific Revolution

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Protagonists

- Carlo Goldoni
(1707-1793)



- Baldassare Galuppi
(1706-1785)



Theater Arts in Venice

Theater Arts--Overview

- Plastic arts
 - Musical-instrument making
 - **Scenery painting**
 - **Costume design**
- Performing arts
 - Public festivities
 - Theater arts
 - **Prose comedy**
 - **Opera**



Opera and Commedia

- Opera
 - Sung
 - Professional musicians
 - Individual contracts
 - Texts published
- Commedia
 - Spoken
 - Professional actors
 - Group contract
 - Performances improvised

Between Opera and Commedia

- Comic intermezzi
 - Between acts of serious opera
 - Between acts of serious dramas
 - Two singers
 - Specialized in comic roles
- Provisional *opere buffe*
 - Displaced serious opera
 - Three or four actors who sang
 - Sinfonie, ritornelli

Comic intermezzi for opera

- He/she
 - Rich/poor
 - Good/crude manners
- Astrology
 - ***Pollastrella e Parpignacco*** [Gasparini 1708; from prose comedy 1606]
 - Pollastrella has 30 admirers
 - Seeks to ensnare an astrologer (Parpignacco)
 - **The moon is in its sixth quarter**
 - Her fortune is told: she should perform in an *intermedio*
- Foreignness
 - Satires on dress, speech, ambition, self-definition
 - *Venezianità* (feasts, vacuous ceremonies)

Musical intermezzi for spoken dramas

- Many examples by **Imer** and **Goldoni**
 - *La cantatrice* (independent, Feltre 1729; as *La Pelarina*, Venice 1734)
 - *La pupilla/ Belisario* premier (1734)
 - *La birba/ Rosmonda, Belisario* revival (1735)
 - *Il filosofo/ Griselda* (aut. 1735)
 - *L'ippocondriaco/ Griselda* (aut. 1735)
 - *La bottega da caffè a 3* (independent, 1736)
 - *Monsieur Petiton a 4* (independent, 1737)

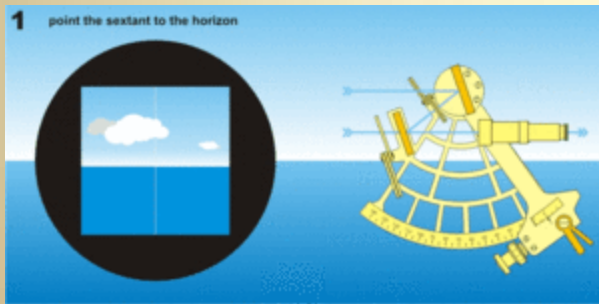
Satires in Theatrical Guise

- Satires on serious opera
- Satires on music, especially singing/lessons
- Satires in classicism, Greek and Roman models
- Satires on the New World
- Satires on Venetian feasts

Sciences in Padua

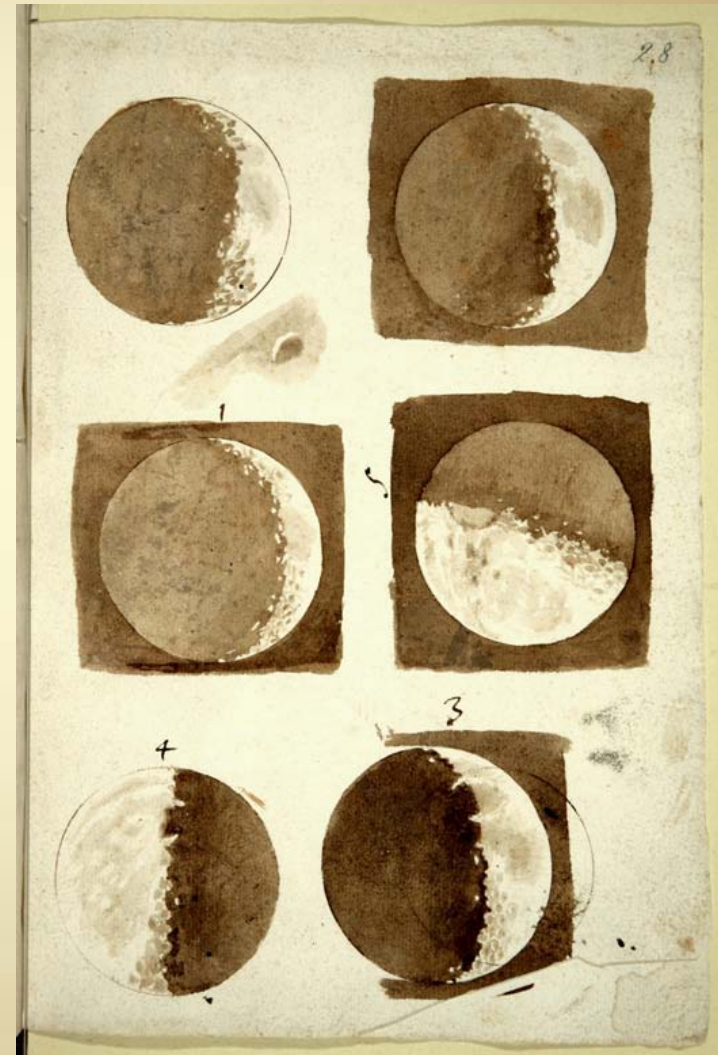
Navigation, Laws of Universe

- Sextant
 - Measures angles
 - Used for celestial navigation



Astronomy (Padua)

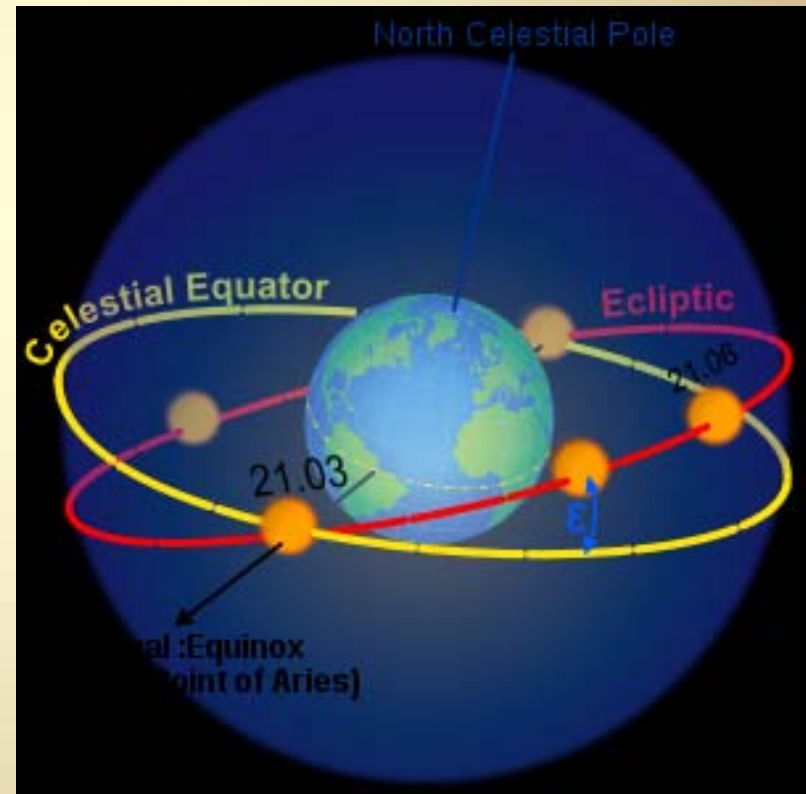
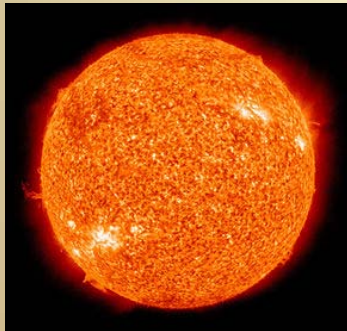
- 1610 Galileo's telescope



Galileo's phases of the moon

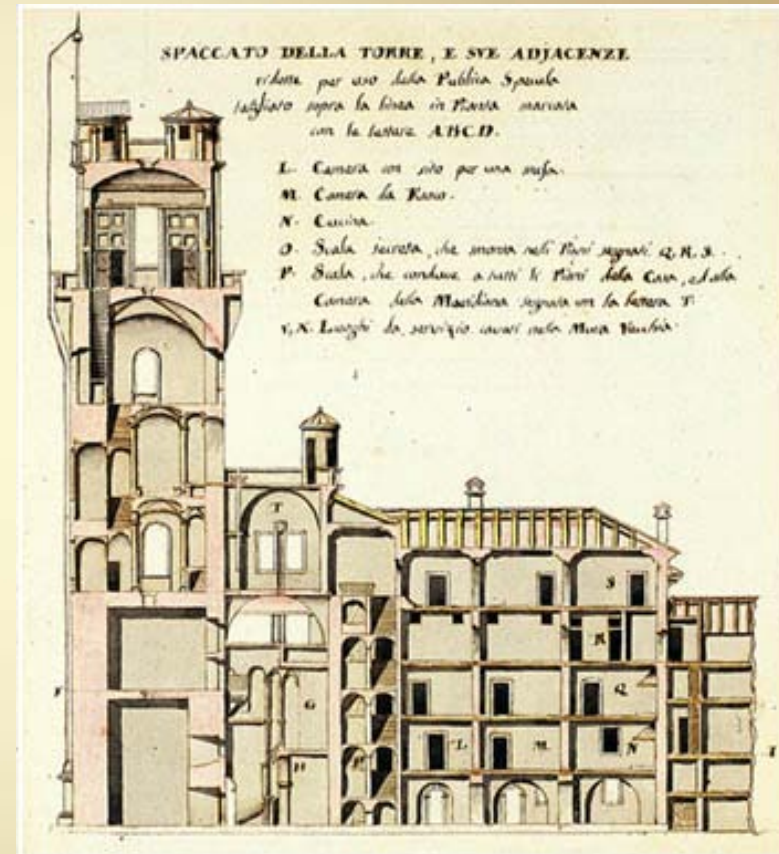
Astronomy (Padua)

The ecliptic: apparent path of Sun



Astronomy (Padua)

- 1700 Museo La Specola
- 1761 L'osservatorio astronomico
(Torre Maggiore, Castel Vecchio)



Geography

- Globes
- Maps



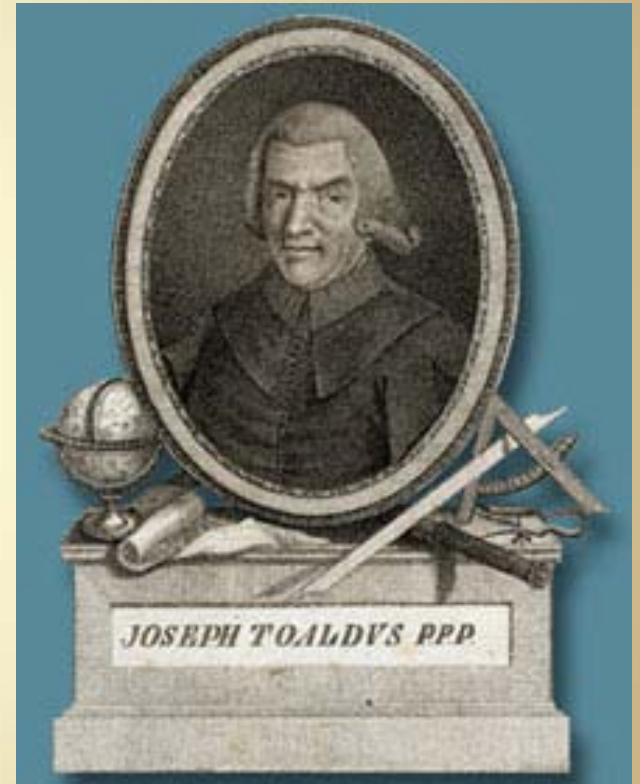
Leonardo Da Vinci Society



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Tides and Hydrology

- Navigational charts
- Tidal tables and forecasts
- Long-term meteorological forecasts
- Mechanical engineering of river courses, canals



Giuseppe Toaldo, prof of Astronomy, Geography, Meteorology

Astronomy vs Astrology

- Still linked through nature
 - Winds and weather
 - Stars and seasons
- Still allowed by church
 - Some mythology desirable
- Science often condemned
- (Astrologers often mocked on stage)

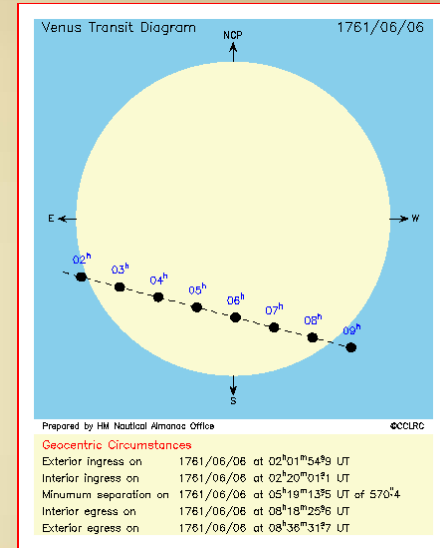


Venetian responses

- Calibration of time



- Planetary observation (1761)



Doge=Francesco Loredan (1752-62)

Goldoni and Opera

Goldoni—Curriculum vitae

- Itinerant early life
- Feltre (1729-32)



Goldoni--Venice

- 1732-34 Venice/Verona (Giuseppe Imer)
- 1734-37 Many comic intermezzi and comedies
- 1738 Genoa, with Imer
- 1739-41 Serious opera at San Gio Grisostomo
- 1741-43 Genovese consul in Venice
- 1743-45 Parma
- 1748-52 Multiple Venetian theaters
- 1752-62 San Salvatore, Venice
- 1761 on Paris



Galuppi—Curriculum Vitae

- 1720s—harpischordist, composer in
 - Chioggia
 - Vicenza
 - Venice
- 1730s—composed operas (mainly serious)
 - Venice
 - Turin
- 1740s—career flourished
 - London
 - Milan, Rome
 - Vienna
- 1748—elected vice maestro at San Marco

Goldoni-Galuppi collaborations

- 1740 *Gustavo primo, re di Svezia*
- 1740 *Oronte, re di Sciti*
- 1749- *L'Arcadia in Brenta*
- 1749 *Arcifanfano, re dei matti (rev. 1750)*
- 1750 *Il mondo della luna*
- 1750 *Il mondo alla roversa (Le donne che commandano)*
- 1750 *Il paese della Cuccagna*
- 1750 *Il conte Caramello*
- 1752 *Le virtuose ridicole*

Il mondo della luna

Dramatis personae

- Ecclittico
 - Buonafede
 - Flaminia
 - Lisetta*
 - Clarice
 - Ernesto
 - Cecco*
 - Groups (*cori*)
 - Four students of Ecclittico
 - Four gentlemen
 - Servants, dancers, soldiers
 - A false astrologer
 - Gullible
 - Buonafede's daughter
 - Buonafede's daughter
 - Buonafede's daughter
 - Gentleman
 - Ernesto's servant
- Performers directed by Franco Piva (Pesaro, 1997)

Settings—Acts 1, 2

- Act One
 - Night, with moon and stars.
 - Roof garden over the house of Ecclittico, with an **observatory** and a great **telescope** in the middle. Four lanterns.
 - Ecclittico and his students
- Act Two, Scene 1
 - Beautiful garden designed to look like the moon, where different images are shown to delude Buonafede.
 - Buonafede sleeps near a bed of flowers. Ecclittico appears in an extravagant costume. Ernesto is in his robes.

Act One—Examples

SINFONIA, FIRST MOVEMENT



Act One—Examples

SALES PITCH FOR MOON TRIP



Settings—Act 2

- Act Two, Scene 5
 - A chariot is pulled by four men in weird attire, with Cecco, dressed as an emperor, atop of chariot.
 - Ernesto, dressed as a hero, arrives on foot. He has a star on his forehead.
 - Buonafede looks on in wonder.
- Act Two, Scene 11
 - Flaminia and Clarice descend on a machine during a balletto.
 - Buonafede helps them get down.
 - Cecco and Lisetta, sitting on thrones, are joined by Ernesto and Ecclitico.

Act Two--Examples

CHARIOT SCENE



Act Two--Examples

LIFE WONDERFUL ON MOON



Settings—Act 3

- Act Three, Scene 1
 - Parlor in house of Ecclittico
 - Everyone is dressed as in the beginning.
 - Lisetta still believes herself an empress.

- Final chorus

Godiamo, amici,

Di questa fortuna!

Che oggi a terra ci vien dalla luna!

Act Three--Examples

LISETTA CONFUSED

FINALE