

# Galileo's Telescope

## 400 years later

Design: Odo Fioravanti

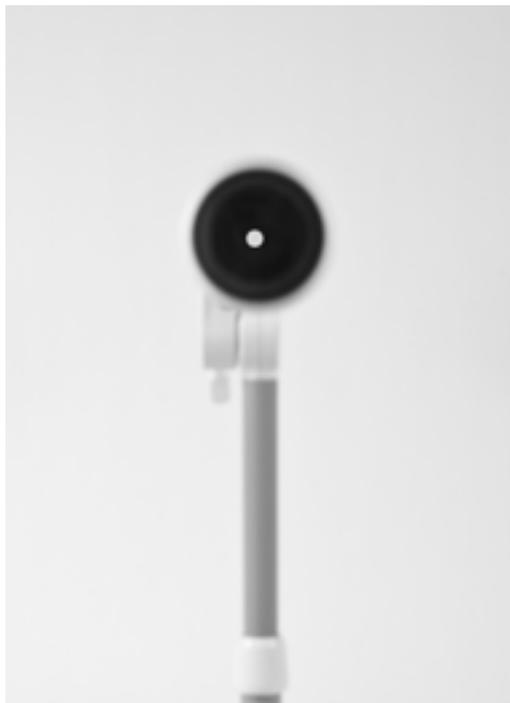


***When is a beautiful starry night Mr. Palomar says: "I must go and look at the stars." That is exactly what he says - "I must"- because he hates waste and believes it is wrong to waste the great quantity of stars that is put at his disposal.***

**Italo Calvino**

Galileo's telescope takes inspiration from the spyglass which Galileo used in 1609, when he first began his observation of the stars. The project is based on this attempt to re-create the simplicity which distinguished that first telescope. Today most telescopes in production are, in fact, characterized by a lack of homogeneity between the parts. They are very intricate and full of parts, levers, counterweights and other various adjustment mechanisms.

The design for the pivot-joint of the telescope is aimed at the creation of an object which is functional and simple, but also beautiful to look at and to touch. In fact, this joint must allow the telescope to be pointed with precision and then fixed in any position. The use of wood for the tube represents not only a return to the original material used by Galileo but also an effort to give warmth and 'a friendly touch' to an instrument which otherwise might be cold and technological.



**Material**

Optical glass / abs / metal tube /  
beech wood / oak wood

**Objective lens**

Ø 60 mm

**Focal length**

1000 mm

**Magnifications**

67x, 80x, 100x with three  
eyepieces as standard equipment

**Awards**

ADI Design Index / Honorable Mention ADI XXII Compasso d'Oro /  
European Consumer Choice



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