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Nota di contenuto	CONTENTS; Preface; Préface; Acknowledgements; Introduction; I. The Development of European Astronomy during the 20th Century; II. ESO, La Silla, the 3.6-m Telescope, Other Telescope Projects in Europe; III. Origin of the VLT Project; The NTT; IV. Technological, Financial and Scientific Planning of the VLT; V. Construction of the VLT; VI. Sites for Telescopes; VII. The VLT Observatory: Adaptive Optics, Instruments, Interferometry and Survey Telescopes; VIII. Ground and Space Based Optical Telescopes; IX. Radio Astronomy; ALMA and SKA; X. Europe in Space: ESA's Horizons 2000 XI. European Space Missions: IR, X- and Gamma RaysXII. European Space Missions: The Solar System; XIII. European Space Missions: The Sun and the Heliosphere; Ground based Solar Telescopes; XIV. Astroparticles and Gravitational Waves; XV. Looking for Planets and Life in the Universe; XVI. Publications; XVII. European Astronomy: Researchers and Funding; XVIII. The Future; XIX. Epilogue; Notes; Acronyms and Concepts; Index; Photo credits;
Sommario/riassunto	The large European instruments developed for observing the Universe, from the Sun and planets to its most remote reaches, form the principal subject of this book, addresses a wide audience: astronomers and

space scientists, students, politicians, amateur astronomers and the
educated public.
