Maria Margarethe Winkelmann Kirch Encyclopedia Article

Maria Margarethe Winkelmann Kirch

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Maria Margarethe Winkelmann Kirch

1670-1720

German astronomer who married her teacher Gottfried Kirch in 1692 and worked as his assistant making observations and calendar calculations. She continued to research and publish after his death in 1710. She discovered the comet of 1702, published a pamphlet on the 1712 Sun-Venus-Saturn conjunction (1709), and wrote about the Jupiter-Saturn conjunction (1712). When her son Christfried was appointed astronomer of Berlin's observatory, she joined him and continued calculating calendars for various German cities.