NASA’s Webb Telescope captures a fresh view of the famed star-forming region Pillars of Creation

The image of the haunting spires of dust and gas and the newborn stars within is the latest cosmic portrait from Webb, which launched last December.

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As if the Pillars of Creation could get any more iconic.

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope has captured a fresh view of a famed celestial sight: the stunning star-forming region known as the Pillars of Creation.

The image, teeming with newborn stars and revealing new details of the region's haunting spires of dust and gas, was released Wednesday. It is the latest cosmic portrait from the Webb observatory, building on the telescope's already impressive collection.

David Grinspoon, an astrobiologist at the Planetary Science Institute, called the new Webb image “just spectacular beyond words.”

“Oh. My. Universe.” he tweeted.

The Pillars of Creation lie at the heart of a stellar nursery known as the Eagle Nebula, or Messier 16, which is located around 6,500 light-years away from Earth.

They form a familiar scene: the wispy towers of gas and dust, which resemble rock formations, were famously captured by the Hubble Space Telescope in 1995, then again in 2014. In the Webb observatory's new view, the sculpted columns appear less opaque, since Webb's infrared instruments can penetrate through some of the dust to reveal more of the region's newly formed stars.