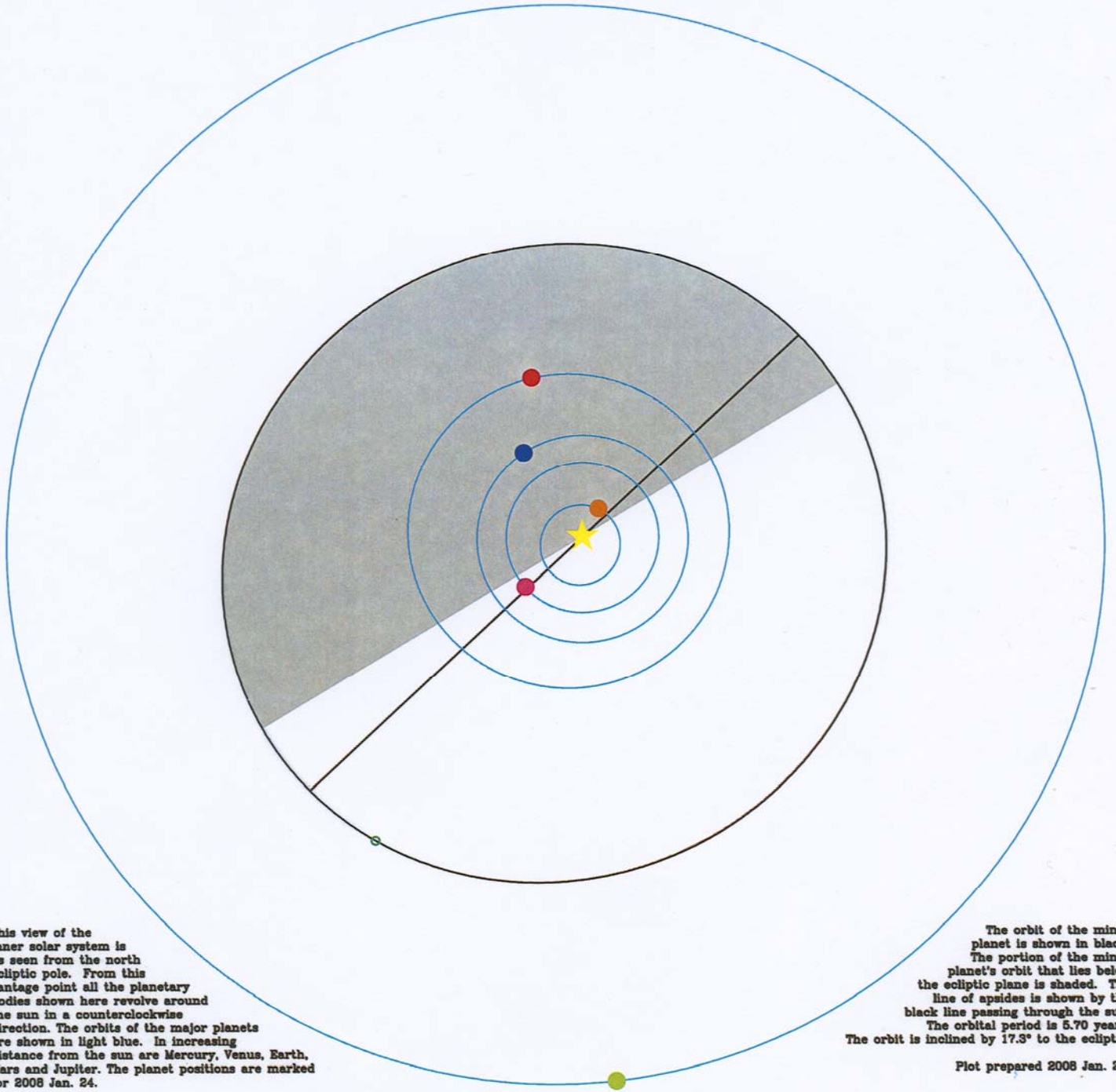


(23617) Duna



This view of the inner solar system is as seen from the north ecliptic pole. From this vantage point all the planetary bodies shown here revolve around the sun in a counterclockwise direction. The orbits of the major planets are shown in light blue. In increasing distance from the sun are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars and Jupiter. The planet positions are marked for 2008 Jan. 24.

The orbit of the minor planet is shown in black. The portion of the minor planet's orbit that lies below the ecliptic plane is shaded. The line of apsides is shown by the black line passing through the sun. The orbital period is 5.70 years. The orbit is inclined by 17.3° to the ecliptic.

Plot prepared 2008 Jan. 24.

The Duna is the ancient name of the Daugava river, upon which the Latvian capital of Riga has been built. With a total length of 1020 km, it has its source in the Valdai hills of Russia, flows also through Belarus and drains into the Gulf of Riga, a bay of the Baltic Sea.