



## WHO WE ARE

**Loch Ness Productions** is an innovative company run by two of the planetarium community's "stellar attractions": **Mark and Carolyn Collins Petersen**.

The company was formed in 1977 by Mark, then the Composer-in-Residence at Boulder's Fiske Planetarium. Many pleased planetarium patrons came up after the shows, asking where they could get the music they had heard. Since it was original music composed just for the shows, Mark noted the most-requested selections, and released the first of the GEODESIUM series of albums. Today Mark has 11 albums available with more in production. Tens of thousands of his albums have been sold around the world, receiving airplay on syndicated radio programs such as "Music From The Hearts of Space", "Musical Starstreams" and "Echoes". In January 1995, *CNN's "Showbiz Today"* featured Mark in a segment on planetarium space music.

Over the years, Loch Ness Productions has added other planetarium production materials to its catalog. More than 900 classic planetarium and fulldome theaters in the U.S. and 54 other countries have purchased our programs, images, and/or music — an unsurpassed and ongoing record for an independent planetarium production company. More than a million planetarium patrons have experienced Loch Ness Productions planetarium programs. Today, we are focused on creating and distributing digital multimedia products for fulldome theaters, content development and creation for museum and science center exhibits, Webcasts, software packages, and more.



### Mark C. Petersen, president

Mark loves the choreography of production — whether it is for a planetarium show or a music album. His degree is in Music Education from the University of Colorado. In 1975, he became the Composer-in-Residence at Boulder's Fiske Planetarium. He has also created original music and custom soundtracks for major planetaria, Sky-Skan, Evans & Sutherland and others. His music has been heard in videos from NASA News Net; "ViewSpace" from the Space Telescope Science Institute; and Space.com. For Caedmon Records, he produced a 20-minute "Comet Halley" soundtrack for worldwide distribution.

In 1993, Mark produced the video program *"HUBBLE: Report From Orbit,"* which was awarded First Prize in the Casa de las Ciencias (La Coruña, Spain) Sixth Contest for Science Publications. Over the past decade, in addition to his work on fulldome video productions, Mark has also worked as co-producer (with Carolyn Collins Petersen) on a NASA-funded vodcast series called *Space Weather FX* for MIT's Haystack Observatory, as well as software soundtracks for Software Bisque products. He and Carolyn recently produced a podcast series called *Astronomy Behind the Headlines* for the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

A Fellow of the International Planetarium Society, he served as Treasurer and Membership Chairman from 1985-1990, and undertook the development and annual publication of the IPS Directory of Planetaria and Planetarians. Mark served as President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Rocky Mountain Planetarium Association (1983-87), and instituted the publication of its quarterly journal, the *High Altitude Observer*. He maintains extensive databases of domed theaters and fulldome presentations, and periodically publishes a ***State of the Dome Address***, detailing the current state of the domed theater community.



### Carolyn Collins Petersen, CEO

Carolyn is an award-winning science writer and producer. She has authored more than two dozen Loch Ness Productions shows; plus scripts for Evans & Sutherland and several major planetaria. In addition, she wrote astronomy exhibits for Griffith Observatory and the climate change exhibition at California Academy of Sciences. She has taught science writing workshops, and does public lectures at conferences and on cruise ships. She is also a voice-over actor, with many science narrations to her credit, and is a producer for Astrocast.TV, an online space and astronomy news magazine.

Carolyn is associate editor of Gemini Observatory's *GeminiFocus* magazine, and has worked with Subaru and MIT's Haystack Observatories to help shape their public outreach products. She has served on Education and Public Outreach advisory boards for several spacecraft missions.

Carolyn is the lead author of *"Visions of the Cosmos,"* and *"Hubble Vision,"* (both co-written with Dr. John C. Brandt and published by Cambridge University Press), and was co-editor (with J. Kelly Beatty and Andrew Chaikin) of *"The New Solar System,"* 4th Edition, (Sky Publishing Corporation; Cambridge University Press). From 1997 through 2000, Carolyn was Editor of Books and Products at Sky Publishing Corporation, Editor of *SkyWatch* magazine, and Associate Editor of *Sky & Telescope* magazine.

She holds a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in journalism from the University of Colorado, where she was also a Professional Research Associate with the Hubble Space Telescope's Goddard High Resolution Spectrograph team at the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics. She also served as observation coordinator for the Ulysses Comet Watch.

A member of the International Planetarium Society since 1978, Carolyn is an IPS Fellow. She served as IPS Publications Chair (1985-1990), and is a former President of the Rocky Mountain Planetarium Association (1987-1989). Carolyn is also a member of the American Astronomical Society and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.