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# ***METEOR TRAILS***

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This spectacular fireball was drawn Michel Deconinck as seen from Bauduen, France on October 30, 2017 at 18:39 Universal Time

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NOV

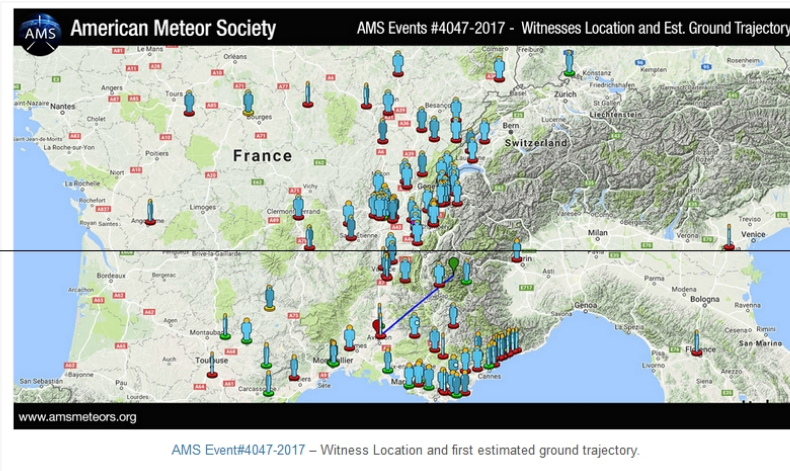
2  
2017

# The Man Who Draws Meteors

Vincent Perlerin - 1 Comment - In: Meteor Showers

Tweet

Since 2011, the American Meteor Society (AMS) online fireball report form has been translated in 30 different languages. We now receive thousands of reports from all around the world. Lately, we received more than 120 reports about a Fireball event that occurred over South East of France (Provence Alpes Côte d'Azur) on October, 30<sup>th</sup>.



Retired nuclear scientist, Michel Deconinck has been lucky enough to be one of the witnesses of this impressive event. Deconinck has observed meteors since 1975 and he has been a very active member of the international amateur astronomers community since then. He has been the chairman of the meteor section of the IUA (International Union of Amateur Astronomers) for 10 years and he still works closely with the AAVSO (American Association of Variable Star Observers) as a consultant for the french speaking community.

On October, 30<sup>th</sup>, his trained keen eye allowed him to exactly remember the 4 second fireball that flew in front of him. Right after the event, Deconinck took his pencils and decided to water color the event. An avid drawer since childhood, Deconinck knew exactly where the fireball occurred in the sky and was able to place all the stars present in the scenery. In the foreground, we can see his personal observatory illuminated only by red LEDs. From his position, the fireball went from the variable star chi Cygni in the constellation Cygnus to the Vega (α Lyrae), the brightest star in the constellation of Lyra.

This is not the first time Deconinck has drawn meteors. We can see many examples of his artwork on this personal website: astro.aquarellia.com.



AMS Event#4047-2017 – Watercolor by Michel Deconinck © M. Deconinck

The French fireball was also witnessed by Alexandre Astier, a famous French writer, director, editor, scriptwriter, humorist, actor and composer. Astier shared the event on his personal twitter account to draw attention to the general public of the event. Astier is most known as the creator, director, writer and lead actor of the French television series Kaamelott, in which he also plays King Arthur. Funny enough, he also played a comic show called "L'Exoconférence" about extraterrestrial life in 2014. Many famous french astronomers were involved in the making of this show.

Report a fireball

You saw something bright and fast? Like a huge shooting star? Report it: it may be a fireball.

Report a Fireball

Help Us

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or become an official member.

## LATEST MAJOR FIREBALL EVENTS

Everyday, we receive reports about Fireballs. Here are some of the latest major Fireball Events:

- NOV 22 reports from CA
- NOV 46 reports from VT, NJ, MA, NY, CT, PA...
- OCT 15 reports from LA, MS, TX, AR & FL

And also...

- NOV 10 reports from Belgium, Germany & Netherlands
- NOV 18 reports from Austria, Italy, Germany, Switzerland & France
- NOV 17 reports from Belgium & United Kingdom
- OCT 14 reports from France & United Kingdom
- OCT 19 reports from Germany, United Kingdom, Netherlands, France & Belgium

Browse all events

## FIREBALL REPORTS

We are currently investigating 28 reports about fireballs seen over AZ, HI, NJ, TX, FL, CA, KS, WA, OR, DE, NH, PA, OH, NV, Massachusetts and MI.

We are also currently investigating 34 reports from Canada, Germany, France, United Kingdom and Netherlands.

METEOR SHOWERS

Next major shower peak:

Northern Taurids on November 10-11th night. The moon will be 38% of full.

This shower is much like the Southern Taurids, just active a bit later in the year. When the two showers are active simultaneously in late October and early November, there is sometimes a notable increase in the fireball activity. There seems to be a seven year periodicity with these fireballs. 2008...

Current active major meteor showers:

- Orionids - Sep 23 > Nov 27
- Southern Taurids - Sep 23 > Nov 19
- Northern Taurids - Oct 19 > Dec 10
- Leonids - Nov 5 > 30

Meteor Shower Calendar