Boltzmann honored on death centenary

This month, which marks the 100th anniversary of his death, the Austrian physicist and mathematician Ludwig Boltzmann is being honored with a commemorative plaque in Duino, Italy. The plaque is to hang in the hotel-now a college-where

Boltzmann committed suicide on 5 September 1906 while on

vacation with his family.

The plaque is the doing of the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in nearby Trieste and its director, Katepalli Sreenivasan, "We are the physics center in the vicinity," he says. "And Boltzmann had a tremendous impact on me personally." Sreenivasan recalls being about 19 years old when

IN MEMORIAM LUDWIG BOLTZMANN (1844-1906) IN THIS BUILDING, THEN KNOWN AS HOTEL PLES. HUDWIG BOLTZMANN, THE GREAT AUSTRIAN PHYSICIST. A PIONEER OF STATISTICAL MECHANICS AND OF THE ATOMIC HOPOTHESIS OF MATTER. TOOK HIS LIFE ON 5 SEPTEMBER 1906 IN QUESTO EDIFICIO, ALIGRA NOTO COME HOTEL PLES. IL 5 SETTEMBRE 1906 SI TOUSE LA VITA IL GRANDE FISICO AUSTRIACO LUDWIG BOLTZMANN. PIONUERI DELLA MECCANICA STATISTICA E DELL'IPOTESI ATOMICA DELLA MATERIA are the conduct about Extense case however in a planta in the next Charlet Wilester Control of the Armerica. Property Shahar, Estimated 24th

he first learned about Boltzmann: "He had to struggle for recognition. He killed himself at least partly because he couldn't come to terms with the criticism of his work. I resolved that I would never allow the criticism of my work to destroy my creativity."

A ceremony at the plaque hanging includes talks by physicists and local dignitaries. ICTP is also hosting an exhibition about Boltzmann's life and work.

Toni Feder