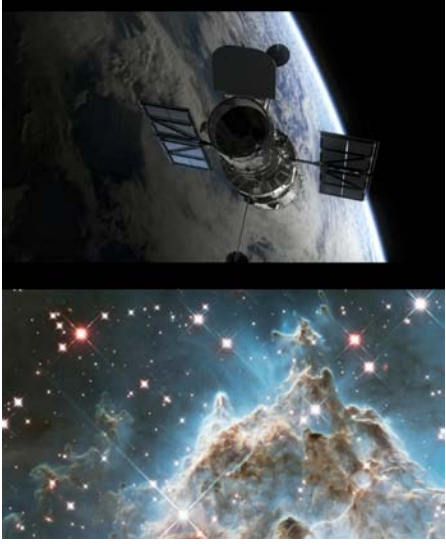






HUBBLE

ESO, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str.2  
D-85748 Garching bei München,  
Germany  
Telephone: +49 (0)89 3200 6855  
Telefax: +49 (0)89 3200 6480  
hubble@eso.org

[www.spacetelescope.org](http://www.spacetelescope.org)

<b>Hubblecast Episode 73: Hubble revisits the Monkey Head Nebula for 24th birthday snap</b>	<b>Visual notes</b>
<p>00:00 <b>[Narrator]</b> 1. To celebrate each new year of observing, the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope captures stunning new images of the sky.</p> <p>This year, for its 24th birthday, the space telescope has released a new image of part of NGC 2174.</p> <p>This region, also known as the Monkey Head Nebula, is filled with young stars embedded within bright wisps of cosmic gas and dust.</p>	
<p>00:37 <b>2. Intro</b></p>	
<p>01:00 <b>[Narrator]</b> 3. Nebulae are a favourite target for Hubble. Their colourful plumes of gas and fiery bright stars create ethereally beautiful pictures.</p> <p>Some of Hubble's most beautiful and popular images have been of nebulae — for example, take the</p>	

telescope's striking image of the Ring Nebula, released last year. Or this delicate and beautiful infrared image of the Horsehead Nebula, produced to celebrate Hubble's 23rd anniversary.

In 2012 Hubble viewed the Tarantula Nebula to commemorate its 22nd birthday, and for its 21st snapped the stunning cosmic rose Arp 273.

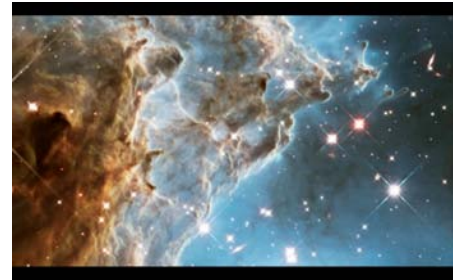


02:05

**[Narrator]**

4. Now, to celebrate its 24th year in orbit, Hubble has revisited part of NGC 2174, more commonly known as the Monkey Head Nebula.

Dark brown and rust-coloured dust clouds billow outwards, framed against a background of bright blue gas. These striking hues are formed by combining several Hubble images taken with different coloured filters, to reveal a broad range of colours not normally visible to the human eye.



02:47

**[Narrator]**

5. This is not the first time Hubble has turned its gaze to the Monkey Head Nebula. Sitting about 6400 light-years away in the constellation of Orion, NGC 2174 was previously captured by Hubble in 2011.

The violent stellar nursery contains all the ingredients needed for star formation. However, the recipe for cooking up new stars isn't very efficient and most of these ingredients are wasted as the cloud of gas and dust gradually disperses.

The rate at which the nebula disperses is accelerated by the presence of fiercely hot young stars, which trigger high velocity winds that help to blow the gas outwards.



03:53

**[Narrator]**

6. Launched in 1990, the Hubble Space Telescope has witnessed countless cosmic marvels in its 24 years in orbit. Capturing the elegance of nature, it is a unique window into the Universe and continues to astound us year after year with stunning images and cutting-edge science. Happy 24th birthday Hubble!



**Ends 05:30**