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**Cover Legend:** THE FLYING MAN, engraving after Nicolas-Edmé Restif de la Bretonne (1734–1806), from “Wonderful Balloon Ascents or the Conquest of the Skies,” Lithograph by Fulgence Marion (aka astronomer Camille Flammarion), c. 1870. Man has long been captivated by the idea of flight—from Daedalus to the Space Shuttle. The myth of Daedalus and his son, Icarus, describes their miraculous escape from the Labyrinth of Crete via artificially constructed wings—a success story for Daedalus and a disaster for Icarus. Restif’s Flying Man is a science-fiction image of human aspiration and remains a prophetic vision for the future. Restif’s life itself was both triumph and disaster. He was a prolific writer (over 200 volumes), printer, police informant, and social reformer and was torn between loyalty to the reigning aristocracy and sympathy for the plight of the underprivileged. His taboo-breaking novels regarding prostitution, incest, pornography, and immorality, accompanied by erotic drawings and off-color language, earned him the title “the Rousseau of the Gutter.” His books on every conceivable subject, from philosophical discourse to playful fantasies, yield a broad picture of French society on the eve of the French Revolution. Restif’s beautiful image of Daedalus continues to resonate today as NASA reaches for the stars and beyond. In this issue, we report historic data obtained from two of the last missions of the Space Shuttle (STS-131 and STS-133): impaired vascular changes in mice following spaceflight are mediated by ryanodine receptor-driven intracellular Ca^{2+} release. These changes would compromise the maintenance of arterial pressure in astronauts during orthostatic stress. Image courtesy of a private collector/Bridgeman Art Library; text by Ann Weissmann, fine-arts editor.