

Hubble views a galaxy in a 'furnace'

August 23 2021, by Claire Andreoli



Credit: ESA/Hubble & NASA, J. Lee and the [PHANGS-HST Team](#)

This jewel-bright image from the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope shows NGC 1385, a spiral galaxy 68 million light-years from Earth, which lies in the constellation Fornax. The image was taken with Hubble's Wide Field Camera 3, which is often referred to as Hubble's workhorse camera thanks to its reliability and versatility. It was installed

in 2009 when astronauts last visited Hubble, and 12 years later it remains remarkably productive.

NGC 1385's home—the Fornax constellation—is not named after an animal or an ancient god, as are many of the other constellations. Fornax is simply the Latin word for a furnace.

The constellation was named Fornax by Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille, a French astronomer born in 1713. Lacaille named 14 of the 88 constellations we still recognize today. He seems to have had a penchant for naming constellations after [scientific instruments](#), including Atlia (the air pump), Norma (the ruler, or set square), and Telescopium (the telescope).

Provided by European Space Agency (ESA)

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