









Cities at Night

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J. Zamorano, J. Gallego, CC.M Kyba
and ... 15864 volunteers
Universidad Complutense de Madrid

ALAN 2015 31 may 2015

Cepeg Sherbrooke



NASA

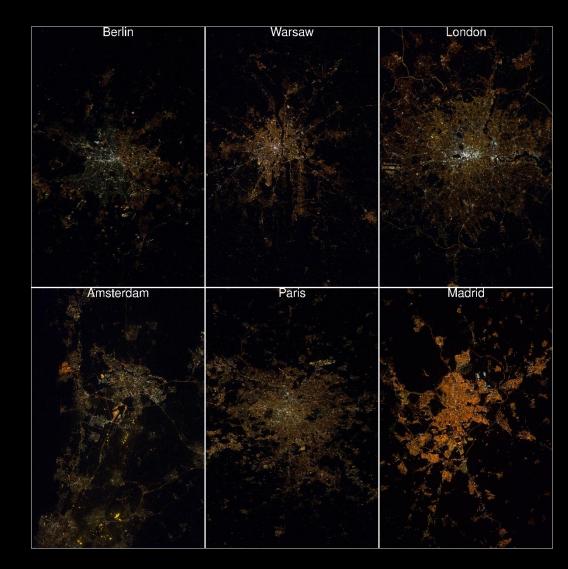


What is Cities at Night?

- Cities at Night is a citizen science project to catalog, locate and georeference the archive of the Images of the ISS.
- Our main web page is <u>www.citiesatnight.org</u>

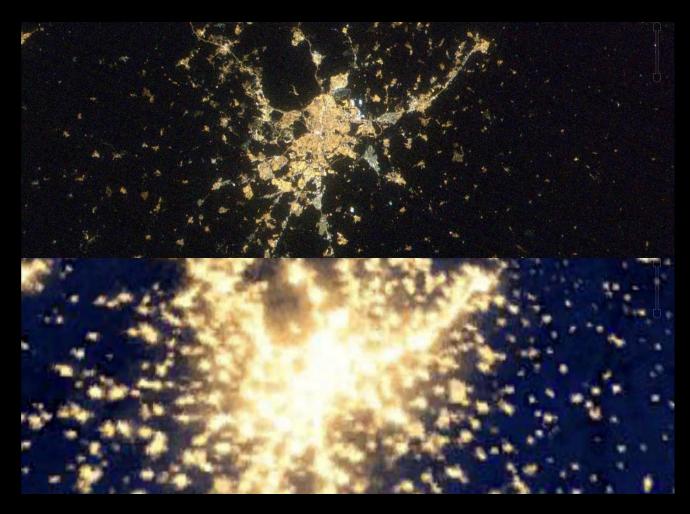
Why we need to catalog the images of ISS?

- First, NASA, ESA, CSA ... don't know were the images have been taken.
- They have an small team to catalog them.
- They had classify 15.000 images of 300.000 on 15 years.
- The volunteers had classify 130.000 images in one month.



Why we need to catalog the images of ISS?

- They are the best images actually at night.
- They have colors.
- We have images at any time.



Why we need to catalog the images of ISS?

We will help to:

- municipalities to save energy.
- the research on Breast cancer.
- reduce the air pollution.
- mitigate the light pollution.
- sleep better.
- save money.
- Increase the road safety
- Increase the nocturnal safety.
- see more stars.

- preserve the World Heritage Site
- preserve the nocturnal biodiversity.
 - Save the migration birds
 - Save the glowworms
 - Save the bats
 - Save the turtles
 - Save the fish overexploitation
 - Better tree growth

••••

• First, we need an attractive web site:

www.citiesatnight.org

(design made by Media Lab volunteers)

It's translated to 13 languages



Cities at Night

Since 2003, astronauts have been taking photos from the International Space Station. Many of these images have been published on the websites of participating agencies or the Twitter accounts of the astronauts. However, most of the images taken by astronauts have

Light Pollution

Light pollution causes serious problems. Its effects can be measured from the inside of our bedroom to hundreds of kilometers away. The light destroys the essence of the evening darkness. Humans have an ancestral fear of the dark, but too much light produces

Citizen Science

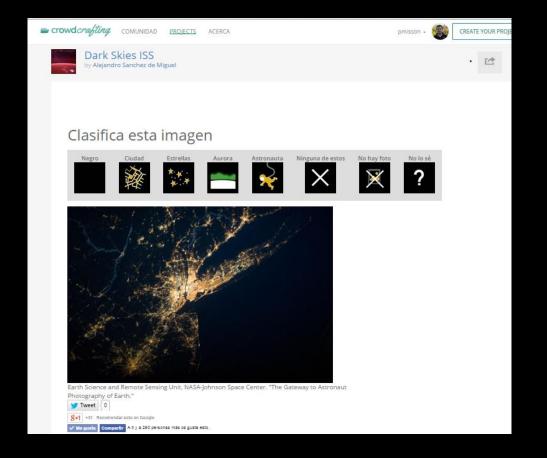
Citizen science is a tool for scientific and educational research. While you help us classify thousands of unpublished images taken by astronauts, you can learn geography of the land at night. Humans are much more efficient than computers at recognizing patterns and,

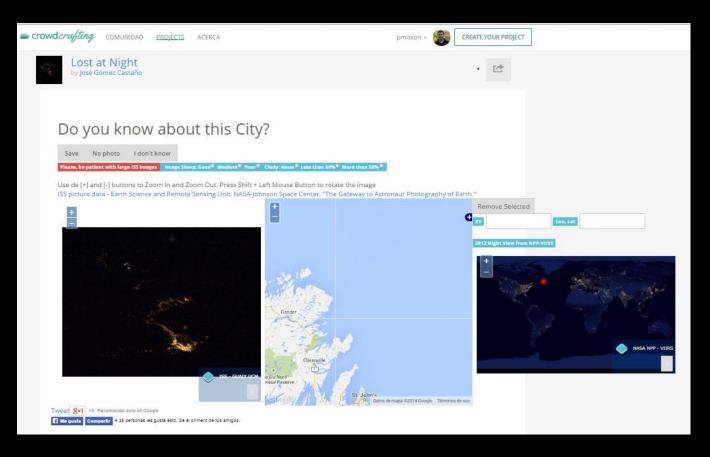
• Second, we need a platform to do the classification:

Crowdcrafting.org



• Third, we need a interface:

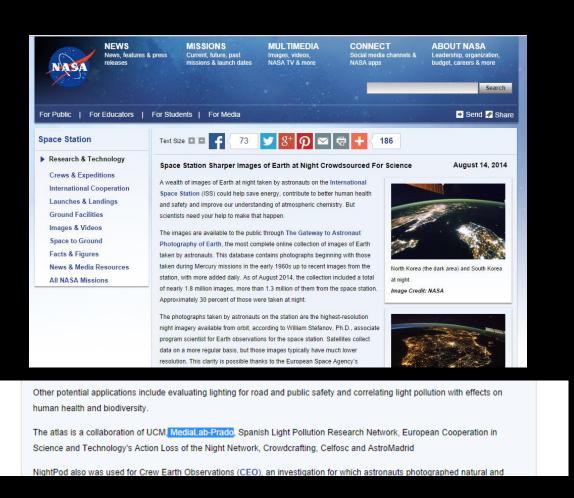




Icons and first tests by MediaLab volunteers

- Forth, we need volunteers over the world.
 - We contact NASA, ESA and CSA-ASC and they help us to spread the word.





And then it become viral....







GIZMODO

ELCORREO



Digital Photography

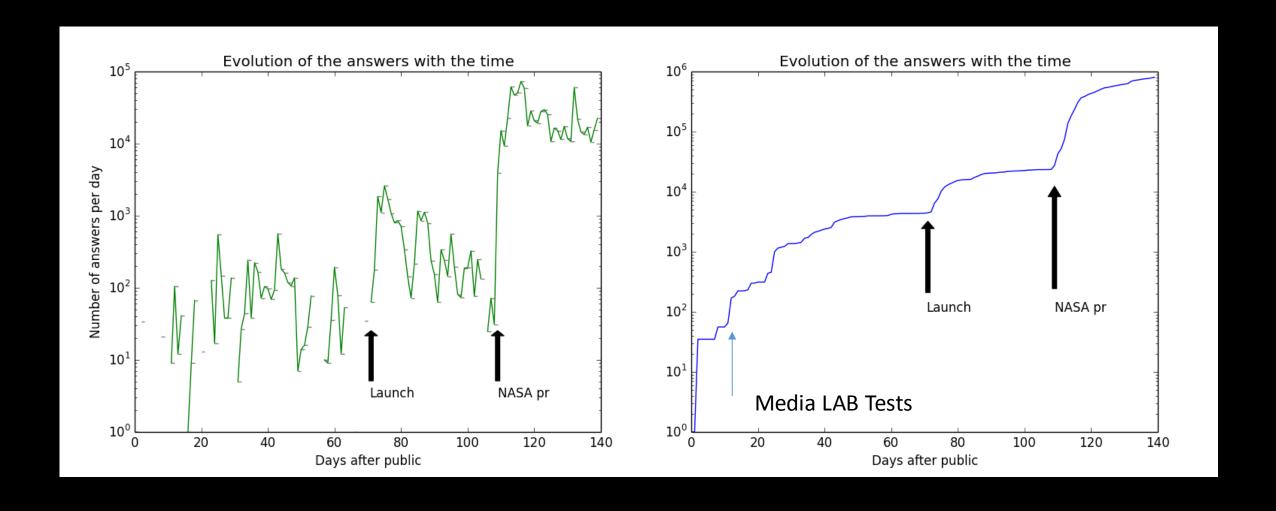
dpreview.com

rtve.es





The Evolution of the answers.



And then we got a prize.





What are the results?

- We are actually making the analysis of the data.
- The first result is that the cities at Night volunteers had classify all the High resolution archive of the ISS:
 - 130.000 images taken with lens from 40 mm to 999 mm.
 - 30.000 of those images are images of cities with few clouds (5 times at least each).
 - We near a 1.000.000 of classifications and involved to 15.638 people.
- The Lost at Night users had try to located 5720 images (at least 5 times each).
- The Night Cities ISS users had try to georeference 1714 images (at least 30 times each).

What happen now?

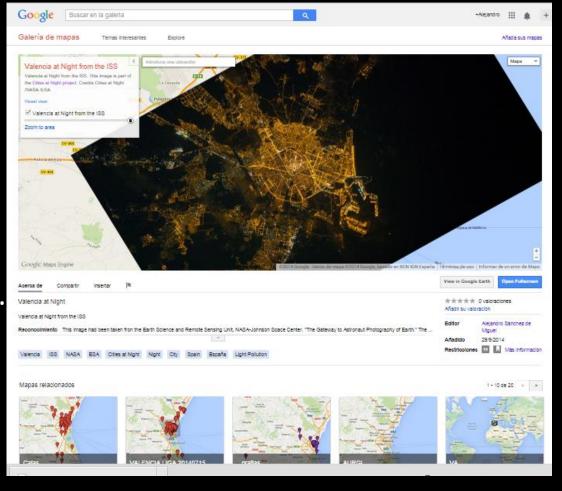
Present the first results

Guarantee the future of the project

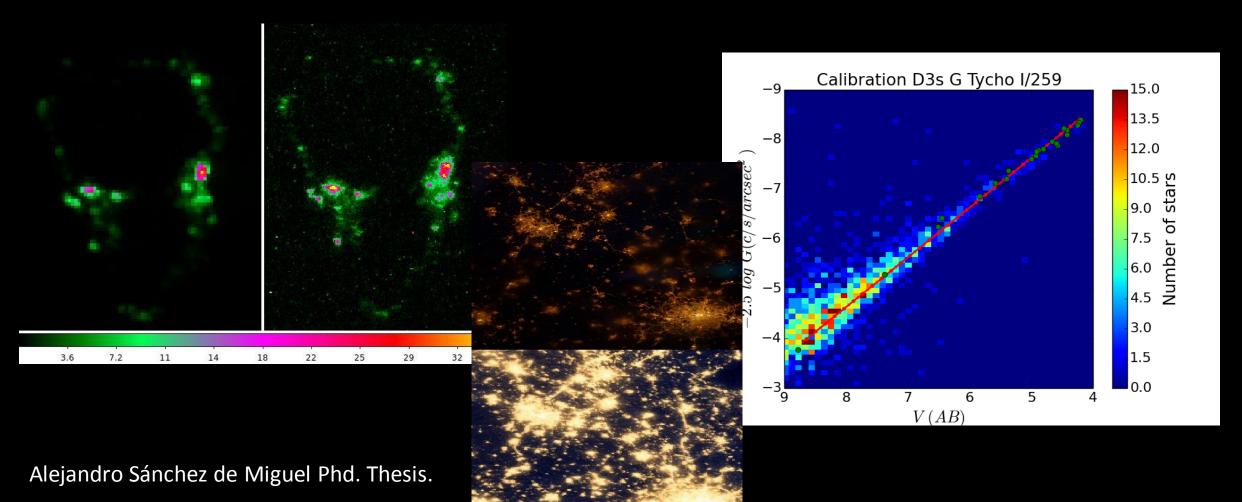
Improve the apps and the design

Cities at night logo?

- First results and the first maps:
 - You can navigate in side the maps on Google Earth gallery.
 (Thanks to Google for give us unlimited free space for the project but until feb 2016)
 - Cartodb will host us instead of Google.
 - (meeting last Wednesday).



• Scientific calibration:

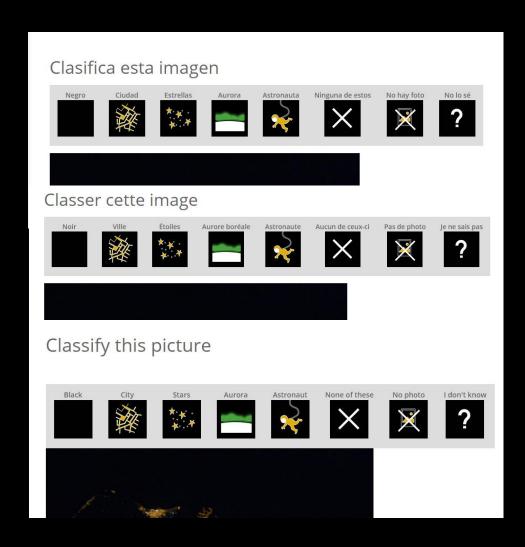


• Push Lost at Night and Night Cities.





• New multilingual interface:



Also we have already the translation for Italian and Japanese.

Spanish

French

English

- Crowdfunding campaign:
 - We don't have any financial support
 - Also, most of the work had been mad by volunteers/amateurs.
 - All the services that we have now are not guaranteed for ever.

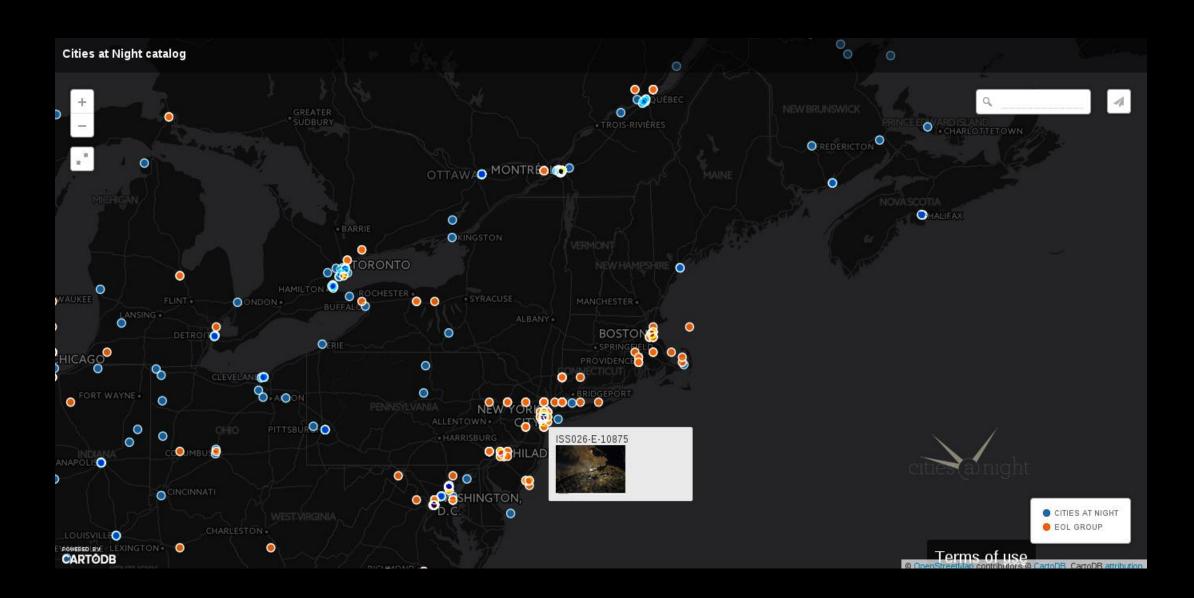
Maybe we can sell posters? (We have permission to do it).



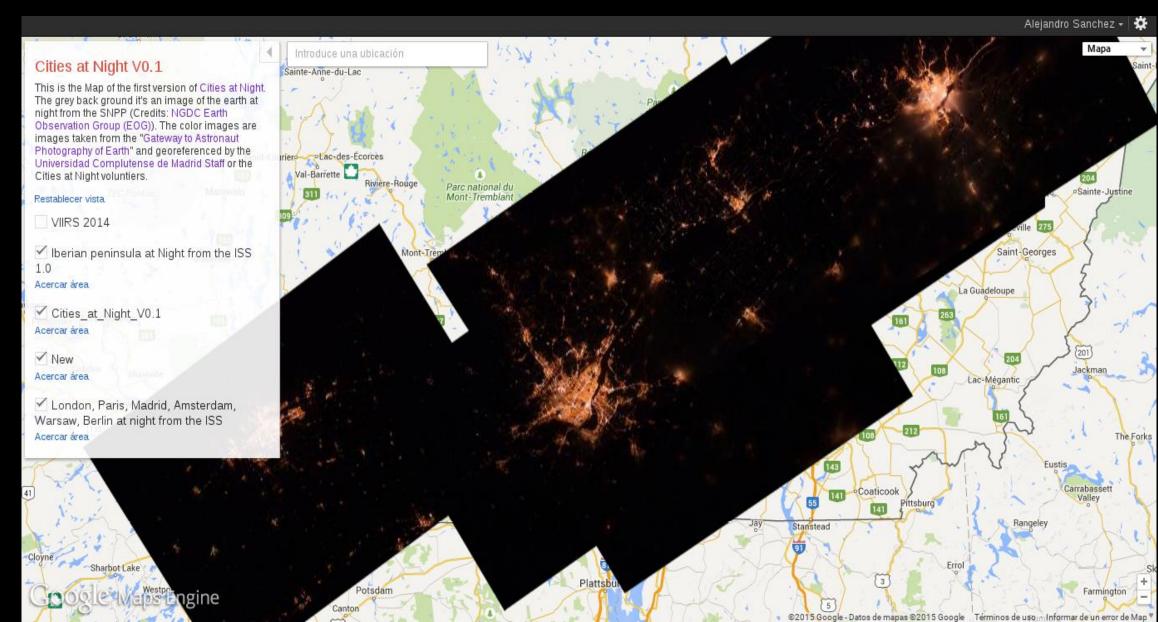
Nadir of the ISS Cities from Dark SkiesCatalog



Coordinates of ISS images from Lost at Night



ISS maps from Night Cities app



Do you want to be a beta tester?

Great!!! You will gain access to the data now, but you have to have to help us explaining why this project is so important for you.

Do you want access to the calibrated data?

Great!!! Fund US!!

Or propuse us a project were we could be coauthors

Also you can wait until we found funds from some where else and we make the data release

What is the future?

• On the Next months A. Sánchez de Miguel will present his Phd. Thesis.

 We will start to upload massively the maps to Google Earth gallery.

• Start trying to get a salary for Postdoc, improve the plataform and a Gis expert to keep project on going.

(We have guaranteed the survival of the project at least one year.)

Some grants and project had been requested already.

Acknowledgments

- Daniel Lombraña and Alejandro Dominguez for their support and help with everything.
- To Peter Caltner, our mentor.
- To Jaime Zamorano and Jesús Gallego, my Phd. Advisors.
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- To José Gómez Castaño, main developer of Lost at Night and Night Cities apps.
- Thanks also to NASA, ESA, and CSA-ASC staff that had help us so much.
- To all our translators.
- To all the Thousands of volunteers.
- To the MediaLab, GUAIX-UCM team, LoNNe Network, REECL,
- And finally....

Acknowledgments

Thanks to the Astronauts of

NASA, ESA, CSA-ASC, ROSCOSMOS and JAXA

That takes the pictures.



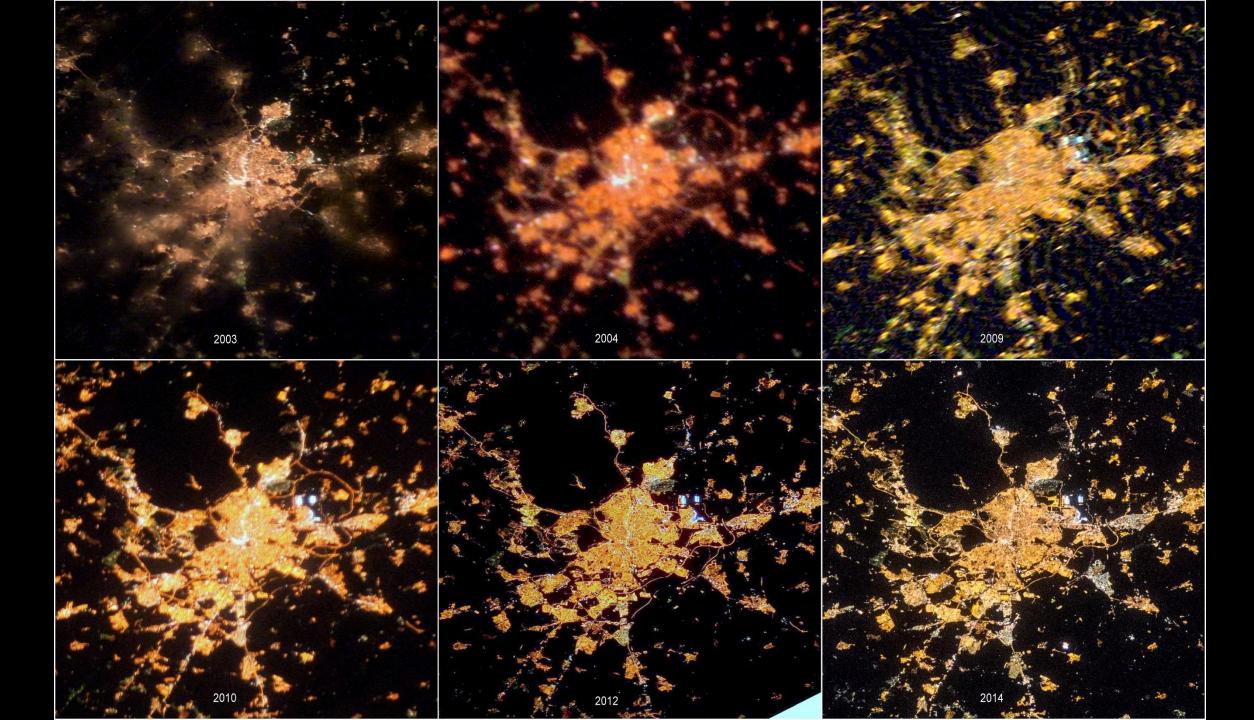
Credits:

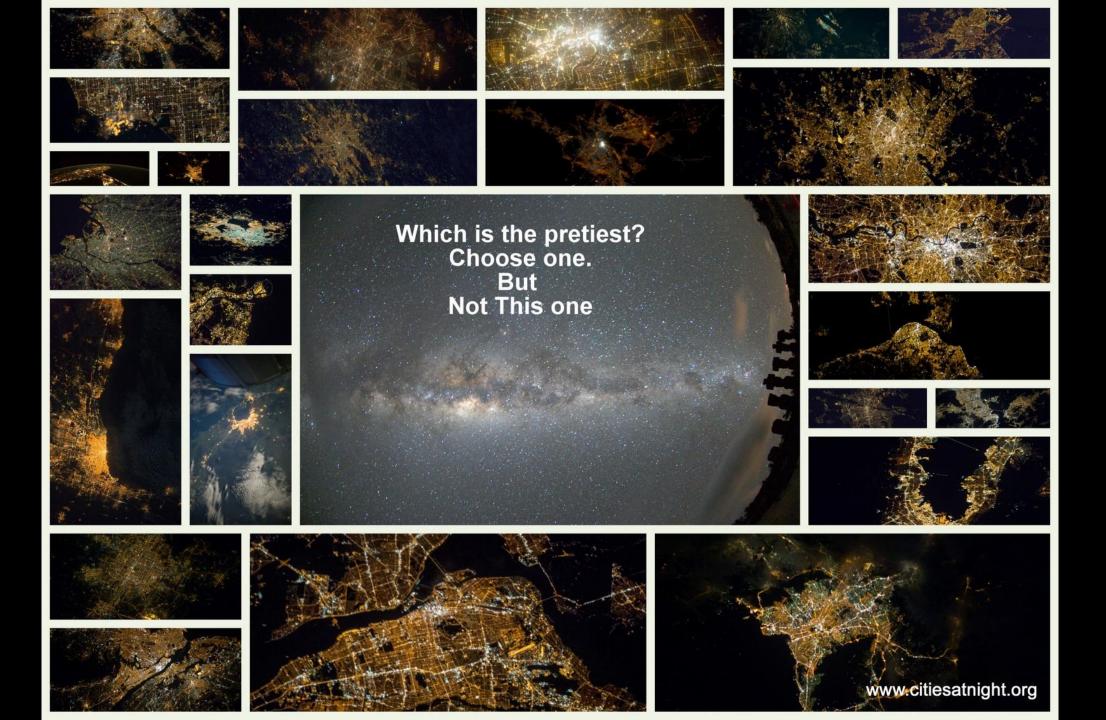
• Earth Science and Remote Sensing Unit, NASA-Johnson Space Center.

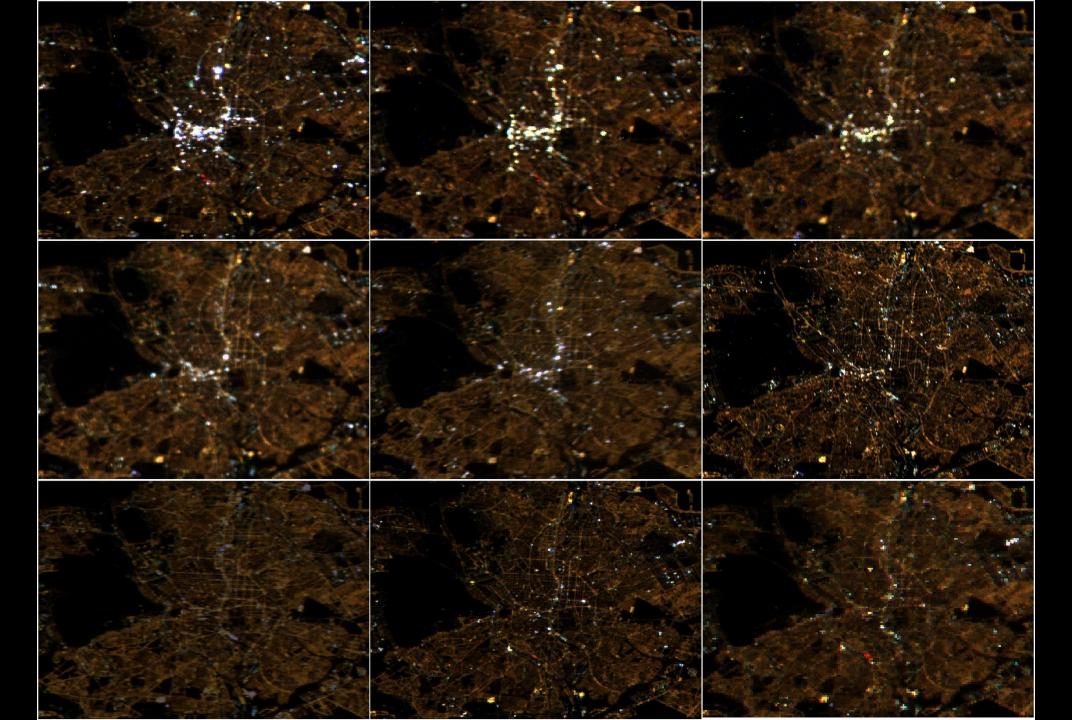
"The Gateway to Astronaut Photography of Earth."

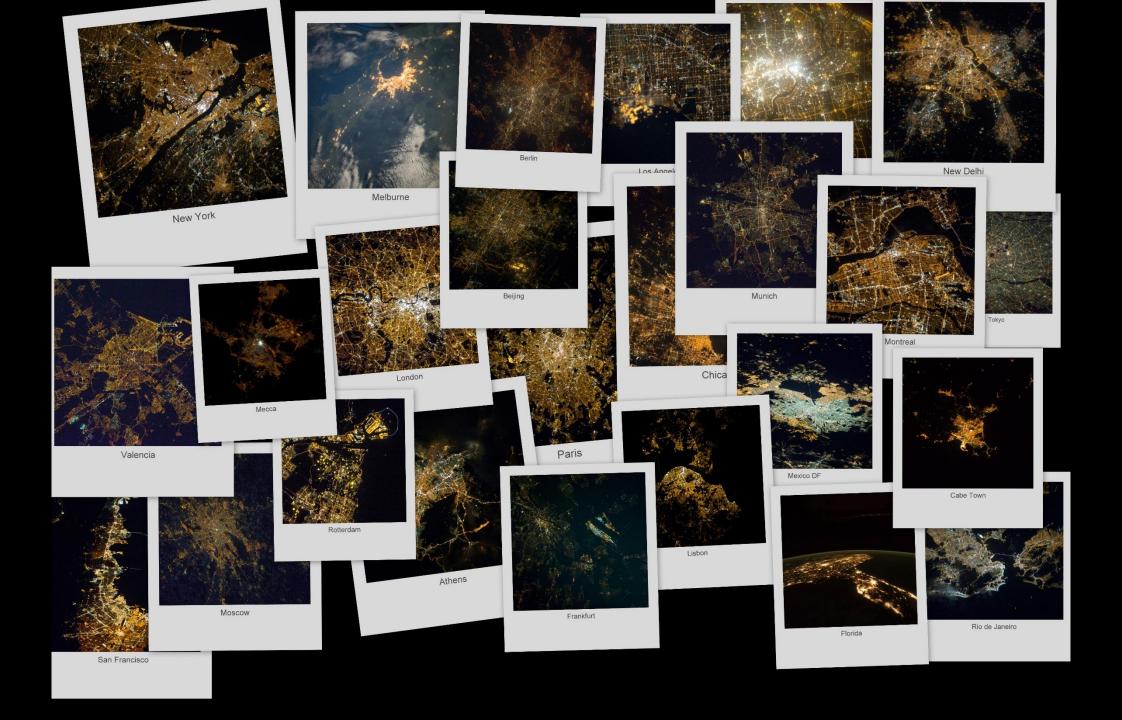
NOAA

• The authors and www.citiesatnight.org









Don't ask what the stars can do for you

but what you can do for the stars.

www.citiesatnight.org

