UCLA Division of Astronomy & Astrophysics

Astronomy Colloquium

Wednesday, May 13 at 3:30 PM
Room 1-434 PAB

Dr. Arianna Long
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Fleeting Blooms: The Rapid Growth and Retirement of Massive Galaxies in the Early Cosmos

One of the most puzzling discoveries of the decade is that substantial populations of massive galaxies ceased forming stars as early as two billion years after the Big Bang (i.e. by $z = 3$). Our best cosmological models do not provide sufficient insights into these extreme star formers; in fact, they struggle to produce adequate populations (if any at all) of massive passive galaxies at these epochs. What drives such rapid stellar assembly in the $z > 3$ cosmos, and why does it stop? In this talk, I will review what we do know about the evolution of these extreme populations, what remains a mystery, and share some enticing clues from recent JWST and ALMA observational campaigns.

Hosted by professors: Smadar Naoz, Alice Shapley, Erik Petigura