The Gaia Space Telescope

Mapping over a billion objects in our Milky Way

https://www.cosmos.esa.int/gaia
design Courtesy William Taylor
This is the sunshield of the spacecraft, measuring nearly 10 meters across. It keeps the telescopes and detectors cool, and at a very constant temperature.
This is the service module, containing all support units such as the computers and propellant tanks.
This is the back side of the tent that protects the telescopes and detectors.
These are the two telescopes that collect star light. Their real size is 1.45 x 0.50 m.
This is also part of the tent. Obviously, a hole is left to let the starlight in ...
This is the roof of the protective tent.
This is the reserve antenna for communicating with Earth. The main antenna is at the bottom of the sunshield.
Congratulations: you have built Gaia! In reality, the build lasted about 7 years, from 2006 through 2013. Gaia has been looking at the stars from space since 2014 and has already made many exciting discoveries ... 

Check out the website to learn more http://gaia.esa.int/