

Cosmographia of Sebastian Munster in the 16th Century

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Key words: History;

SUMMARY

The city library of Brugge invited me to come and give a Lecture on cosmography in the 16th century. On this occasion the Bruges copy was on exhibit for the BIMCC members on February 18th 2014 Short bibliography*1 Sebastian Muenster was born in Nieder-Ingelheim, near Mainz in Januari 1488 and died in Basel on May 26th 1552. This is the short version. Like many young man he took the orders in Heidelberg. He studied for a short period in Leuven and in Freiburg, he met the cosmographer Georg Reisch, who published the Margaretha Philosophia from 1505 onwards, this book went into many editions. Later in his studies he met Conrad Pellikan, who taught him Hebrew, In Pforzheim he became a catholic priest. In 1515 he lectures philosophy and theology in Tübingen. Here he meets Johannes Stöfler who introduces him to astronomy and higher mathematics. Both Hebrew and applied mathematics will conduct his work and publications. He finally became professor of Hebrew at the University of Basel, where he lectured for the rest of his life. In 1529 he choose for the Reformation church. In 1530 he married the widow of his printer Petri and from then, all publications were printed in Basel by the printing house Petri. This conference will be illustrated with power point illustrations from the original book