

Nothing Can Escape a Black Hole (Except Water, Gas, Energetic Particles, and)

By Washington's Blog

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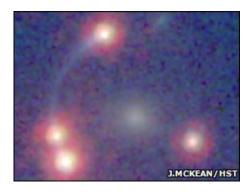
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Theme: Science and Medicine

Everyone knows that nothing can escape a black hole, right?

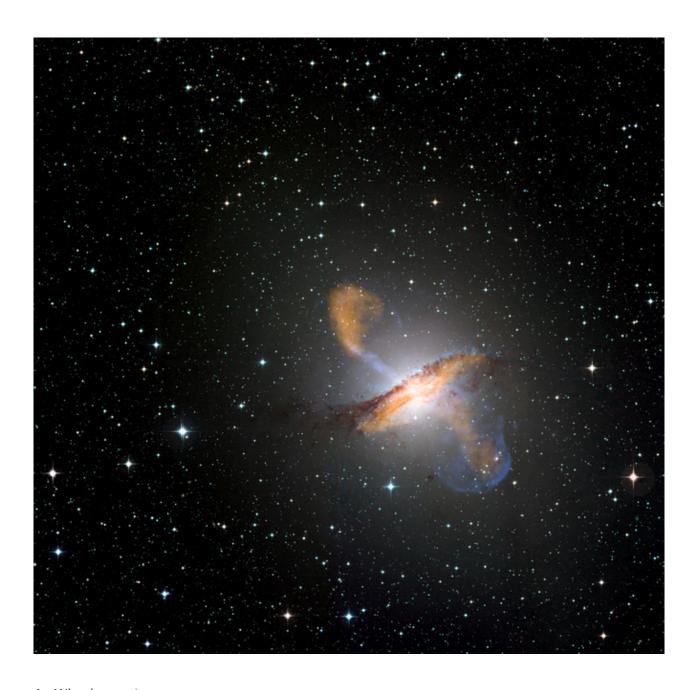
Actually, as I <u>noted</u> last year:

Scientists say they have discovered a black hole in a distant galaxy that spouted water in a powerful jet:



Indeed, scientists say that "surveys of ... younger galaxies show that ... about 5% have powerful water masers".

Now, scientists have found a black hole which shoots out jets of gas and highly energetic particles into a neighboring galaxy, speeding up star formation in nearby.



As Wired reports:

Astronomers have spied a distant black hole in the act of creating the galaxy that will eventually become its home.

By sending a <u>jet of gas and highly energetic particles</u> into a neighboring galaxy, the black hole has touched off star formation at a rate 100 times the galactic average.

"Our study suggests that supermassive black holes can trigger the formation of stars, thus 'building' their own host galaxies," David Elbaz, lead author of a paper on the work in the journal <u>Astronomy and Astrophysics</u>, said in a press release. "This link could also explain why galaxies hosting larger black holes have more stars."

I am not sure whether the water, gas and particles emanate from inside the black holes themselves, or from right outside the black holes. I haven't interviewed the scientists who made the above-described discoveries. If the later, consider this poetic license.

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