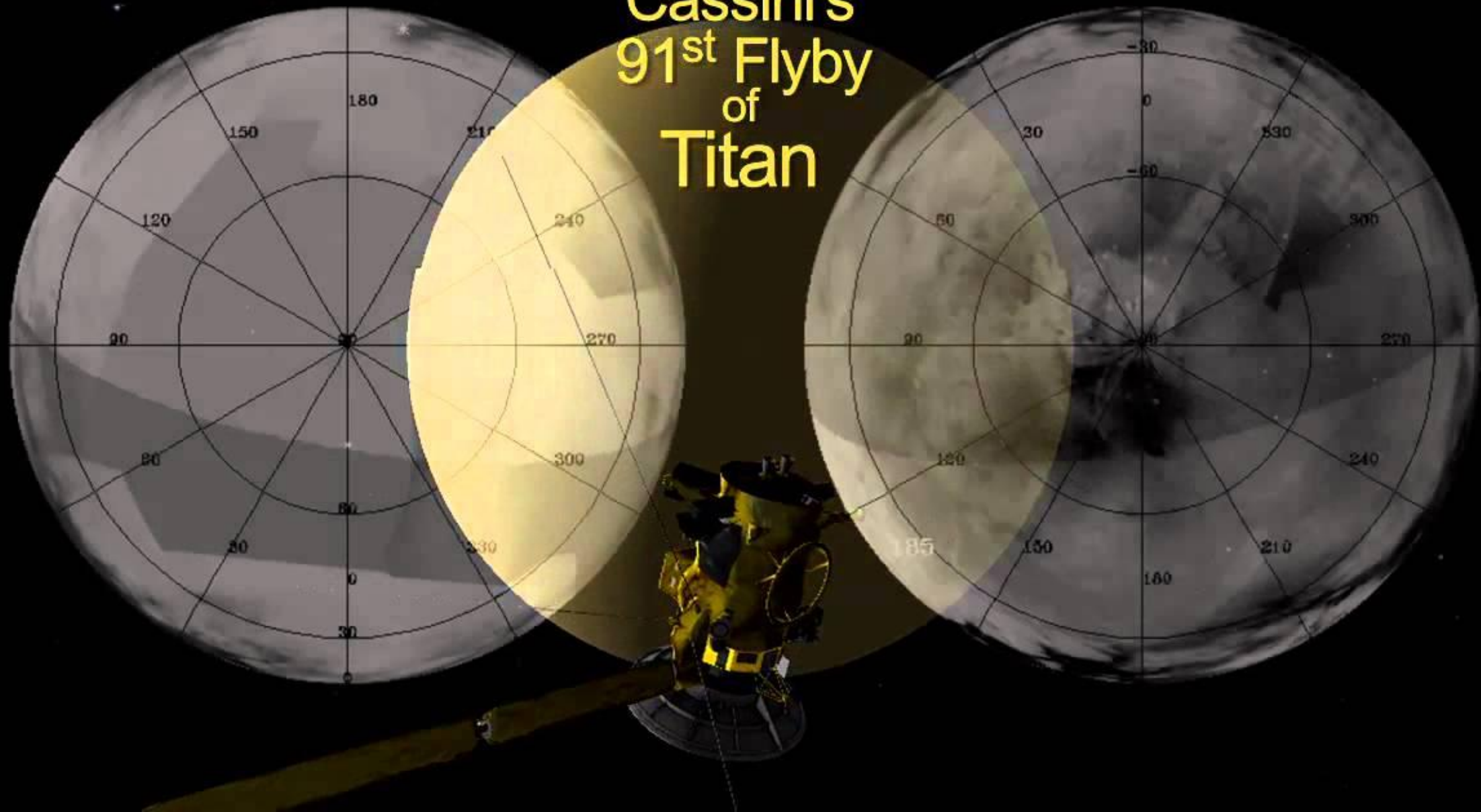


North Pole

Cassini's 91st Flyby of Titan

South Pole



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,000
Music.

2
00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:11,000
Jane Houston Jones: What's Up for April. Saturn's rings open wide. And meteors are marred by moonlight.

3
00:00:11,000 --> 00:00:18,000
Hello and welcome. I'm Jane Houston Jones at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

4
00:00:18,000 --> 00:00:22,000
Bright, golden Saturn rises in the late evening early in the month.

5
00:00:22,000 --> 00:00:27,000
Look low in the southeast below Virgo's bright star Spica.

6
00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:34,000
Saturn's north pole is now tilted towards Earth, giving us the best view of the rings since 2006.

7
00:00:34,000 --> 00:00:39,000
The rings are tilted 18 degrees now and will be 22 degrees open by year end.

8
00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:42,000
Through a telescope you'll see the swirling storm

9
00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:48,000
that NASA's Cassini spacecraft sees from a much closer vantage point.

10
00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:51,000
Cassini is in an 'inclined' phase of the mission,

11
00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:56,000
meaning its orbit is tilted to cross the poles rather than circling the Equator.

12
00:00:56,000 --> 00:00:59,000
This phase will last until March 2015.

13
00:00:59,000 --> 00:01:05,000

The inclined phase will give us polar views of Titan, Saturn's largest moon, and Saturn itself

14

00:01:05,000 --> 00:01:08,000

plus better vistas of Saturn's rings.

15

00:01:08,000 --> 00:01:17,000

In April Cassini makes its 91st flyby of Titan, this time making a detailed sampling of the atmosphere.

16

00:01:17,000 --> 00:01:21,000

Here's a roundup of viewing events to mark on your calendar.

17

00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:28,000

On April 4 Comet PanSTARRS passes by M-31, the great Andromeda Galaxy.

18

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:31,000

It will be visible only through telescopes, if at all.

19

00:01:31,000 --> 00:01:35,000

Jupiter begins the month halfway up in the western sky at dusk

20

00:01:35,000 --> 00:01:40,000

but drops to only 20 degrees above the horizon by month's end.

21

00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:47,000

On April 13 the moon joins the pretty star clusters of Taurus: the Pleiades and the Hyades.

22

00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:50,000

And it joins Jupiter the next night, the 14th.

23

00:01:50,000 --> 00:01:57,000

The Lyrid meteor shower peaks on April 22, but a bright moon will mar the view.

24

00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:02,000

On the 25th Saturn appears to the moon's upper left.

25

00:02:02,000 --> 00:02:06,000

After opposition on April 28, when it's closest to Earth,

26

00:02:06,000 --> 00:02:11,000

Saturn will be at its brightest and biggest through a telescope in the early evening.

27

00:02:11,000 --> 00:02:16,000

You can learn more about the Cassini Solstice mission at [saturn dot nasa dot gov](http://saturn.nasa.gov).

28

00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:22,000

And you can learn about all of NASA's missions at [w w w dot nasa dot gov](http://www.nasa.gov).