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Sagittarius A*: The supermassive black hole at the center of the Milky Way located about 27,000 light years away.

(Credit: X-ray: NASA/CXC/SAO; IR: NASA/HST/STScl. Inset: Radio (EHT Collaboration))

Caption: The main panel of this graphic contains X-ray data from Chandra (blue) showing hot gas that was blown away from massive stars near the Milky Way's central supermassive black hole known as Sagittarius A* (Sgr A*). Two infrared images at different wavelengths from Hubble reveal stars (orange) and cool gas (purple). The new image of Sgr A* from the Event Horizon Telescope, based on data obtained in April 2017, is in the inset. This shows the area close to the "event horizon," the boundary of a black hole from which nothing can escape. By combining EHT data with those from NASA telescopes and others on the ground, astronomers are learning more about Sgr A* and how it interacts with its environment.

Chandra X-ray Observatory ACIS Image

CXC operated for NASA by the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory