

Hubble's Anniversary Gift to the Public Star Birth in the Carina Nebula

To mark the 20th anniversary of Hubble's launch and deployment into Earth orbit, NASA and the Space Telescope Science Institute are issuing another stunning image. The new photograph of a craggy fantasy mountaintop surrounded by wispy clouds captures the chaotic activity atop a three-light-year-tall pillar of gas and dust that is being eaten away by the brilliant light from nearby colossal stars. Infant stars buried inside the pillar also are firing off jets of gas that can be seen streaming from towering peaks. This turbulent cosmic pillar lies within a tempestuous stellar nursery called the Carina Nebula, located 7,500 light-years away in the southern constellation, Carina.

For more information on Tactile Astronomy projects from the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Maryland, go to the following Web page:

<http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/tactile-astronomy/>