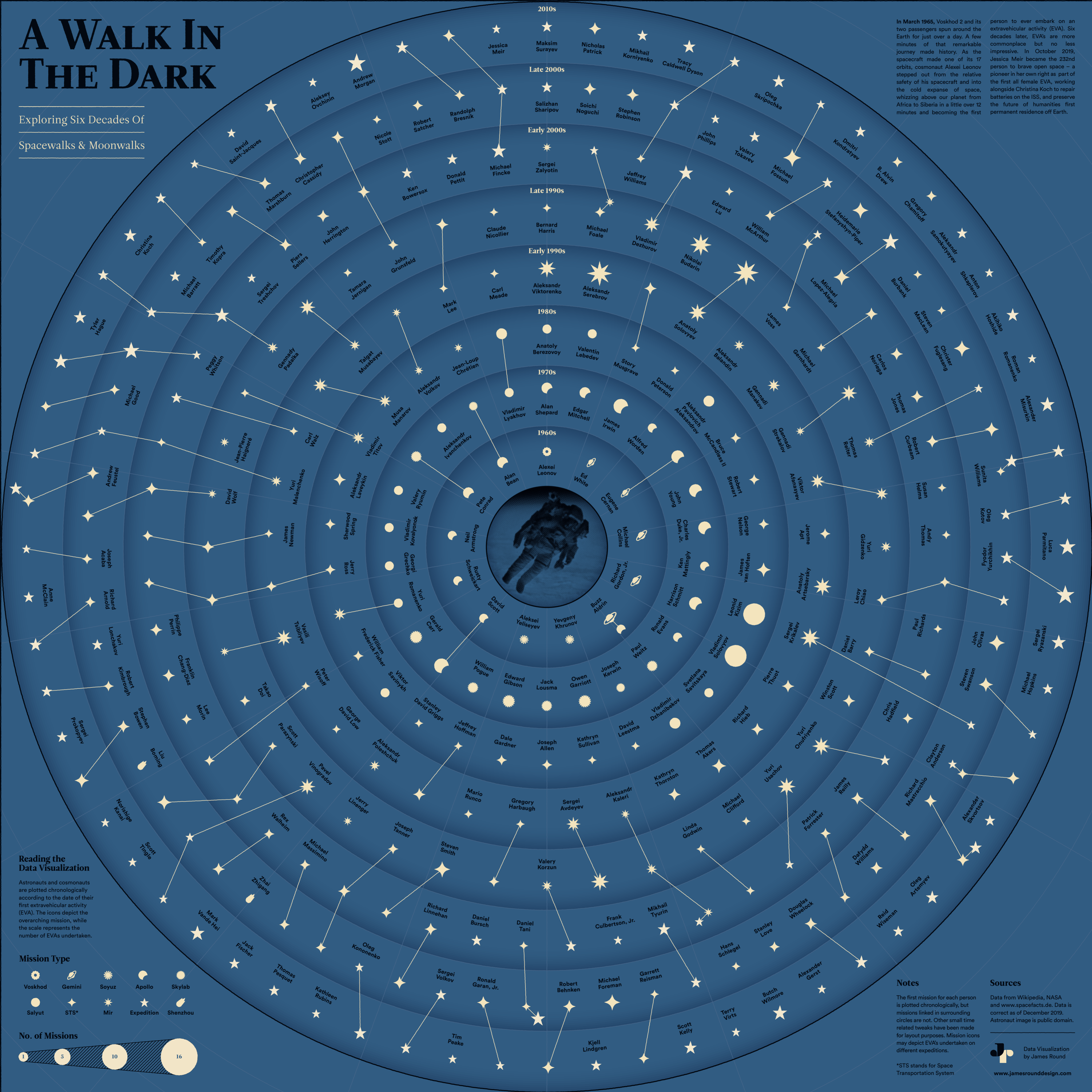


A WALK IN THE DARK

Exploring Six Decades Of
Spacewalks & Moonwalks

In March 1965, Voskhod 2 and its two passengers spun around the Earth for just over a day. A few minutes of that remarkable journey made history. As the spacecraft made one of its 17 orbits, cosmonaut Alexei Leonov stepped out from the relative safety of his spacecraft and into the cold expanse of space, whizzing above our planet from Africa to Siberia in a little over 12 minutes and becoming the first person to ever embark on an extravehicular activity (EVA). Six decades later, EVAs are more commonplace but no less impressive. In October 2019, Jessica Meir became the 232nd person to brave open space – a pioneer in her own right as part of the first all-female EVA, working alongside Christina Koch to repair batteries on the ISS, and preserve the future of humanities first permanent residence off Earth.



Reading the Data Visualization

Astronauts and cosmonauts are plotted chronologically according to the date of their first extravehicular activity (EVA). The icons depict the overarching mission, while the scale represents the number of EVAs undertaken.

Mission Type



No. of Missions



Notes

The first mission for each person is plotted chronologically, but missions linked in surrounding circles are not. Other small time related tweaks have been made for layout purposes. Mission icons may depict EVAs undertaken on different expeditions.

*STS stands for Space Transportation System

Sources

Data from Wikipedia, NASA and www.spacefacts.de. Data is correct as of December 2019. Astronaut image is public domain.

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