
NASA
DLR
SOFIA

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,200
NARRATOR: NASA has captured a new infrared image

2
00:00:03,200 --> 00:00:05,640
of the center of our Milky Way galaxy,

3
00:00:05,640 --> 00:00:07,370
revealing details that have never

4
00:00:07,370 --> 00:00:09,620
been seen before.

5
00:00:09,620 --> 00:00:11,940
Scientists have tried for many years to peer

6
00:00:11,940 --> 00:00:14,200
through the dense swirls of dust obscuring

7
00:00:14,200 --> 00:00:17,980
many of the Milky Way's fascinating features.

8
00:00:17,980 --> 00:00:20,600
SOFIA, NASA's telescope on an airplane,

9
00:00:20,600 --> 00:00:23,700
observed our galaxy's center in infrared light,

10
00:00:23,700 --> 00:00:25,770
which is invisible to human eyes

11
00:00:25,770 --> 00:00:28,440
but pierces through the dense dust.

12
00:00:28,440 --> 00:00:31,070
Now, we can see new details in the curves

13
00:00:31,070 --> 00:00:34,150

surrounding the Arches Cluster, the densest

14
00:00:34,150 --> 00:00:37,870
concentration of stars in our galaxy.

15
00:00:37,870 --> 00:00:41,010
Also visible is the Quintuple Cluster, with stars

16
00:00:41,010 --> 00:00:44,750
that are a million times brighter than our Sun.

17
00:00:44,750 --> 00:00:48,090
Our galaxy's supermassive black hole takes shape

18
00:00:48,090 --> 00:00:50,610
with a view of the fiery-looking ring of gas

19
00:00:50,610 --> 00:00:52,690
surrounding it.

20
00:00:52,690 --> 00:00:55,680
NASA created the panorama by combining SOFIA's new,

21
00:00:55,680 --> 00:00:58,260
crisp image with previous data

22
00:00:58,260 --> 00:01:01,770
from the Herschel and Spitzer space telescopes.

23
00:01:01,770 --> 00:01:05,270
Scientists will use the image to study previously hidden

24
00:01:05,270 --> 00:01:08,750
facets of our Milky Way galaxy, including how many

25
00:01:08,750 --> 00:01:12,520
massive stars are forming here and to set targets

26
00:01:12,520 --> 00:01:14,520
for telescopes of the future