

THE GALILEO AFFAIR: 1609 – 2009

PUBLIC LECTURE

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AT UNSW



DR MAURICE A. FINOCCHIARO

Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus,
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

DATE: Thursday 22 October 2009 **TIME:** 6pm – 7:30pm

VENUE: Central Lecture Block (CLB) 8, UNSW Kensington Sydney 2052

In 1609, Galileo improved the telescope and began making startling observations including lunar mountains, Jupiter's satellites, Venus's phases and sunspots that undermined the traditional belief that the earth stands still at the center of the universe. But Galileo's defense of Copernicanism triggered a controversy, over whether the earth's motion is compatible with Scripture. In 1633 the Inquisition condemned him as a heretic and the repercussions have been a defining theme of modern Western culture. The controversy over whether Galileo was justly condemned shows no signs of abating but Dr Finocchiaro has devised a way to eventually resolve it, stressing the lessons we can learn from Galileo.

[Booking essential RSVP](#)

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THE RE-TRIAL OF GALILEO Monday 26 October 2009 6:30pm.

For more information please visit http://hist-phil.arts.unsw.edu.au/galileo_trial/