Eise Eisinga Planetarium

Located in Franeka, Friesland in the Netherlands, I recently visited this incredible orrery, which to the best of our knowledge is the oldest working orrery in the world. The orrery allows you to predict the position of the planets in the solar system, and it also displays the phases of the moon. What makes this orrery so impressive is the fact that Eise Eisinga, the man who created it, was just an amateur astronomer; his job was working as a wool comber throughout his life, and he built the orrery inside his house on the ceiling of his living room. He was also mid way through building it when William Herschel discovered Uranus, so Saturn is the furthest planet from the sun included in his orrery.

Worth a visit if you are ever in Friesland!

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