

KURT LAMBECK

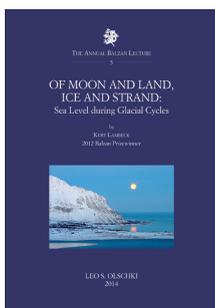
2012 Balzan prizewinner

## OF MOON AND LAND, ICE AND STRAND

### SEA LEVEL DURING GLACIAL CYCLES

«Moon and Land, Ice and Strand» encompasses the four elements constituting the principal directions of Lambeck's research over the past five decades: The Moon and artificial satellites; the Earth's surface, crust and deep interior; the ice sheets of the geologically recent past; and aspects of the oceans and its coastal zone.

In this lecture, Lambeck shows us what can be learnt from the analysis of past sea level data, like complementing



glaciological and geological models of past events, or gaining insight into the material behaviour of the Earth (the mantle response function). Most importantly, observations of the ice histories and mantle response functions can be unscrambled to provide models with predictive capabilities, and this has implications for other fields of science like archaeology, pre-history paleogeography and the study of modern sea level change.

*L'impostazione teorica e pratica di Lambeck, Professore Emerito presso il Dipartimento di ricerca in Scienze Naturali dell'Australian National University (Canberra), tocca questioni fondamentali legate al nostro pianeta. Le sue scoperte sulla geologia terrestre hanno rivoluzionato concetti cruciali delle geoscienze, adottando un'ottica interdisciplinare che spazia dalla geodetica alla geologia, alla geofisica, all'oceanografia e alla paleoclimatologia. I suoi libri rappresentano un punto di riferimento per gli studiosi di geodinamica terrestre.*

KURT LAMBECK (b. 1941, Utrecht, The Netherlands and Australian citizen since 1956). After his undergraduate work (University of New South Wales, Australia) and PhD (University of Oxford), he worked at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, at the University of Paris and at the Australian National University from 1977 to 2007 where he is now Professor Emeritus. He is also a Visiting Professor at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris. Throughout his career, Lambeck's theoretical and observational approaches have addressed fundamental questions relating to our planet. His findings on the solid earth have revolutionized crucial concepts in the geosciences, adopting an interdisciplinary outlook ranging from geodesy to geology, geophysics, oceanography and paleoclimatology. His books are essential for students and researchers in terrestrial geodynamics.

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