Jeanne Dumée Encyclopedia Article

Jeanne Dumée

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Jeanne Dumée

fl. 1680

French astronomer remembered for her book *Entretiens sur l'opinion de Copernic touchant la mobilité de la terra* (1680). Dumée's expressed intent was not to argue for Copernicanism but rather to examine Copernicus's arguments. Nevertheless, she concluded that it was impossible to believe in the geocentric world view. The introduction to her critically acclaimed book challenged the widely held belief that women's intellectual abilities were inferior because their brains were smaller and lighter than men's.