

Image: Hubble detects dynamic galactic duo

December 2 2019, by Esa



ESA/Hubble & NASA, K. Larson et al.

Some galaxies are closer friends than others. While many live their own separate, solitary lives, others stray a little too close to a near neighbor

and take their friendship even deeper.

The two [galaxies](#) in this image taken by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope, named NGC 6285 (left) and NGC 6286 (right), have done just that! Together, the duo is named Arp 293 and they are interacting, their mutual gravitational attraction pulling wisps of gas and streams of dust from them, distorting their shapes, and gently smudging and blurring their appearances on the sky—to Earth-based observers, at least.

Hubble has viewed a number of interacting pairs. These can have distinctive, beautiful, and downright odd shapes, ranging from sheet music to a spaceship entering a sci-fi-esque wormhole, a bouquet of celestial blooms and a penguin fiercely guarding its precious egg.

Arp 293 is located in the constellation of Draco (the Dragon) and lies over 250 million light-years from Earth.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: Image: Hubble detects dynamic galactic duo (2019, December 2) retrieved 19 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2019-12-image-hubble-dynamic-galactic-duo.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.