

The Antikythera Mechanism: An Astronomical Calculating Machine from Ancient Greece

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The Antikythera mechanism, a gearwork astronomical computing machine, was built by an ancient Greek mechanic around the second century BC, lost in a shipwreck around 60 BC, and recovered in 1901. Recent study has greatly improved our comprehension of the mechanism. This talk will describe the current state of understanding of the Antikythera mechanism and will address the questions of its function and its cultural significance — why would anyone have built such a thing? The talk will also present some new evidence for the date of construction.



Photo: Rien van de Weijgaert



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La conférence sera suivie d'un vin d'honneur.