



**EPIISODE ONE**

**GIANT LEAPS**

1  
00:00:04,700 --> 00:00:02,929  
the moon is still got a lot of Secrets

2  
00:00:06,470 --> 00:00:04,710  
it's keeping there's still so many

3  
00:00:08,900 --> 00:00:06,480  
questions locked up in these rocks

4  
00:00:10,600 --> 00:00:08,910  
SEC sign-in times just to be studying

5  
00:00:12,470 --> 00:00:10,610  
them this is the only long-term

6  
00:00:14,390 --> 00:00:12,480  
information that we have from the

7  
00:00:16,070 --> 00:00:14,400  
surface of the Moon are these data

8  
00:00:18,349 --> 00:00:16,080  
there's there's just nothing else where

9  
00:00:20,570 --> 00:00:18,359  
did all of this stuff come from how did

10  
00:00:22,099 --> 00:00:20,580  
it form what was the process does it

11  
00:00:24,859 --> 00:00:22,109  
happen all the time

12  
00:00:27,529 --> 00:00:24,869  
across the universe or are we somehow

13  
00:00:28,009 --> 00:00:27,539

unique or at least unusual what does it

14

00:00:30,560 --> 00:00:28,019

all mean

15

00:00:33,110 --> 00:00:30,570

I'm Katie Atkinson and this is NASA

16

00:00:34,850 --> 00:00:33,120

explorers Apollo where we tell stories

17

00:00:46,040 --> 00:00:34,860

about our Moon and the people who

18

00:00:47,510 --> 00:00:46,050

explore it in the 1960s and 70s twelve

19

00:00:51,100 --> 00:00:47,520

humans walked on the moon over the

20

00:00:53,420 --> 00:00:51,110

course of six Apollo missions about

21

00:00:56,270 --> 00:00:53,430

400,000 Americans worked behind the

22

00:00:58,279 --> 00:00:56,280

scenes to get them there there were also

23

00:01:00,380 --> 00:00:58,289

millions of people around the world who

24

00:01:04,119 --> 00:01:00,390

listened watched and celebrated

25

00:01:06,440 --> 00:01:04,129

alongside them they were all explorers a

26

00:01:09,320 --> 00:01:06,450

quick note on why we're telling these

27

00:01:12,080 --> 00:01:09,330

stories right now over 60 percent of

28

00:01:14,719 --> 00:01:12,090

Americans living today myself included

29

00:01:17,810 --> 00:01:14,729

weren't born yet or were too young to

30

00:01:18,980 --> 00:01:17,820

remember the first moon landings they've

31

00:01:28,490 --> 00:01:18,990

never known a world where people

32

00:01:32,030 --> 00:01:28,500

couldn't walk on the moon now there's a

33

00:01:34,100 --> 00:01:32,040

new generation of explorers explorers

34

00:01:35,690 --> 00:01:34,110

who will witness the first woman walk on

35

00:01:38,749 --> 00:01:35,700

the moon and see the first human mission

36

00:01:39,380 --> 00:01:38,759

to Mars some of us might even help get

37

00:01:42,440 --> 00:01:39,390

them there

38

00:01:43,999 --> 00:01:42,450

in the meantime stories about where

39

00:01:46,969 --> 00:01:44,009

we've been connect us to where we're

40

00:01:48,800 --> 00:01:46,979

going what we learn now and in the

41

00:01:50,929 --> 00:01:48,810

future builds on what we learned in the

42

00:01:52,070 --> 00:01:50,939

past especially when it comes to

43

00:01:55,100 --> 00:01:52,080

understanding our Moon

44

00:01:57,140 --> 00:01:55,110

[Music]

45

00:01:58,190 --> 00:01:57,150

if you want to know what the moon looks

46

00:02:00,200 --> 00:01:58,200

like up close

47

00:02:03,770 --> 00:02:00,210

Ernie Wright is the person to talk to

48

00:02:06,410 --> 00:02:03,780

you even though he's never been there

49

00:02:08,139 --> 00:02:06,420

he's visualized just about every nook

50

00:02:11,140 --> 00:02:08,149

and cranny on the lunar surface

51  
00:02:14,060 --> 00:02:11,150  
sometimes down to a few feet

52  
00:02:16,760 --> 00:02:14,070  
he's one of NASA's resident experts on

53  
00:02:18,980 --> 00:02:16,770  
moon data I work at the scientific

54  
00:02:22,910 --> 00:02:18,990  
visualization studio at Goddard Space

55  
00:02:25,760 --> 00:02:22,920  
Flight Center the studio uses data from

56  
00:02:28,640 --> 00:02:25,770  
NASA missions to create animations and

57  
00:02:31,070 --> 00:02:28,650  
illustrations that explain that data

58  
00:02:33,460 --> 00:02:31,080  
data sonification is the sound

59  
00:02:36,890 --> 00:02:33,470  
equivalent of what Ernie does visually a

60  
00:02:40,160 --> 00:02:36,900  
chart lets you see data a sonification

61  
00:02:42,170 --> 00:02:40,170  
lets you hear it you can listen to a

62  
00:02:45,080 --> 00:02:42,180  
data sonification over and over again

63  
00:02:47,750 --> 00:02:45,090

and hear something new each time every

64

00:02:50,680 --> 00:02:47,760

instrument every sound means something

65

00:02:53,360 --> 00:02:50,690

it's music and it's all based on data

66

00:02:55,610 --> 00:02:53,370

what you're about to hear is a musical

67

00:02:57,410 --> 00:02:55,620

representation of lunar science past to

68

00:02:59,570 --> 00:02:57,420

present what you'll hear in the

69

00:03:01,670 --> 00:02:59,580

sonification is the amount of scientific

70

00:03:04,759 --> 00:03:01,680

activity associated with the moon over

71

00:03:09,110 --> 00:03:04,769

time Ernie will walk you through it the

72

00:03:11,660 --> 00:03:09,120

pitch of the melody is telling you sort

73

00:03:13,040 --> 00:03:11,670

of the amount of data that was returned

74

00:03:14,630 --> 00:03:13,050

about the moon over time

75

00:03:17,210 --> 00:03:14,640

there are several instruments that are

76  
00:03:19,250 --> 00:03:17,220  
establishing tempo there's a clocks out

77  
00:03:21,770 --> 00:03:19,260  
that that tells you about the progress

78  
00:03:28,220 --> 00:03:21,780  
of the months and there are symbols that

79  
00:03:33,089 --> 00:03:31,229  
during the Apollo era the pitch rises as

80  
00:03:38,070 --> 00:03:33,099  
we learn more and more about the moon

81  
00:03:38,080 --> 00:04:02,640  
[Music]

82  
00:04:07,960 --> 00:04:05,319  
and then there's this period in the

83  
00:04:10,509 --> 00:04:07,970  
middle where it kind of falls when we

84  
00:04:13,089 --> 00:04:10,519  
weren't sending people and we weren't

85  
00:04:23,470 --> 00:04:13,099  
sending robotic missions it falls off a

86  
00:04:32,100 --> 00:04:27,170  
and then it starts to rise again to a

87  
00:04:47,839 --> 00:04:44,889  
[Music]

88  
00:04:49,819 --> 00:04:47,849

in the sonification there are these two

89

00:04:52,719 --> 00:04:49,829

peaks in the valley but wait the other

90

00:04:57,499 --> 00:04:52,729

thing to take from it is that there is a

91

00:05:00,440 --> 00:04:57,509

continuous note of exploration but the

92

00:05:28,170 --> 00:05:00,450

sound doesn't really go away

93

00:05:31,090 --> 00:05:28,180

[Music]

94

00:05:33,280 --> 00:05:31,100

the past and the present and the future

95

00:05:35,380 --> 00:05:33,290

are all connected and get that sense

96

00:05:37,720 --> 00:05:35,390

when you're listening to it that why old

97

00:05:39,970 --> 00:05:37,730

there are variations in our level of

98

00:05:41,830 --> 00:05:39,980

interest and in the amount of data that

99

00:05:45,160 --> 00:05:41,840

were gathering at any particular time

100

00:05:51,270 --> 00:05:45,170

there's also a continuity that once we

101  
00:05:55,540 --> 00:05:54,070  
think what motivates us to answer you

102  
00:05:58,450 --> 00:05:55,550  
know the question of the moon's origin

103  
00:06:00,430 --> 00:05:58,460  
or how it formed is very basic because

104  
00:06:02,260 --> 00:06:00,440  
once we understand how the moon was

105  
00:06:03,880 --> 00:06:02,270  
formed we know a lot more about how the

106  
00:06:06,160 --> 00:06:03,890  
earth was formed we know about how the

107  
00:06:07,390 --> 00:06:06,170  
solar system was formed it's all to do

108  
00:06:09,550 --> 00:06:07,400  
with this question of where did we come

109  
00:06:11,620 --> 00:06:09,560  
from how did this happen

110  
00:06:13,420 --> 00:06:11,630  
where did all of this stuff come from

111  
00:06:16,600 --> 00:06:13,430  
how did it form what was the process

112  
00:06:19,930 --> 00:06:16,610  
does it happen all the time across the

113  
00:06:21,900 --> 00:06:19,940

universe or are we somehow unique or at

114

00:06:24,220 --> 00:06:21,910

least unusual what does it all mean

115

00:06:25,840 --> 00:06:24,230

answers to those big questions are

116

00:06:28,660 --> 00:06:25,850

within reach thanks in part to

117

00:06:29,920 --> 00:06:28,670

modern-day exploration of our Moon the

118

00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:29,930

rising pitch at the end of that

119

00:06:36,750 --> 00:06:32,960

sonification the crescendo is a sign

120

00:06:39,400 --> 00:06:36,760

that we're learning we're exploring more

121

00:06:43,420 --> 00:06:39,410

we're driving the pitch up into the

122

00:06:45,700 --> 00:06:43,430

future before the Apollo missions we

123

00:06:47,530 --> 00:06:45,710

knew almost nothing about the moon the

124

00:06:52,030 --> 00:06:47,540

state of our knowledge before Apollo was

125

00:06:53,500 --> 00:06:52,040

almost utter ignorance we knew where it

126

00:06:57,700 --> 00:06:53,510

would be in the sky but only

127

00:07:00,460 --> 00:06:57,710

approximately we didn't even know if it

128

00:07:03,250 --> 00:07:00,470

was wet or dry we didn't know what it

129

00:07:06,670 --> 00:07:03,260

was made of or how it related to the

130

00:07:08,230 --> 00:07:06,680

earth how it formed we had no idea we

131

00:07:10,990 --> 00:07:08,240

didn't know what the craters were and

132

00:07:13,180 --> 00:07:11,000

there was really no way to know until we

133

00:07:15,090 --> 00:07:13,190

went there and sampled the surface and

134

00:07:16,670 --> 00:07:15,100

saw it up close

135

00:07:18,620 --> 00:07:16,680

during the Apollo

136

00:07:21,680 --> 00:07:18,630

era we learned so much about the moon

137

00:07:24,290 --> 00:07:21,690

but astronauts only visited a few spots

138

00:07:26,450 --> 00:07:24,300

if you were exploring the earth and you

139

00:07:28,820 --> 00:07:26,460

landed in six places near the equator

140

00:07:33,080 --> 00:07:28,830

you would know not a whole lot about the

141

00:07:35,600 --> 00:07:33,090

earth so even after Apollo there was a

142

00:07:37,490 --> 00:07:35,610

great deal to learn but we knew so much

143

00:07:40,730 --> 00:07:37,500

more we knew the right questions to ask

144

00:07:42,260 --> 00:07:40,740

and so one of the motivations for Lunar

145

00:07:44,060 --> 00:07:42,270

Reconnaissance Orbiter I think was to

146

00:07:46,909 --> 00:07:44,070

answer some of those questions which had

147

00:07:49,939 --> 00:07:46,919

been lingering since the Apollo era the

148

00:07:51,980 --> 00:07:49,949

Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter or LRO is a

149

00:07:55,370 --> 00:07:51,990

NASA spacecraft that's been orbiting our

150

00:07:56,629 --> 00:07:55,380

moon since 2009 LRO has mapped the moon

151  
00:08:00,499 --> 00:07:56,639  
like never before

152  
00:08:02,900 --> 00:08:00,509  
LRO is writing the lunar encyclopedia of

153  
00:08:05,510 --> 00:08:02,910  
the lunar atlas it's the it's the thing

154  
00:08:07,760 --> 00:08:05,520  
that you go to first to look up all

155  
00:08:10,640 --> 00:08:07,770  
kinds of information about the moon

156  
00:08:13,760 --> 00:08:10,650  
thanks to LRO we've learned so much more

157  
00:08:15,890 --> 00:08:13,770  
about our moon in 2017 scientists

158  
00:08:17,930 --> 00:08:15,900  
discovered that there's frost frozen

159  
00:08:19,909 --> 00:08:17,940  
water at the moon's poles

160  
00:08:22,700 --> 00:08:19,919  
we've also observed that the moon is

161  
00:08:25,040 --> 00:08:22,710  
shrinking over time a result of it

162  
00:08:28,010 --> 00:08:25,050  
cooling since its formation billions of

163  
00:08:30,230 --> 00:08:28,020

years ago our knowledge of the moon is

164

00:08:33,130 --> 00:08:30,240

now so much more nuanced than it was 50

165

00:08:35,659 --> 00:08:33,140

years ago but NASA never stops learning

166

00:08:38,600 --> 00:08:35,669

that really comes across in the data

167

00:08:40,459 --> 00:08:38,610

sonification let's listen to it again

168

00:08:54,400 --> 00:08:40,469

now the Ernie has broken down what each

169

00:08:54,410 --> 00:09:05,860

but why some say the moon

170

00:10:51,570 --> 00:09:18,460

[Music]

171

00:10:58,550 --> 00:10:51,580

[Applause]

172

00:11:15,510 --> 00:11:10,340

[Music]

173

00:11:22,150 --> 00:11:19,750

in that version of the sonification you

174

00:11:24,130 --> 00:11:22,160

heard tape from the archives like

175

00:11:27,340 --> 00:11:24,140

selections from JFK speaking and

176

00:11:29,380 --> 00:11:27,350

excerpts from Apollo mission audio this

177

00:11:31,390 --> 00:11:29,390

kind of historical data helps us

178

00:11:32,470 --> 00:11:31,400

understand the full impact of our

179

00:11:35,860 --> 00:11:32,480

journey to the moon

180

00:11:37,330 --> 00:11:35,870

Holly McEntire agrees she's a NASA

181

00:11:39,430 --> 00:11:37,340

archivist who believes that these

182

00:11:42,480 --> 00:11:39,440

stories remind us where we came from and

183

00:11:46,620 --> 00:11:42,490

inspire us to keep looking forward I

184

00:11:49,900 --> 00:11:46,630

think probably what I love most about

185

00:11:52,720 --> 00:11:49,910

being an archivist is just being able to

186

00:11:54,880 --> 00:11:52,730

capture the human experience within

187

00:11:56,860 --> 00:11:54,890

those records so sometimes we have

188

00:11:59,560 --> 00:11:56,870

records that are very black and white

189

00:12:01,750 --> 00:11:59,570

this is evidence of what happened but my

190

00:12:04,090 --> 00:12:01,760

favorite part are the records that kind

191

00:12:06,190 --> 00:12:04,100

of tell more of the human experience so

192

00:12:09,010 --> 00:12:06,200

maybe there a memo from one specific

193

00:12:11,200 --> 00:12:09,020

person to another person or maybe

194

00:12:13,180 --> 00:12:11,210

there's someone's personal photographs

195

00:12:15,970 --> 00:12:13,190

that they took or maybe it's an oral

196

00:12:18,160 --> 00:12:15,980

history those are the types of records

197

00:12:21,160 --> 00:12:18,170

that really drive me because I really

198

00:12:24,430 --> 00:12:21,170

just love to hear the human take on what

199

00:12:26,380 --> 00:12:24,440

happened so in that spirit we're asking

200

00:12:28,540 --> 00:12:26,390

you to help NASA tell the Apollo story

201  
00:12:30,880 --> 00:12:28,550  
what do you remember about the first

202  
00:12:33,010 --> 00:12:30,890  
moon landing or what are you looking

203  
00:12:34,390 --> 00:12:33,020  
forward to as NASA prepares to return to

204  
00:12:36,940 --> 00:12:34,400  
the moon by 2024

205  
00:12:38,620 --> 00:12:36,950  
so far we've received hundreds of

206  
00:12:41,170 --> 00:12:38,630  
submissions from people all over the

207  
00:12:44,380 --> 00:12:41,180  
world this first memory comes to us from

208  
00:12:47,350 --> 00:12:44,390  
France here's what Alena remembers hello

209  
00:12:50,830 --> 00:12:47,360  
NASA I'm a retired American wildlife

210  
00:12:53,200 --> 00:12:50,840  
biologist living in France I was 23

211  
00:12:55,570 --> 00:12:53,210  
years old when the first people walked

212  
00:12:57,790 --> 00:12:55,580  
on the moon I was living in Seattle

213  
00:13:00,970 --> 00:12:57,800

Washington and working as a legal

214

00:13:03,310 --> 00:13:00,980

secretary at that time I was an avid fan

215

00:13:06,910 --> 00:13:03,320

of the Star Trek series on television

216

00:13:09,940 --> 00:13:06,920

and I still am I really wanted to see

217

00:13:11,890 --> 00:13:09,950

this historic event I couldn't quite

218

00:13:15,790 --> 00:13:11,900

believe that it wasn't a national

219

00:13:18,680 --> 00:13:15,800

holiday but it wasn't so I called in

220

00:13:21,110 --> 00:13:18,690

sick at my law firm to be able to see it

221

00:13:23,900 --> 00:13:21,120

at the time I didn't have a television

222

00:13:26,420 --> 00:13:23,910

so my boyfriend John and I had to go to

223

00:13:28,850 --> 00:13:26,430

a friend's house to watch it the friend

224

00:13:31,040 --> 00:13:28,860

only had a small black and white TV and

225

00:13:31,519 --> 00:13:31,050

he wasn't interested in watching it at

226

00:13:34,970 --> 00:13:31,529

all

227

00:13:37,759 --> 00:13:34,980

he was just John and I but we got to

228

00:13:40,129 --> 00:13:37,769

watch it and it was thrilling I'm a firm

229

00:13:42,230 --> 00:13:40,139

supporter of the space program and I

230

00:13:44,480 --> 00:13:42,240

hope that we continue to peacefully

231

00:13:48,050 --> 00:13:44,490

explore the universe to learn more about

232

00:13:50,569 --> 00:13:48,060

life the universe and everything Thank

233

00:13:55,660 --> 00:13:50,579

You NASA for the opportunity to share in

234

00:14:01,100 --> 00:13:58,369

Thank You Elena for sharing the story

235

00:14:04,340 --> 00:14:01,110

with us we want you to send us your

236

00:14:12,139 --> 00:14:04,350

apollo memory visit [nasa.gov/slash](http://nasa.gov/slash)

237

00:14:13,879 --> 00:14:12,149

apollo stories to learn more you helped

238

00:14:15,110 --> 00:14:13,889

design how ash not to stay alive and

239

00:14:17,449 --> 00:14:15,120

comfortable while working on the moon

240

00:14:21,559 --> 00:14:17,459

science is something you test the

241

00:14:23,329 --> 00:14:21,569

experiments you get results and that you

242

00:14:26,090 --> 00:14:23,339

know modifies the way we look at the

243

00:14:27,679 --> 00:14:26,100

world where did all of this stuff come

244

00:14:30,379 --> 00:14:27,689

from how did it form what was the

245

00:14:32,990 --> 00:14:30,389

process does it happen all the time

246

00:14:35,809 --> 00:14:33,000

across the universe or are we somehow

247

00:14:37,269 --> 00:14:35,819

unique or at least unusual what does it

248

00:14:38,210 --> 00:14:37,279

all mean