



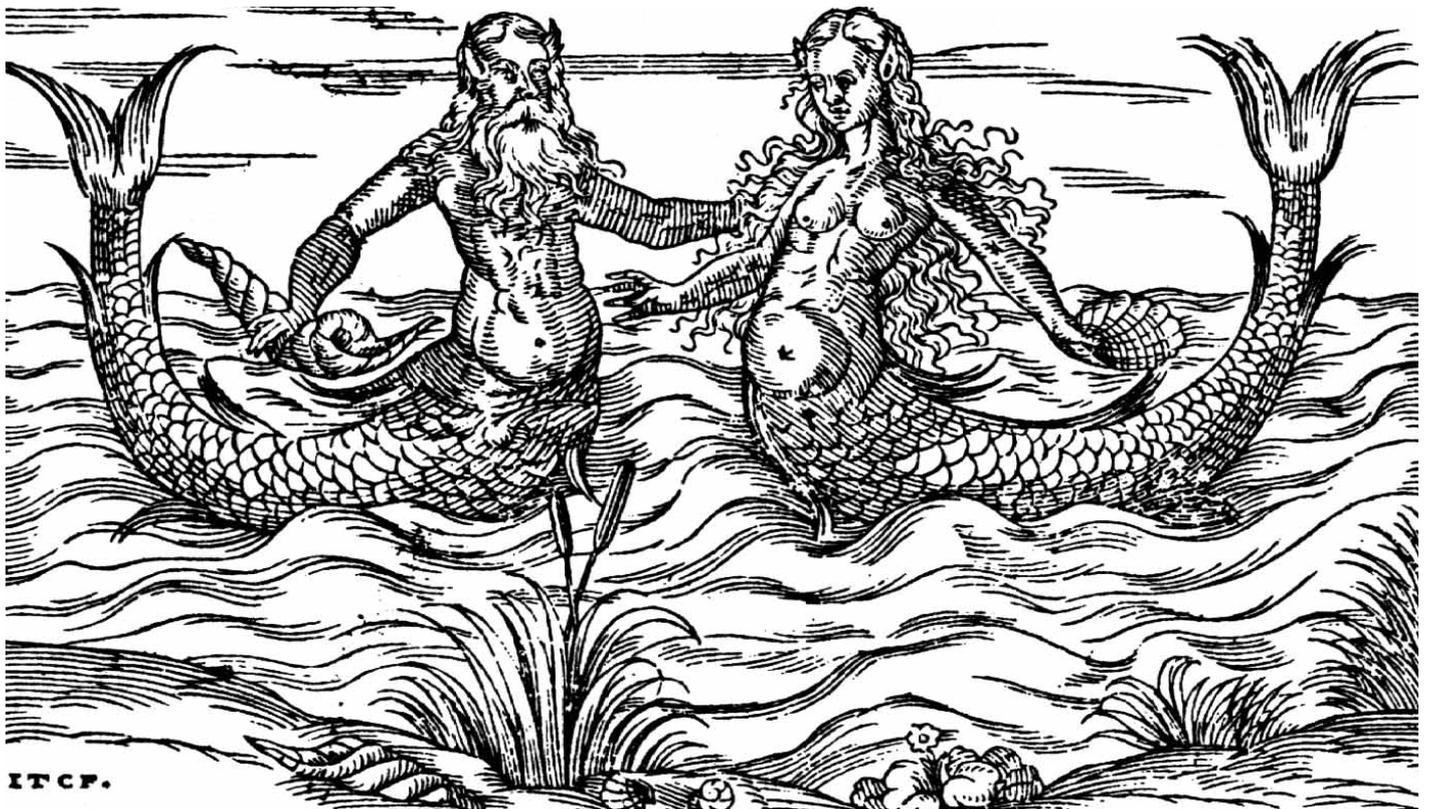
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Focus on

CHARTING THE SEAS

Seven centuries of maritime cartography



- **Report on the December 2006 BIMCC Conference**
- **Waldseemüller's cosmography and sea charts**
- **The portolan charts of Volcius**
- **Reviews of books on sea charts and the history of navigation**

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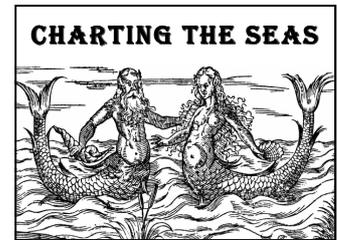
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Dear Map Friends,

This issue is focused on the theme of our recent, and successful, Conference: 'Charting the seas'. Of course we have a full report of the conference itself, but, in addition, two of our distinguished speakers provided us with the paper they have presented (I understand that other speakers will also provide articles for further Newsletters...): Monique Pelletier presents some new aspects of Waldseemüller's work, and Drago Novak makes us discover Volcius, a not so famous portolan maker from Dubrovnik (one of his masterpieces is reproduced — unfortunately without colour! — on the central pages). Most of the book reviews presented in this issue also pertain to sea charts or the history of navigation. To continue on this theme, our programme for the new year includes an extra excursion to visit a treasure of newly 'discovered' sea charts...

Although this Newsletter has a record size of 40 pages, I had to postpone a few articles and book reviews to later issues. So do not forget to renew your membership for 2007: you will get even more value for money with the coming Newsletters and future activities; in particular the next conference will be organized on a larger scale, in the framework of the Europalia festival, in cooperation with the Belgian Royal Library and in coordination with their maps exhibition 'Formatting Europe'; don't miss it! And if you like what we are doing, do come and join the core BIMCC team: just attend the coming Annual General Meeting...

Happy cartographic new year,

Jean-Louis Renteux
editor@bimcc.org



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PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

Images de Mons en Hainaut du XVI^e au XIX^e siècle

Exhibition at the Anciens abattoirs, Mons, Belgium, 29 September - 17 December 2006

<http://www.mons.be/default.aspx?GUID=%7BC18A6A77-5414-48B7-8520-59D8D446ADAB%7D&LNG=FRA>

Catalogue in French, 312 pp, 160 colour illustrations, EUR 45.00, ISBN 2-87415-662-0.

La Renaissance du Livre, Brussels, 2006

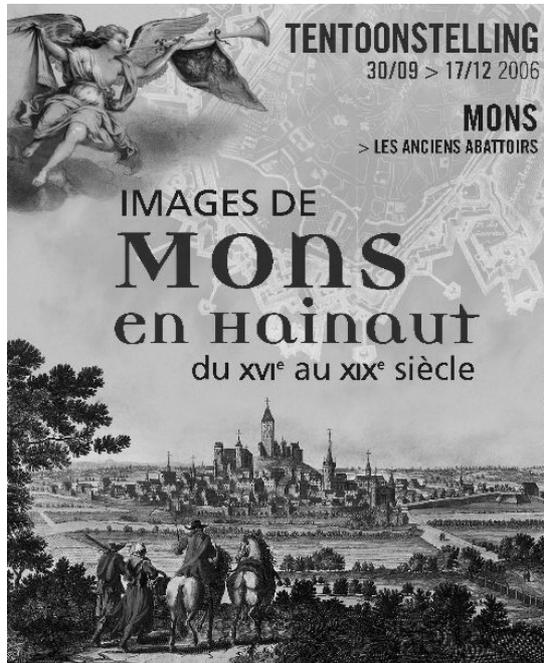
The city of Mons and the *Université Mons Hainaut* in Belgium organized a nice exhibition around a private collection of ancient maps and prints of the region which they recently acquired. The presentation and the setting in a newly renovated building were pleasant and the explanations appropriate and interesting.

The first part of the exhibition presented some 25 maps of the County of Hainaut, representing a good selection of existing maps, particularly for early maps of the 16th century.

The other parts of the exhibition comprised plans, prints and ancient photos, and were devoted to the city of Mons and the long and complicated story of its fortifications: they were consolidated by the Spaniards to guard the Low Countries against French expansionism in the 16th century; the French nevertheless conquered the city four times, but, each time, returned it in the following peace negotiations... After the first French siege (1691), Vauban reinforced the fortifications just in time to return them to Spain after the Treaty of Rijswick! The same scenario repeated during the war of succession of Spain (1701-09). After the siege of 1746, the French demolished the fortifications, before returning the city to Austria. The Austrian rebuilt the fortifications, but did not maintain them properly and they were of little use when the revolutionary French came (1792). The fortifications were again rebuilt by the Dutch (1817-26) and, finally, demolished by ...the Belgians, in 1865.

The exhibition also comprised a large plan relief depicting Mons and its fortifications as they stood in the 1850s; the model had been made some twenty years ago, while the 18th century plan relief, which had been taken to Berlin, had been destroyed during World War II...

A short film explaining the history of Mons on the basis of ancient maps and pictures concluded this interesting and well realized exhibition.



The accompanying book is much more than a catalogue: with 312 large pages (24x31 cm) and 160 illustrations in full colour (including 77 maps and plans), it must be greeted as the first quality book presenting ancient maps of Hainaut.

The book has been designed for a broad audience and starts, in the first 40 pages, with a 'genesis of scientific cartography and its evolution after Belgian independence' by Hossam Elkadem (former map curator at the Royal Library in Brussels); it emphasizes the importance of Islamic precursors, stresses the various contributions from Mercator and outlines that of

the main cartographers from the Low Countries.

The second part is more specific to the subject title of the book; its 58 pages by Claire Lemoine-Isabeau (former map curator at the Army museum in Brussels, well known for her reference books on Belgian cartography) are devoted to 'Engraved topographic maps of Hainaut'. The introduction presents the historical context of the production of the first maps of the County in the middle of the 16th century, which were all, more or less, based on the initial ground work by Jacques Surhon (see BIMCC Newsletter No 19 for a central page reproduction of his map first published by Ortelius in 1579). Each of the 26 maps exhibited is then reproduced and commented upon in a concise and pleasant style.

Claire Lemoine-Isabeau admits that the set of maps presented is only a sample (for example the collection of Johan Vanvolsem visited by the BIMCC in 2003 was more comprehensive – see BIMCC Newsletter No 18) and she hopes to make a more extensive study later on.

In the third part of the book, several authors present the history of Mons, of its fortifications and its major buildings. The chapter on fortifications comprises a series of plans which are explained in details by Walter De Keyser and Bruno Van Mol.

There is a comprehensive bibliography, but no index.

Jean-Louis Renteux
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LOOKS AT BOOKS (I)

The Atlas of Atlases by Phillip Allen

Bounty Books, London, 2005, 160 pp with more than 300 full-colour illustrations. Hardcover with dust jacket, ISBN 0-7537-1311-X. Approx. EUR 30.00
(Dutch and French versions of earlier editions are also still available)

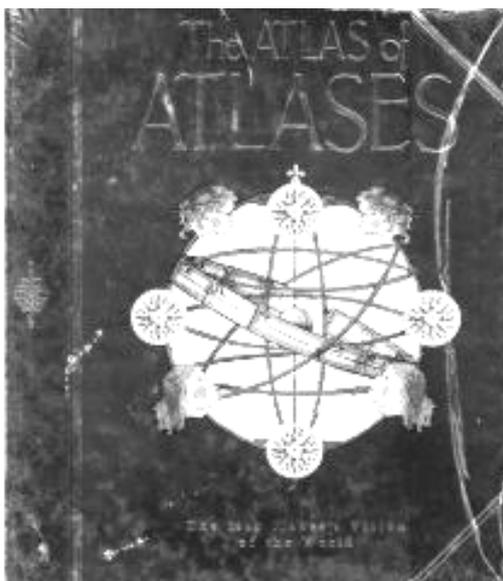
The *Atlas of Atlases* reproduces maps from five centuries of atlas making in the Western World. In this book the history of mapmaking is beautifully illustrated by examples taken from atlases from the Cadbury Collection at the Birmingham Central Library. Phillip Allen, the special collections officer there, provides a selection of atlases of their library with insightful commentaries and a short biography of the atlas maker. And although *The Atlas of Atlases* looks like a 'coffee table book' on maps at first sight, it provides a fine overview of the changes in map making traditions from the 1482 Ulm edition of Ptolemy's *Cosmographia* right until the *Times Atlas* of 1897. Each chapter deals with a specific period in history and opens with a brief overview of the historical, cultural and scientific events that contributed to or influenced the mapmaking art of that particular period in time. Since the maps shown are really used to tell the story of explorations, discoveries and the struggle for power between the European nations, this book becomes more than a mere picture book.

Of course the first chapter starts with the classical and Medieval tradition of cartography. Not less than eight (!) versions of Ptolemy's *Cosmographia* are illustrated and briefly discussed, which nicely shows the evolution of these different editions. In the era of exploration, the author deals with the rise and fall of the Flemish map making business by Ortelius, De Jode and Braun and Hogenberg. The concept 'atlas' is hereby further explored by a stunning example of a Lafreri atlas. The subsequent dominance of the Dutch mapmakers is illustrated with atlases of Blaeu, Janssonius, De Wit, Danckerts, Schenck and Waghenauer. Here the exploration of undiscovered Asia and Africa is lavishly illustrated. The new overseas empires that were the result of colonial possession and voyages of discovery are the subject of the atlases by famous French map makers such as Delisle and Sanson. Some less known atlases of English map makers illustrate the exploration of the last undiscovered

areas of the 19th century: Australia and the remote Islands of the South Pacific. The rapid developments of science and the introduction of lithography instead of copperplate printing finally leads to the modern age of map making. And although many map collectors tend to focus on maps before the 19th century, this chapter remains interesting with for example one of the first maps to show contour layered colouring to indicate different heights of land in Bartholomew's English Imperial Atlas of 1892.

As stated in the foreword, this book was not intended as a scholarly essay on cartography, as it was originally published to celebrate the gift of all

these wonderful atlases to the Birmingham Central Library. This makes this *Atlas of atlases* indeed sometimes a bit fragmentary and certainly not exhaustive. This book is therefore not really a book to read from front to back, but also not quite an atlas encyclopaedia such as Moreland & Bannister's *Antique maps*. The information given with each map, cartouche or other illustration on the other hand is very detailed and certainly does situate the atlas into the right historical context. Since more than 35 atlases are on visual display in this book, only a few maps of each atlas could be selected for further discussion.



According to me, Phillip Allen did tremendously well in choosing from the Library's huge collection of maps, these atlases that truly plot the progress of humankind across the globe. Therefore, *Atlas of Atlases* is a book every map collector should have in his library: for dressing up the coffee table with wonderful illustrations, for enjoying himself with discovering small facts on map making of the last centuries or just to day dream of having a genuine antique atlas in his own collection one day....

Glenn Van den Bosch
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Go East, young man A 'China - Indonesia' double vision

Just as the spices five centuries ago, good fortune is to be found east these days: high risks, unexpected yields, if any. People invest their money in the booming oriental stock markets or, more fundamentally, they invest their own life and soul in the local economies. Who can resist the China-hype these days?

And yet as history repeats itself at the beginning of the 21st century, it is fascinating to see the cartographic results of all fearless young men who went east 500 years ago.

You find two book reviews on the cartography of China and Indonesia. The first is a study made by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology: Can we find out 'how do they think we looked at them'? The second review is a more classical carto-history review from a Westerner who settled in Indonesia.

China in European Maps Compiled and edited by Min-min Chang (limited edition 1 000 copies)

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Library, Hong Kong, 2003, 203 pp., oblong, 30 x 26 cm, hard cover cloth bound, ISBN 962-86403-9-9, Chinese and English.
To order: USD 150.-, without shipping costs at www.amazon.co.uk

Solid, but raising mixed feelings

China in European Maps', a Library Special Collection edited by Chinese experts, what a challenging discovery for a cold winter evening surfing on the web. Being captured by the current 'China' hype, such a title awoke a triple expectation in me : on the lower level an analysis of each relevant map is the absolute minimum; at the intermediate phase one may hope for an intra-group dialogue amongst these European maps and their mapmakers: why is the Ortelius' Asia map different from its counterpart by Mercator-Hondius? To what extent and why was d'Anville's knowledge of the Chinese regions more precise than Martini's when the latter cruised China a century earlier? Finally, one could wishfully conceive an inter-group comparison, a close encounter of the third kind: how do the Chinese maps interface with their European counterparts? And what can we learn from such *rendez-vous*?

So, are the doors of this cultural exchange one way, mirrored or revolving?

The mapping contents of the book are drawn from the showpieces of the University Library, most of them acquired in the 1990s and this collection is now described by Professor Zhou of Fudan University as the only one of its kind in any university library in China. Hence, the study covers no unique maps stuck away in European museums and libraries, but pieces which were acquired on the market – and which you and I could, theoretically, also purchase.

The book opens with five annotated essays (first 28 pages) of which three are written in English and two in Chinese, the latter unfortunately without English translation or summary. As my Chinese is a bit rusty, I hope you don't mind that I limit this review to the English language texts. Roderick M. Barron opens with an historical overview '*China in Maps: Columbus to Kangxi*' and he provides a top-class bird-eye view on *the* European maps of China. The first medieval world maps derive, not surprisingly, their understanding on China from classical and religious notions: maps (such as Schedel's world map of 1493) remain Ptolemaic derivatives. Next in line come the travelers (such as, *inter alia*, Marco Polo and Christopher Columbus) which results in more realistic maps: during this period, the fascinating question of separation of the Asia-America landmass is finally settled. Although

the first European regional map on China was by Frisius in 1522 (still in the Ptolemaic tradition), it was only after the Portuguese travels that European *savoir* could really zoom into China with Gastaldi, Ortelius, van Linschoten and others. Later, and thanks to their Chinese missions, the Jesuits transformed European cartography of that country well into the 18th century: the pinnacle of this achievement is the *Atlas Sinensis* by Martino Martini, published by Johannes Blaeu in 1655 and incorporated as Volume VI in his *Novus Atlas* and, subsequently in the *Atlas Maior*. With Nicolas Sanson the mapping standardization process was addressed as he reconciled the work of five Jesuit cartographers. Finally, the French Jesuit





missions resulted in the production of the Kangxi¹ Atlas of 1717 by Jean-Baptiste du Halde with close collaboration by d'Anville.

In the next chapter Mr Barron discusses the *Sinarum Regni Aliorumq.* (47 x 35 cm), so far an unrecorded map. This late 16th century map of China is produced from Portuguese, Jesuit and Chinese sources. Barron dates the map post the Ortelius-Barbuda map of 1584 but before the de Jode map of 1593. The map is attributed to Michele Ruggieri and kept in the National Archives of Rome. Its prime mapping source was Luo Hongxian's *Guang yu tu*, the so-called Ming Atlas as both documents contain a descriptive table on the administrative divisions and subdivisions of China and a grid pattern. The author further disseminates the Portuguese influence (especially by Bartolemeu Lasso) that crept into the map through Petrus Plancius, and which can be illustrated, *inter alia*, by the identical delineation of Korea and Japan. Barron wonders why this map did not receive a wider circulation. A possible answer which he suggests is that as the Jesuits became more and more established in China, they did not wish the update information to become too widely available.

The next and final written contribution in English 'Maps, Poems and the Power Representation' by Zhang Longxi focuses on the relationship between maps as representations of power and poetry. Ms. Longxi recreates oriental symbiosis between the military and political functions of mapping and poems. Just one of her 'western' examples:

*Whether the Sun predominant in Heav'n
Rise on the Earth, or Earth rise on the Sun,
Hee from the East his flaming road begin,
Or Shee from West her silent course advance*

John Milton in *Paradise Lost*

Obviously, the maps form the larger second part of the work: first there are 55 large ones (on, almost, scale ½) followed by the entire University collection in small print. The first group contains maps of Asia, Southeast Asia and China, luxuriously printed on the right side of each page, but without any analysis. The maps stretch from Münster over the great protagonists of the Low Countries to François Valentijn (with a city view of Macao) and Leopold George Heath (with an 1847 print of Hong Kong). Interesting material consists of the 'Descriptio chorographica regni Chinae' by Theodore de Bry, coastline maps by van Lintschoten and Dudley or a beautiful view of Xuntien (alias Quinzay) by Jan Jansson, and ... almost hidden away, three 19th century Chinese maps. Unfortunately, there are hardly any regional or local maps shown in this section. And here the book breathes its Chinese origin as well as target readership: the selection is solid, but, regrettably, very traditional. While 'they' may prefer the classics, the Ortelius, Hondius, and Co., European map enthusiasts who, logically are more familiar with

the top of the European Asia-China mapping, may feel more attracted by the lesser gods. Why not more maps from the era of the German, French and British colonial competition? Indeed, let Edward Belcher open up Canton and James Wyld manoeuvre the British and French forces of the same city.

Moreover, as this section is clearly intended as the centre or show piece of the book, an individual in-depth analysis of each of these classics might have been expected by a university team. Unfortunately, the book fails on this account as the left side of each page is kept blank.

Some of the more interesting material is found in the wider 'Catalog of the Special Collection' of the University Library which contains small scale reproductions of 133 maps and prints, plus all maps from the milestone Martini (1614-61) and d'Anville (1697-1782) Atlases. Here we find sometimes unusual and surprising, regional or local maps, interesting 18th and, in particular, 19th century documents: e.g. admiralty charts of the China Sea by J. & C. Walker or views of the Pearl River by John Meares. In this section the maps and prints are accompanied with minimalist commentary. To pick just one example: 'a map of the continent of Asia from Ortelius's *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*. Note that it shows Japan in an almost recognizably modern three-island form, but does not include Korea', is this really the only comment one can give on the master's magnificent *Asiae nova descriptio*? My hopes were dashed on this bridge too far. Unfortunately, this more potentially challenging part is given less prominence.

Finally, the book is enriched with a historical book list, a list of reference works and an index of mapmakers and authors.

Did this review sound too disappointing so far? Maybe my expectations were too high or simply wrong from the start. As the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology was established in the early 1990s, the authors have clearly made a phenomenal effort - we understand from Min-min Chang's introduction that they passed an enormous learning curve. In any case, the book is an excellent coffee table carto-bibliographic 'watch' instrument, its lay-out and presentation are outstanding. The maps are presented on top quality paper which makes it a delight to cruise through the book. No cheap 1960's 'Made in ...' feeling. In conclusion, this book is an excellent pick for its Chinese readership. For European map enthusiasts, the (large scale) map selection should have been more daring and the texts more analytical and confrontational. Indeed, no close encounter of the third kind to be found here.

And, eh, as for the doors, future researchers (any candidates?) using this nice reference work are invited to install mirrored and revolving ones.

¹ Kangxi (1654 – 1722) was the third Manchu Qing Emperor and ruled during 61 years over China.



The Cartography of the East Indian Islands - Insulae Indiae Orientalis

by Dr David E. Parry

London, Countrywide editions, 2005, 241 pp., richly illustrated, oblong quarto, 27.7 x 31cm, hard cover with dust jacket, ISBN 0 9551701 1 7.

To order: hard to find, at www.jpmaps.co.uk for GBP 65.-

'Dr David E. Parry, soil scientist and remote sensing expert, living in Jakarta, Indonesia with his wife Sonja, and their four dogs and numerous cats', a snapshot from the introduction to the author at the back flap of the book. This 'amateur' (in the positive sense of the French word) has shown us the limits of what a non professional map enthusiast can achieve.

Dr Parry who has been working for the last 25 years in Indonesia found that a good reference work on the largest archipelago in the world was missing, so he created one. The author had a double objective in mind: first, he wanted to write a carto-history of Indonesia, and secondly, he aimed to provide the map collector with a comprehensive and handy reference work. It is clear that he achieved both missions.

The approach is classical as the maps are embedded in the general history of the region and in the cartographic evolution in chronological order. The majority of the maps depict the whole of the Indonesian archipelago and, frequently, they include adjacent countries that make up the whole of Southeast Asia. We follow the mapping history of the entire region from Strasbourg based Johannes Grüniger (1525) to the Venetian Antonio Zatta (1785). Few maps are detailed accounts: e.g. on the Spice Islands. This work is truly a first and successful attempt to present the mapping of the region in chronological sequence from classical times to the nineteenth century.

It goes without saying that the beginnings of the Dutch colonization and the subsequent challenge to Dutch cartographic supremacy by the French and English houses take a central role in this study. As most readers of the Newsletter are familiar with the Flemish-Dutch cartographic supremacy, this aspect will not be focused upon. However, it must be said that Dr Parry has carefully analyzed both the geo-political evolution and the mapping developments resulting from the 'discoveries'. He explains to what extent and why the 'Indiae Orientalis' maps by e.g. the Ortelius (1570), Janssonius (1630), Blaeu (1635), Hondius-Janssonius (1636) and Nicolas Visscher II differ. Dr Parry delivered an integrated end product and that's exactly what I value as an excellent reference work².

One will certainly be charmed by the author's



India Extrema XIX Nova Tabula from Sebastian Munster's Geographia (1540 edition printed by Henri Petri in Basle).

analysis of Robert Dudley's charts from his sea atlas *Dell'Arcano del Mare* ('Secrets of the Sea')³ published in Florence in 1646-47. Dudley, patronized by Ferdinand I Grand Duke of Tuscany, was the first Englishman to produce a sea atlas and the very first atlas in which all maps were drawn on Mercator's projection. Dr Parry gives prominent feedback to ten of his large size charts covering the East Indies and which are easily recognizable for their grid pattern and elegant handwriting. Although the material for Dudley's opus magnum is drawn substantially from the log-books of his brother-in-law, the explorer Henry Cavendish, Dr Parry suggests that Dudley must have had access to information kept by the Office of Hydrography of the VOC. No separate section was devoted to sea charting, however, apart from Dudley, a few niceties of de Wit, Goos, van Keulen and other Doncker's are also pictured.

Dr Parry was not afraid of showing miniature maps and it must be said that some of these smaller maps are of exceptional cartographic and printing quality. Maps of the Dutch edition of the Pocket Atlas of Nicolas Sanson (after 1652) were outstandingly presented in full size. We can compare and admire the East India regional maps of Giovanni Botero (1594 and 1605) and of Philip Galle (1601), both based on originals from our Antwerp genius. So was

²) And, admittedly, what 'China in European maps' (see previous book review) is missing.

³) *Dell'Arcano del mare* is a six volume work including two volumes of maps and charts and four volumes covering the fields of navigation, astronomical tables, ship-building and kindred subjects.



the mini-map by Barent Langenes, but as this one was published between 1598 and 1649, its geography logically underwent considerable improvement.

Unexpected beauties include, *inter alia*, a grand colonial style Batavia by the Homann Heirs (c. 1747) with sea and land views and with insets of the town hall and the castle, a colourful townscape of the same city portrayed by Claudius Anthony van Luepken (published by Peter Conradi in 1785) and an exotic map of Amboina (as in anno 1718) by Jacques-Nicolas Bellin.

Last but not least, what gives this work real added value is the systematic carto-bibliographic analysis of maps of the region in tables: Dr Parry tables a chronological overview of the relevant maps per major mapmaker.

What else can we learn from this book? For example, certain interesting extra-scholarly and refreshing stories, such as, how the legend of the beauty of Tahiti women was born — although this island is not exactly within the territorial scope of the book. Check pages 216 and 217.

People who are familiar with mapping books of this region are probably acquainted with Thomas Suarez' *'Early Mapping of Southeast Asia'* (Periplus, 1999, 280 pp.). How do both books compare? First of all, the geographical scope of Suarez' book is wider: he covers the entire region, where Dr Parry primarily focuses on Indonesia. The approach of both authors is very similar: the build-up of the maps and story is chronological-historical. However, I have the impression that Suarez starts from the history and then zooms into the maps where Dr Parry does no 'hineininterpretierung'. Rather, in his book he lets the maps speak for themselves.

This book will become a reference work of the *Indiæ Orientalis*. It has hardly any downsides, except maybe, the fact that the overwhelming majority of the maps are regional and few are local maps. But then, one can only eat what has been caught before. I found somewhere the mention that this publication is, unfortunately, limited to 1 500 copies. This book is clearly an interesting addition to your library of reference works. No more spices needed!

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BIMCC visit to Utrecht University



On 13 October 2006, a BIMCC party of 17 people had the privilege of a private visit to the Map Room of the University Library in Utrecht. Stanislas De Peuter had organized this visit to one of the most prominent places in the world for the history of cartography.

Dr Marco van Egmond, the newly appointed Map Curator, first gave an overview of the map collection of the faculty of Geosciences; it was founded in 1908 and has since then grown to a collection which consists of 130 000 single maps (including about 5 000 maps produced before 1850 and containing some rare old maps) and 4 000 atlases. Since September 2004 the map library is part of the entire university library and is located in the new university library building, a huge black cube whose internal architecture of black concrete is surprisingly varied and luminous; the map room is on the 6th floor and has high ceilings allowing hanging a dozen large wall maps (in facsimile) above the reference book shelves. Dr van Egmond then guided us through a display of maps from their important collection, which had been selected on the subject retained for the BIMCC conference on 9 December 2006, i.e. *Charting the seas*. This selection included:

- A number of manuscript charts on parchment from Isaak de Graaff (mapmaker from 1705-43) used by the Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (the United East India Company, known as VOC) for its pilots navigating in the East Indies,
- A 1585 copy of the *Spiegel der Zeevaerdt* by

Waghenaer

- A 1644 manuscript map by Abel Tasman
- A 1650 *Zee-Spiegel* by Pieter Goos
- A 1595 edition of Willem Barentsz.'s *Caertboeck van de Midlandtsche Zee*
- A copy of *De Nieuwe Groote Lichtende Zee-Fakkel* of 1753 by J. van Keulen.

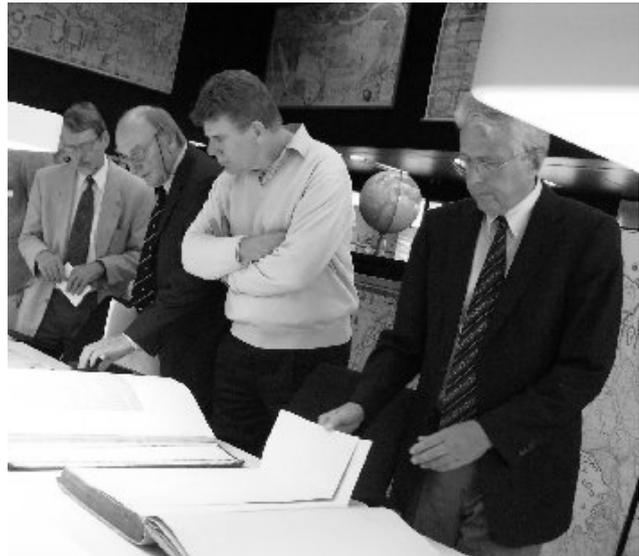
A comprehensive presentation of the *Explokart Research Programme* was then given to the BIMCC group in a conference room by Paula van Gestel, the programme coordinator. This research programme on the history of cartography was launched single-handedly by Prof. Günter Schilder in 1981. It is dedicated to making an inventory, description, and facsimiles of Dutch wall maps, topographical maps, sea charts, hydrographical maps, and globes. The aim of Explokart is to offer guidance to the users of old maps. Its emphasis is on Dutch cartography's golden age, when publishers in the Netherlands had a monopoly in the production of maps, atlases, and globes from the end of the 16th century until well into the second half of the 17th century. But Explokart caters to the great international interest in the study of cartographic documents from that period; many of its publications are in English and have become authoritative texts on the discipline, worldwide. Utrecht University has the only Chair in history of cartography; it functions as a hub of national and international contacts. A high level of expertise has been built up in Utrecht which is recognised both internally and externally.



Most BIMCC members will be familiar with the main Explokart publications such as:

- *Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica* (Günter Schilder)
- *The production of globes in the Netherlands* (Peter van der Krogt)
- *Atlantes Neerlandici* (Peter van der Krogt)
- *The Atlas 'Blaeu-Van der Hem'* (Peter van der Krogt and Erlend de Groot)
- *Hydrographic and river charts* (Paul van den Brink)
- *Covens & Mortier* (Marco van Egmond; promoter: Prof. Schilder)
- *Cartobibliography of Van Keulen's Manuscript Maps* (in co-operation with four other Dutch institutions).

Another important addition to the research-activities of Explokart is the contribution by volunteers. In order to accommodate the interest shown by an increasing number of auditors, who want to get involved in the research activities of Explokart, the staff started in 1993 giving a tutorial in the bibliography of maps. First following Schilder's general course in the history of cartography, these volunteers are participating later in a special course in carto-bibliography (provided by van der Krogt and van den Brink). Finally they form part of a working-group with a special subject. These projects (e.g. *Hollandia Comitatus*, *Guicciardini Illustratus*, *Peterman's maps*) have contributed to the impressive volume of Explokart publica-



J-L Renteux, W. Bodenstein, A. Smit, G. Schilder
browsing Explokart publications

tions: since 1981, 37 books have been published with a total of 14 963 pages and 12 455 illustrations, and a total weight of 104 kilos! After the presentation, BIMCC members were brought back to the map room where they could browse through the whole Explokart production and, thus see by themselves that their publications are not just impressive in terms of quantity but also for their outstanding quality.

Jean-Louis Renteux
editor@bimcc.org



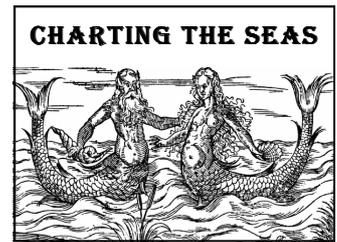


Anchors aweigh on the Fifth International BIMCC Conference

Charting the Seas -

Seven centuries of maritime cartography

Saturday 9 December 2006



Once again, some 52 map enthusiasts gathered at the Collège Saint-Michel for the BIMCC conference.

BIMCC president Wulf Bodenstein launched the morning session with a vigorous 'Anchors away!' and handed over the helm to the pilot of the day, Hans Kok, Chairman of IMCoS.



Corradino Astengo, Professor of geography at the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Genoa started off the conference as the first speaker with a very lively presentation on the ***Portolan charts and the 'art of navigation' between the fourteenth and the seventeenth century***. Currently he lectures on the 'History of Geography, Cartography and Travel'. His interests range from the geographical discoveries to the medieval and renaissance cartography.

In the early middle ages, many ships were travelling extensively over the Mediterranean sea and the seamen were always ready to cooperate and exchange information, but in the thirteenth century the introduction of new instruments, such as compass, the written portolan and the portolan charts, changed the nature of the navigation. No longer were captains and pilots only dependant on personal experience. The compass, of Chinese origin, was brought into the Mediterranean by Arabs and further improved. The real innovation was the portolan chart which enabled the sailor to easily trace a course. The oldest surviving examples of such a chart is the so-called *Carta Pisana* of 1275 and the *Carta Cortona*, which is anonymous. The first dated and signed charts are those made by Pietro and Perrino Vesconte, Genovese cartographers, who worked in Venice, but these were put in atlases but not used for navigation. The abundance of decorative vignettes and the extensive detail of inland information illustrate this very well. There were three key features: winds, distances and names of places.

Wind roses helped the navigation and started with the 1330 chart by Angelino de Dulceto, but were tiny initially and lacked a standard approach. They were followed by larger, more colourful items which were decorative only. The mileage was another important feature and followed a much more rigorous presentation with equal subdivisions. Also important were indications about the existing and possible dangers of a sea. Strangely the portolan charts in the Mediterranean region were depicted with the axis rotated 8 to 10 degrees anti-clockwise. This shift has different explanations, but the most reliable seems to be the necessity to compensate magnetic declination in order to have the north in the chart coincide with the north indicated by the compass. This facilitated the practical use of the map. Benedetto Cotrugli, who issued a very first treatise of navigation in the Middle-Ages, gave instructions on the best way to measure a position of a ship: with a compass using two fixed points and dividers to measure the distance from the land.

The axis in the charts was corrected in the 17th century and for example Bartolomeo Crezenzio stated in 1602 in his nautical *Mediterranea* that he had personally verified the errors of traditional maps, when sailing on the ships of the Pope's fleet. With the opening up of oceanic routes, Iberian sailors had to learn to use stars and to apply instruments, such as the astrolabe and the cross-staff. This astronomical navigation was addressed by Gio. Francesco Monno from Monaco in his treatise *L'arte della Vera Navegatione* of 1632. The manuscript nautical charts produced in the Mediterranean ports failed to evolve with the times and were replaced by many printed maps and atlases, produced outside of the area. By the end of the 17th century all the small workshops had disappeared.



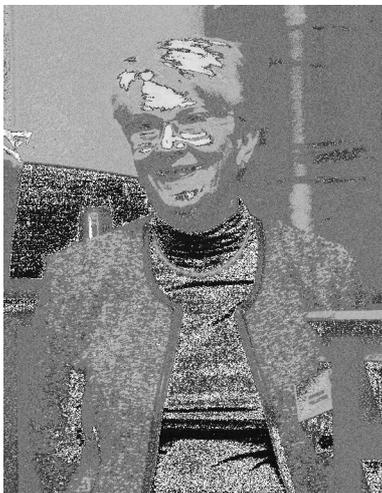


'America' on the 1507 World Map by Waldseemüller



Monique Pelletier of Paris is a very well-known authority on cartography, a prolific writer and frequent speaker, also on previous BIMCC conferences. She has been the Director of the *Département des Cartes et Plans* of the *Bibliothèque nationale de France* in Paris for 22 years until her retirement in 1999. She is now *Conservateur général honoraire des bibliothèques* and continues research work on the history of cartography, concentrated on Vincenzo Coronelli and his large globes and the mapping directed by the Cassini family. Ever very active, she has focused recently on the famous cartographer Waldseemüller, results of which she shared with the very captive audience.

Her presentation (which is reproduced as an article



on pages 16-19) was entitled ***Cosmography and sea charts in the early sixteenth century: Martin Waldseemüller's case.***

In the context of the 500th anniversary of his famous worldmap on 12 sheets, the *Universalis Cosmographia Secundum Ptholomaei traditionem et Americi Vespucci Aliorumque Lustrationes*, the first part of the presentation addressed the genesis of the map, particularly the naming of the Americas.

There was much controversy about the reality of the four travels by Amerigo Vespucci and the creation of the name 'America', but fact is that Waldseemüller changed the nature of mapmaking, facilitating the de-

velopment of the Asian and other regions by providing much information to the navigators on his sea charts. Subsequently much more accurate new detail was added by other cartographers.

Pilot Kok kept a sharp eye on the hourglass and saw to it that everyone was back on board after the coffee at 11.15 sharp, to listen to the third speaker.

Dragutin Novak, radiology professor and long-time member of IMCoS and BIMCC, over the years developed a keen interest in old maps of Croatia. As a collector and member of the *Croatian Cartographic Society*, he also organised symposia and exhibitions on the subject (see, for example, the review of the proceedings of the 1988 Symposium in Croatia on page 23). The subject of his presentation corresponded to one of his special areas of interest: ***The Portolan charts of Vincentius Demetrius Volcius, a Portolan Maker from Dubrovnik (1563-1607).***

As Dubrovnik itself, called Ragusa at the time, Volcius had a Croatian name, Volčić, and an Italian one: Volcio. He was born in Dubrovnik in 1563 and lived most of his life (until 1607) in Italy. No doubt market conditions there were better to sell his manuscript charts, but very little is known of his life.

Twenty-one of Volcius' portolans have been identified and are kept in libraries all over the world (one is in private hands). It is not known if more survived or were ever made (see the article on page 22 for more details).

The images we were shown at the conference were of a stunning beauty. Brilliant colours and elegant ornaments decorate these portolans, of whom several wore a 'vignette', showing Jesus Christ in a style that reminded of ancient miniatures and Byzantine mosaics (see for example, the black and white reproduction on the central pages). A closer look at the real thing would no doubt be a treat!

An interesting question that kept rising during the whole study session was whether these charts were used on board ships. Professor Novak was inclined to think so, but from what we learned from professor Astengo, there is reasonable doubt about that, the Volcius charts being so adorned and therefore expensive this seems unlikely.....



The fourth speaker that day was **Günter Schilder**, who doesn't need much introduction. The former Utrecht professor of history of cartography (up to 2004) has written numerous publications on Dutch cartography and discoveries (see, for example, the report of the visit to Utrecht University on page 10). One of the most famous is without any doubt the *Monumenta Cartographica Neerlandica*, but we could also cite *Wall Maps of the 16th and 17th Centuries: A Series of Full-size Facsimiles of Wall Maps Published in the Low Countries* or his contribution to the recent history of the Van Keulen family (see page 25).



Professor Schilder's contribution to the conference was titled **To New Horizons: The Development of Dutch maritime Cartography, 1530-1630**. In the 16th century manuscript 'rutters' (*leeskaarten* in Dutch) appeared. These were sailing instructions for navigating the North Sea, Channel and Baltic. They contained annotations and sometimes a woodcut coastal profile, but no real charts yet. From manuscript, they later became printed and are to be considered as the forerunners of the true portolans.

The cities of Edam and Enkhuizen, trade centres and harbours at the Zuiderzee (today's IJsselmeer) were the cradle of the school of Dutch portolans. In their cartographic workshops chart makers (*caertschrijvers* in Dutch) made world maps and charts before Amsterdam took over the monopoly of the production of charts. The 'father' of this school was Lucas Jansz. Waghenauer who, at the end of the 16th century, published three pilot guides, amongst which the *Spiegel der Zeevaart* (Mirror of Navigation) was a remarkable contribution to the art of navigation in western Europe. Characteristic was the combined drawing of the coastal profile with the line of the coast on the chart. Waghenauer used symbols to designate landmarks like mills, church towers etc. and kept his charts up-to-date, for instance by showing the development of new sandbanks.

Two other names should also be retained: Petrus Plancius (the VOC cartographer) and Cornelis Claesz. (the most important publisher then of cartography and navigation works). With the aid of Portuguese cartographical material, they published a series of charts showing nearly all the coasts of the then known world.

After his pilot guide *Het Licht der Zeevaart* (The light of sea navigation) was published in 1608 and

shamelessly copied by Joannes Janssonius, Amsterdam-based Willem Jansz. Blaeu responded by publishing his *Zeespiegel* (Mirror of the sea) in 1623, which became a real bestseller. In 1630 he produced another milestone in Dutch maritime cartography when he separately published his *West-Indische Paskaert*, a chart printed on vellum. Vellum was preferred to perishable paper, prof. Schilder pointed out and the technique was very developed in Amsterdam.

In 1632 Jacob Aertz. Colom challenged Blaeu's supremacy by publishing *De vyerighe Colom*, a very successful pilot guide that made Colom the leading chart publisher of the first half of the seventeenth century.

The morning session ended with the familiar aperitif, during which audience and speakers could admire charts and books, brought together by various members, socialise and discuss and finally enjoy a convivial *Speakers' Lunch*.

Pilot Hans Kok had some trouble reassembling passengers and crew for the afternoon session, as wining and dining made some want to linger a little longer ashore, but next speaker, **Dirk de Vries**, had a lecture on **The manuscript charts by the Van Keulen firm** in store, which convinced everyone to cast off again.



Historian de Vries was curator of the *collectie Bodel Nijenhuis*, the maps of the Leiden University Library, from 1971 to 2002 and has a number of publications to his name in the field of historical cartography (for example, he contributed to the recent history of the Van Keulen family — see page 25).

The Van Keulen firm was one of the most important publishers of printed charts and maritime atlases in Amsterdam at the end of the 17th century. Besides prints, from 1704 to 1749 the firm also sold hand drawn charts that had an independent function and were not merely a model for printed charts. They were drawn on sheets of paper, pre-printed with compass lines and borders, and coloured. They came in two sizes, a big (standard) one (approx. 6/7 of the production) and a smaller one for the rest. As to the reason why these laborious manuscripts were produced instead of printed maps, one has to speculate. One reason that has been advanced is that these charts could easily be corrected, contrary to printed ones. Mr de Vries presumes that Gerard Van Keulen did some



marketing and thus found that the demand in some particular cases was too small to justify the publishing of printed maps.

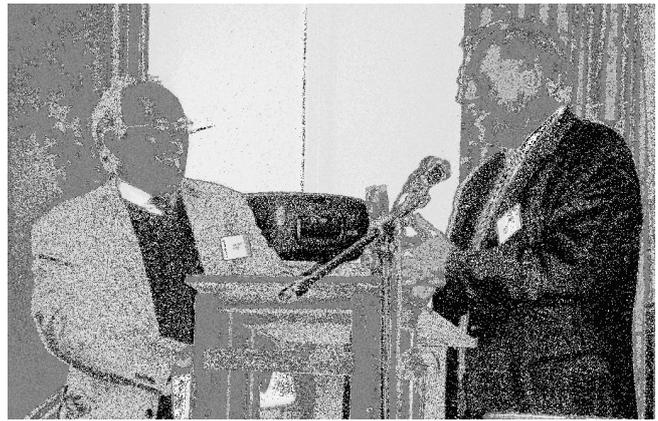
The sources for the charts are various. First of all, the Van Keulen firm had its own nautical institute, visited by seamen who gave first-hand information. Next, second-hand information came from printed nautical atlases, of which five are known (two British, two French and one Swedish). Finally, the Van Keulens had their own archives, mostly focussed on the East and West Indies.

Over 750 of these charts survived. They bear the word 'origineele' (original). They are to be found in 3 major collections, namely in the Biblioteca Angelica in Rome (these were purchased around 1715 from the Van Keulen firm), in the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin (also directly purchased around 1720) and finally in the Leiden University Library (bought in 1908).

The Van Keulen firm lasted until 1885, when the sale of the works of their stockroom dispersed many manuscript charts over the world.

Andrew Cook has been with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and The British Library as an Archivist of the India Office Records since 1974 with charge of the East India Company's marine and cartographic records. He also is a consultant to the United Kingdom Hydrographic office and the Admiralty Library on the history of the publication of Admiralty Charts and Sailing directions.

He gave a very lively and detailed overview of the **British Maritime Charting of the East Indies and the Creation of the Admiralty Hydrographic Office**, making many comparisons between the way the Dutch VOC and the British Admiralty operated. His view presented was based on the perspective of the mariner, not the mapmaker. The difficulty on sea was the lack of observable marks. He also discussed the



A. Cook and H. Kok

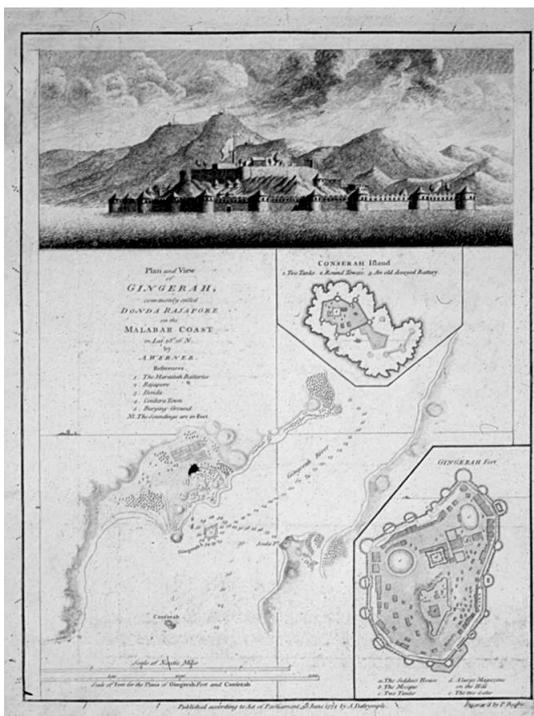
evolution from manuscript map to modern sea chart in the East Indies. All the sea powers started off with dominating the coast from their towns, but the long distances to be covered by ships to reach very far and new continents changed this aspect totally. Also the 'survival pattern charts' became extremely important to travel back between East and West. Virtually all maps that survived were not used on ships. Some were kept specifically in the offices to enable to make copies.

The British mapmaking started with Thornton copying the Blaeu China map in 1706. Copying was a very widely used practice. The British captains did not like these outdated printed maps and they rather used the foreign charts, like the modern *Le Neptune Oriental* made by de Jean de Manneville in 1745. This publication was translated in 1757-58 by William Herbert and became an instant big success as a navigational handbook.

Alexander Dalrymple was set to work as a hydrographer to sort and arrange manuscript surveys in the Admiralty for eventual publication. He made improvements on Herbert's issue. His efforts to further improve the quality of the charts and knowledge of Asian coasts by assembling all information from ships records was met with mixed success. His listing of commercial maps available published in 1807 for the Admiralty has been very useful for future reference.

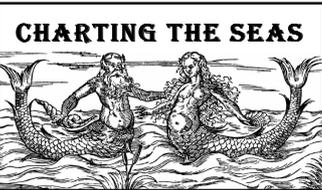
In a lively discussion at the end of his talk Andrew Cook and Hans Kok made an interesting comparison with the VOC, owning all its ships and selecting the crew, centralizing chart making and running their operations very effectively on a commercial basis. On the contrary the British used individually owned ships without a centrally organized approach, resulting in a much less efficient and slow organization. The British changed this totally during the 19th century with the strong expansion of trade and clearly setting direction in chart making and sailing.

This conference on **Charting the Seas** has been very interesting with its international rostrum of expert speakers and a captive audience. The organization was excellent and all participants enjoyed a very informative and pleasant day. Sincere thanks to the organizers.



Gingerah, on the Malabar Coast , A. Dalrymple, 1774

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Cosmography and sea charts in the early sixteenth century: Martin Waldseemüller's case

In 2007 we will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the large world map realized at Saint-Dié (Lorraine) by Martin Waldseemüller. The German cartographer, become a permanent member of the *Gymnase Vosgien*, produced three engraved documents (woodcuts) covering the world:

- the 1507 World Map, a unique copy of which is known, now in the Library of Congress, probably preceded by the 'Globe Vert' (Bibliothèque nationale de France) which was certainly a preparatory document;
- the maps of the 1513 edition of the Ptolemy's Geography, Strasburg edition;
- the *Carta Marina* of 1516 a unique copy of which is kept in the Library of Congress.

The cartographical models used by Waldseemüller were of two kinds:

- Ptolemaic maps with their extensions realized at the end of the 15th century, mainly the large Martellus' World Map (Fig. 1) kept by the Yale University;
- sea charts such as the Caverio's World Chart (ca 1505), kept by the Bibliothèque nationale de France, on which the *Carta Marina* is based.

The combination of such models was usual at the time, mainly for the editions of the Ptolemy's Geography which proposed two series of maps, imbricate or separate as in the Strasburg edition: the Ptolemy's ones and the new ones generally founded upon sea charts.

The New World Part

The purpose of the 1507 World Map was to integrate the New World discovered by Vespucci into the existing representations of the whole world. Top priority was not to amend existing maps, but to complement them according to a conception illustrated by the Martellus' World Map. The *Cosmographiae Introductio*, which contains a Latin translation of Vespucci's letter to Soderini and was intended to accompany the 1507 World Map, clearly sustains this conception: 'So the four parts of the world are now known: three are continents, the fourth is an island since we can see [on the map] that it is surrounded by sea from everywhere. And even if the sea is unique as the earth itself, nevertheless it is divided into numerous parts and filled by islands, innumerable and of all kinds'.

As every cartographer, Waldseemüller was designing and naming. He copied names from his models, but collected complements from other maps or texts and might create his own naming. The 'Globe Vert', which was probably the model built to prepare the 1507 World Map, closely follows the account of the four Vespucci's travels contained in the explorer's letter. It is the only document which is repeating four times the name of 'America' created by the Gymnase Vosgien. So it made Vespucci the discoverer of the entire New World certainly without any distinction between geographical and cosmographical discoveries, both important for the cosmographers of the Gymnase: Vespucci was the first to land on the



Fig. 1.
Martellus'
World Map
(ca. 1490)



'island-continent', but he was also the first to ascertain that he had discovered a New World different from the old one. The 1507 World Map limited the use of the new name to the Brazil of the explorer's third travel; by reference to Columbus or Vespucci travels of 1498 and 1499 the following phrase was inscribed in the north: *Tota ista provincia inventa est per mandatum Regis Castelle*.

The *Carta Marina* rubbed every trace of 'America' out (Fig. 2): Waldseemüller had recently read published texts and was now convinced that the arrival order in the New World followed the Columbus – Cabral – Vespucci sequence. The map of the New World contained in the Ptolemy Strasburg edition had already specified the name of its inventor: *Hec terra cum adiacentibus insulis inventa est per Columbum Januensem ex mandato Regis Castelle*.

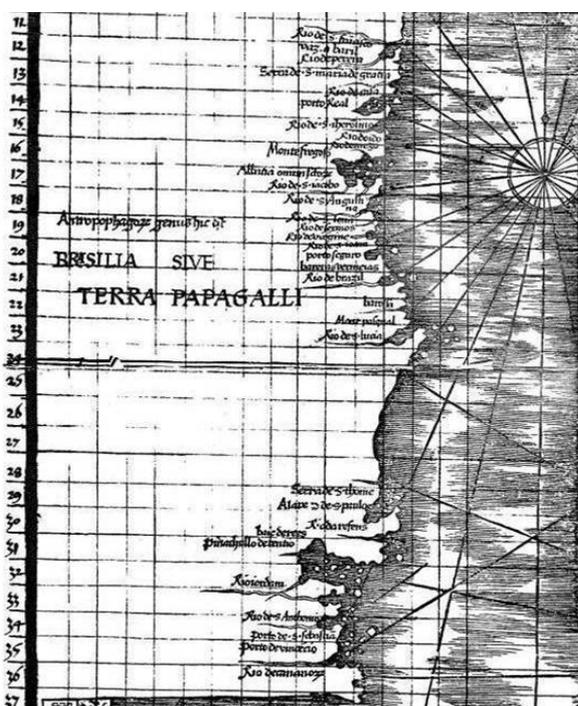


Fig. 2. Brazil on *Carta Marina* (1516)

Without direct connection with its producer, a sea chart might be difficult to be understood. So was the case for a peninsula designed on the Portuguese model used by Waldseemüller. On the 1507 World Map, the cartographer has included it in a large northern island and names 'Parias' the southern part of the island by reference to the province name appearing in the account of the first travel – dated 1497-98 – of the Saint-Dié translation, an account slightly different from the Italian original previously published in Florence, which bears *Lariab* for the same province. Paria, peninsula and gulf, concerned both the Columbus travel of 1498 and the Vespucci travel of 1499 illustrated by the Juan de la Cosa's sea chart of 1500, and were located far away. On the *Orbis Typus Universalis juxta Hydrographorum Traditionem* of the Strasburg Ptolemy, Waldseemüller was starting a complete change in his interpretation of the relations between Asia and America. He suppressed the northern island probably because the peninsula might pertain to the

far eastern coast which he added to the existing 'hydrographer tradition'. Finally, in 1516, the cartographer completely and utterly accepted this hydrographical tradition: he faithfully copied his Portuguese model, named the northern part of the New World 'Terra de Cuba Asiae Partis' and so adopted the Columbus' view on America.

The concordance between the cartographical model and the account of Vespucci's travel was not easy to establish. The text contains very few geographical observations, but gives the latitudes of explored coasts:

- the 1497-98 travel started from 16° N and continued towards north;
- the 1499-1500 travel started from 5° S and continued towards north;
- the 1501-02 travel, the most important and the best documented on Portuguese maps, started from 5° S and continued towards south.

The appearance of latitudes on sea charts was fundamental for cartographers observing Ptolemaic methods based on the grid of latitudes and longitudes, but these new latitudes were far from being accurate. The *Carta Marina* and its Portuguese model give a wrong position for the Antilles: *Spagnolla* (Saint-Domingue) is north to the tropic of Cancer when, in reality, Cuba is south to the same tropic. Distortions were made in locating the southern places of the Brazilian coast: the last one, *Cananeia* (*rio decanorum*), is given at 35° S instead of 25° S. Precedently, the 1507 World Map had managed some structural modifications due to the introduction of the New World in the model used by Waldseemüller, the Martellus' map which was conceived without America, but with a much too high northern part of Africa. So the 1507 map tried to harmonize the respective positions of South Africa and America as given by the Portuguese source: the tropic is crossing Cuba and *Cananeia* is pushed towards south and located at 40° S.

The Asian Part

Waldseemüller knew Asia through the twelve maps of the Ptolemy's Geography and through their extension appearing on the Martellus' World Map which added ninety degrees of longitude to the Ptolemy's Asia and created the far eastern 'tiger leg'. On the Portuguese map, Asia is more modest, a little inferior to Ptolemy's one, but with a coast line completely different. The 1507 World Map, which reproduced Ptolemy and Martellus, describes Asia on two levels:

- northern Asia is occupied by Scythia divided by *Imaus Mons*;
- in southern Asia, India is broadly developed and shared out between two areas, *Intra Gangem* and *Extra Gangem*.

On the *Carta Marina*, India occupies a central position and is topped by several mountain ranges isolating it from Tartary which takes the place of Scythia. A long peninsula ending up at Malacca is developed along another mountain range and, as on the Caverio's sea chart, is accommodating the famous

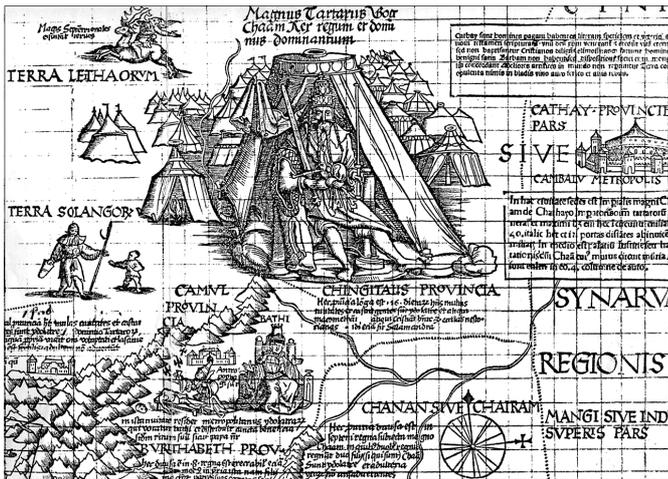


Fig. 3. The Great Khan on Carta Marina (1516)

kingdom of *Murfuli* (Motupalli, India) described by Marco Polo as full of diamonds and emeralds and put by Martellus on the 'tiger leg', but the peninsula is rejecting other kingdoms located on the 'tiger leg' of the 1507 map and on the peninsula of the Caverio's sea chart: the kingdoms of Var and Coilu (Quilo, South India). On the *Carta Marina*, the eastern side of the peninsula is bordering the Ptolemy's *Magnus Sinus*. A little later, on the map opening the Portuguese Miller Atlas dated from 1519 and kept in the *Bibliothèque nationale de France*, the *Magnus Sinus* becomes an element closing the *Mare Indicum* just as on the Ptolemy's world map. However the represented hemisphere was no more the Ptolemy's hemisphere of the known world, but the hemisphere under Portuguese control with Brazil and part of Asia including the spice islands. On the *Carta Marina* limited by the Malacca peninsula, Waldseemüller was pushing westwards topography and inscriptions pertaining to the far eastern part of his previous World Map and including Cathay and Mangui. He definitively transferred the kingdom of *Moabar*, famous for its pearls, to the eastern Indian coast, and introduced the kingdom of *Pegu* on the peninsula.

The analysis of the Asian part of the *Carta Marina*, topography and inscriptions, is worthwhile. It shows that the document is more talkative than accurate: Waldseemüller had read many texts, old and recent, but his cartographical model had remained unchanged. He had made a new reading of Marco Polo, keeping the same approaches as the Venetian for each country:

- Is it a large area? Waldseemüller indicates the dimensions when they were available.
- Is the country rich, what are its resources, are they exported? Waldseemüller has established a table giving distances from Calicut to places producing spices and also a goods rate which was operative in Calicut. Island treasures are detailed in the inscriptions accompanying the well known Ceylon, Sumatra or Java, but also new islands such as Timor, Banda, *Monoch* or *Borney*.

- How is the country governed? As on preceding sea charts, the ruling kings have been represented. The most prominent one in Asia is the Great Khan (Fig. 3), but on the whole map the biggest one is the king of Portugal, located between South Africa and Madagascar, as controlling the way to India.
- What is the main religion?
- What are the habits? Are there cannibals or other monsters? Waldseemüller has used images which were at the time of easy access in the editions of Jean de Mandeville (1478) or Hartmann Schedel (1493). He locates cannibals both in America and in Asia. The Strasburg edition of Ptolemy had already reproduced, with some variants, a text published in the Ptolemy editions of Ulm (1486) and Rome (1490, 1507 and 1508) under the title *De locis ac mirabilibus mundi* that was transformed into *Locorum ac mirabilium mundi descriptio*. The text opens with a description of the three parts of the world (Asia, Europe, Africa) and islands, where the author gives much attention to the eastern marvels as the medieval '*descriptio orbis*' had done. The last chapters contain observations on birth injuries, descriptions of monsters and an overview of non civilized habits including a chapter titled *De barbaris moribus Indorum*.

Waldseemüller knew the account made by the Franciscan Jean de Plancarpin who had left Kiev in 1246, crossed the Gog and Magog country full of monsters, arrived at Khangai mounts in Mongoly and was invited to the election of the new Great Khan. He had also read the much more recent *Itinerario* of Lodovico di Varthema, published in Roma in 1510, which was a maritime itinerary starting from the Red Sea. The most fruitful document was a collection of texts edited in 1507 by Fracanzio da Montalboddo: the *Paesi novamente ritrovati & Novo Mondo da Alberico Vesputio Florentino intitulado* which contained some unpublished travel accounts. Through this collection, Waldseemüller became aware of Vasco de Gama and Calicut and of the Cadamosto's African navigation. In the same collection the Calicut goods rate transcribed by Waldseemüller was appearing.

So the cosmographer was completing his documentation in order to make his cartographical work richer. He had to solve particular problems concerning the location of eastern islands, even the most important ones. The 1507 World Map had duplicated Ceylon, representing the Ptolemaic *Taprobana* and a '*Seylam*' island stuck to the south of the 'tiger leg' (Fig. 4). The *Carta Marina* suppressed this duplication and, as the Caverio's sea chart did, put *Seylam* in a more accurate place. The position of Sumatra was also changing: the *Java Minor* of the 1507 World Map had been placed outside the 'tiger leg'; the Caverio's *Ataprobana* and the *Samotra* of the *Carta Marina* were put in a more western position, south to Ceylon. A third large island of the *Carta Marina*, named *Java Major*, did not appear on the Portuguese source, but was one of the major islands on the 1507 World Map,



located east to the 'tiger leg'. The island was then considered as rich and dangerous for it was inhabited by cannibals, as it was reported and illustrated by Wadseemüller. The cartographer used the *India recognita* of Nicolo di Conti (Cremona, 1492) and also Lodovico di Varthema for the descriptions of Ceylon, Sumatra and Java. The *Carta Marina* and its Portuguese models ignored other far eastern islands represented in 1507 and including Japan.

Historical works written on the Waldseemüller's maps have been fed by the controversy on the reality of the Vespucci's four travels to the New World and by the interest aroused by the creation of the name of 'America'. But the elaboration of the *Carta Marina* had

changed priorities. Established for the glory of the King of Portugal, the map was intended to give an overview of Asian resources on which a new empire was being founded. Waldseemüller tried to locate textual information — references of which were given on the map itself — on a model constituted by a recent, but not up-dated, sea chart. He was leaving the theoretical cartography of the 1507 World Map for a practical one, full of promises, but could not find access to new sea charts.

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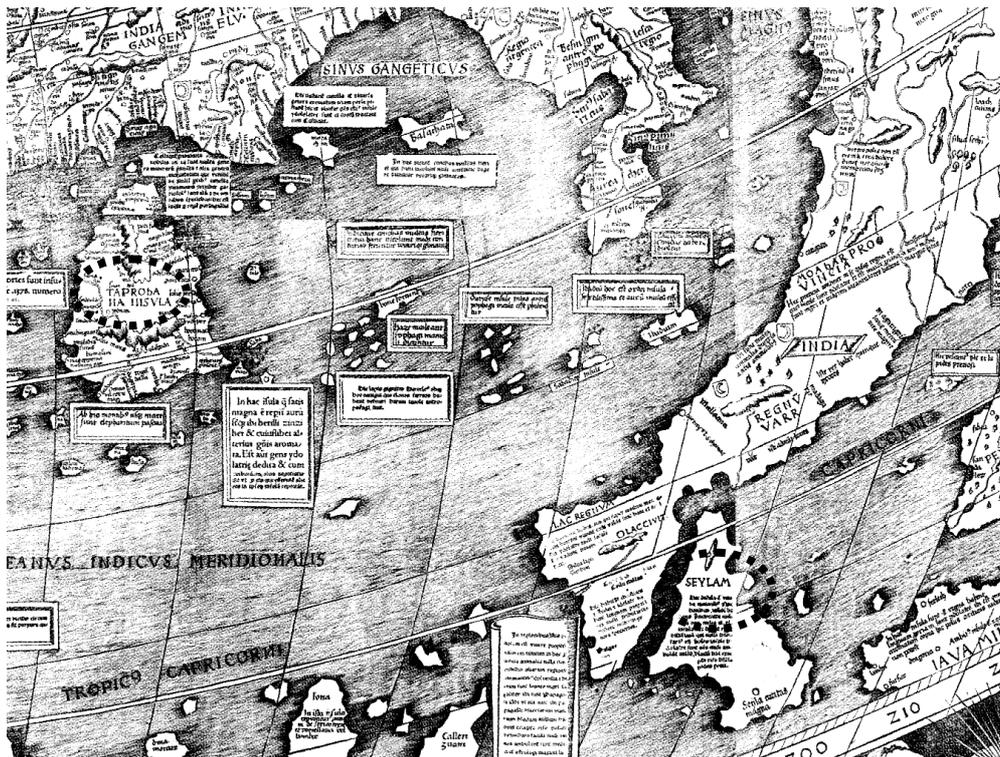
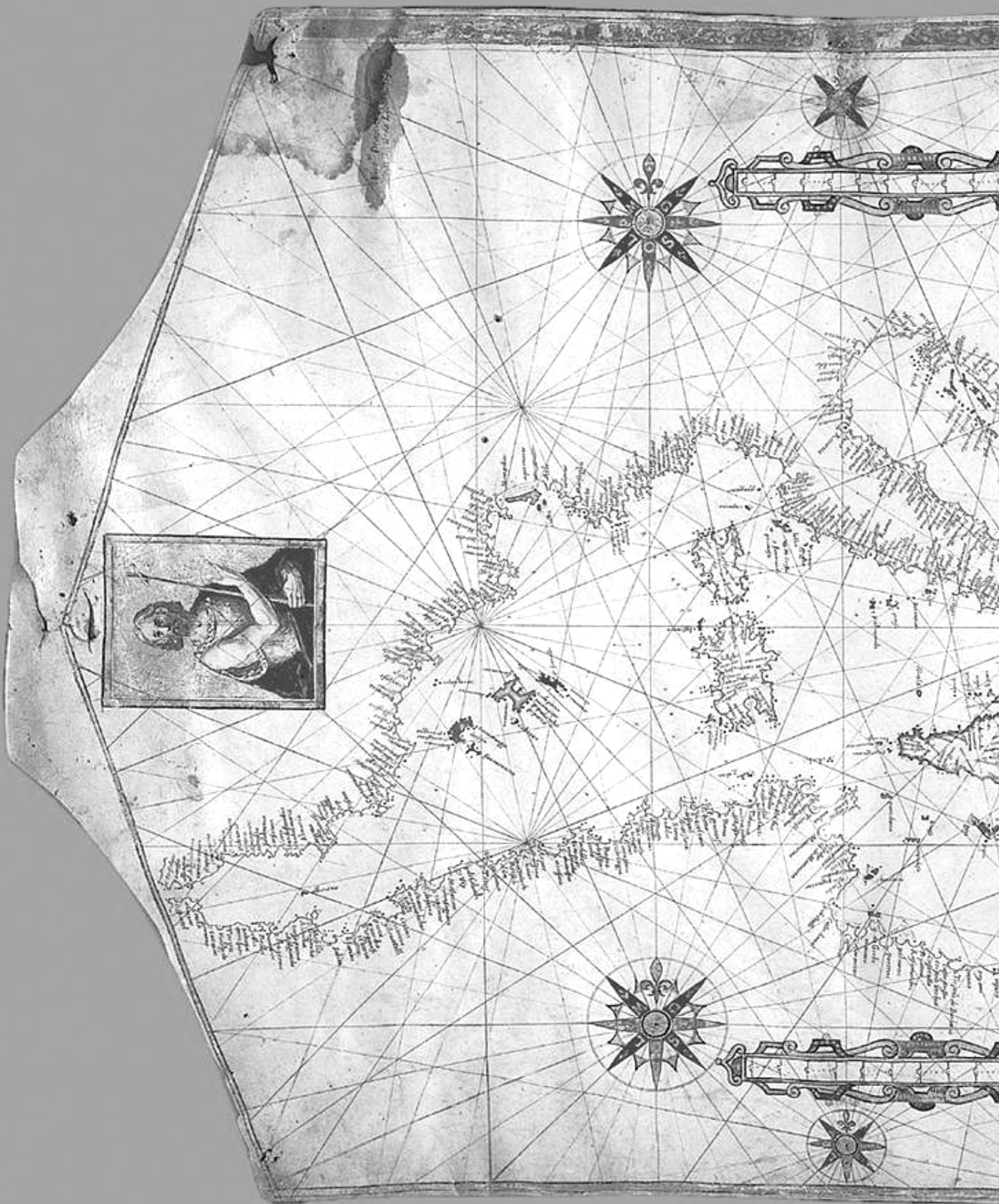


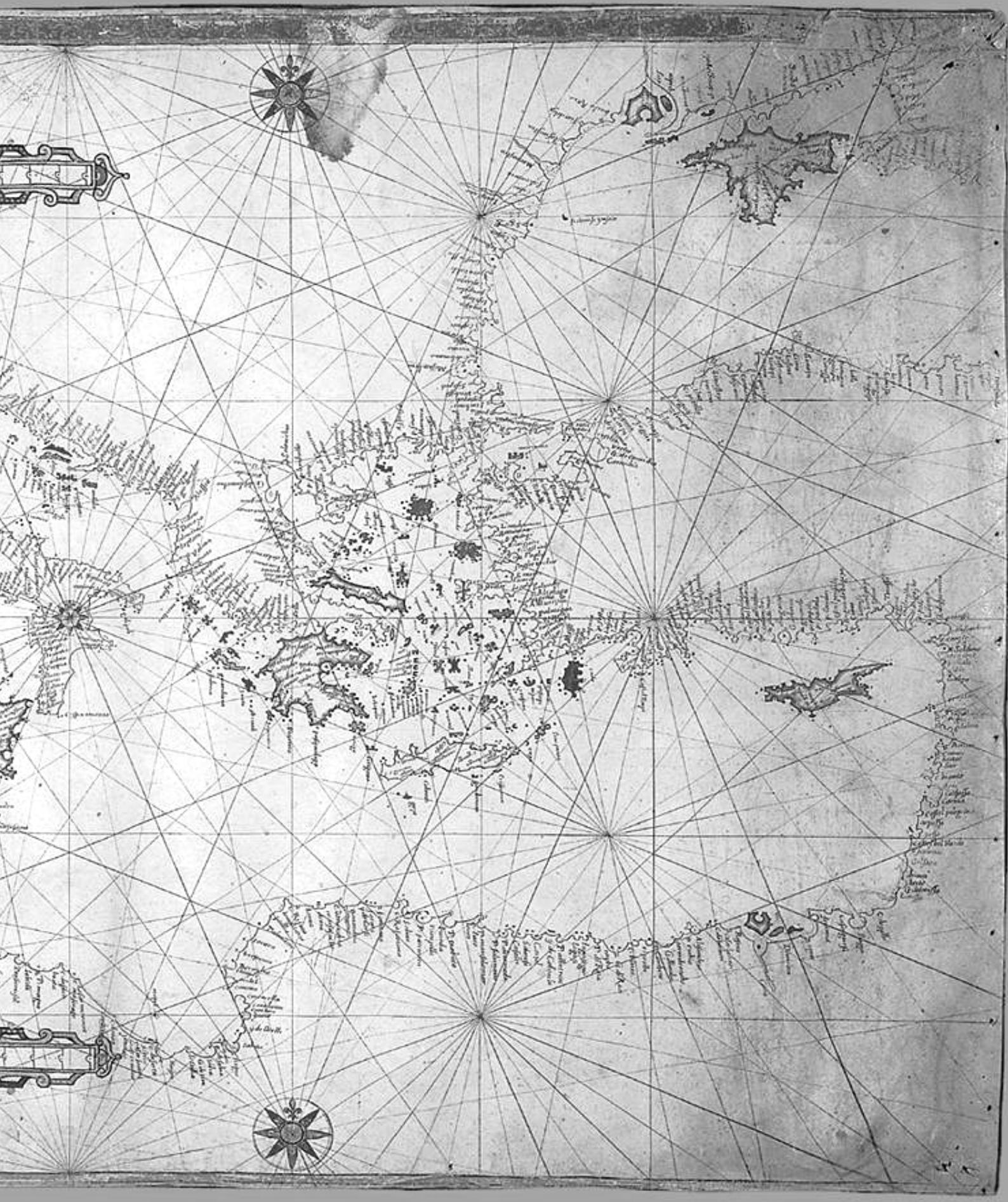
Fig. 4. The two Ceylon (Seylam and Taprobana) on the 1507 World Map

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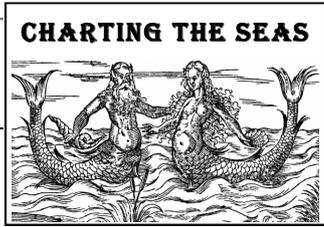
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Portolan of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea ,



by *Vincentius Demetrius Volcius Raguseus*, 1592



The Portolan charts of Vincentius Demetrius Volcius a Portolan Maker from Dubrovnik (1563-1607)

Volcius, known in Croatian as Volčić and in Italian as Volcio, was 'a cartographer from Dubrovnik but not a cartographer of Dubrovnik'.

Volcius' portolans reflect the very important aspects in the historical development of maritime charts. His portolans are made using the classical method

of painting with brush on parchment and represent the final stage in the production and use of manuscript sea charts.

Volcius was inspired by portolan makers from well-known schools and workshops in Mallorca, Genoa, Venice and Ancona.

The works of Francesco and Marco Pizzigani, most productive from 1367 to 1373, were Volcius' chief models. Another significant influence was the portolan workshop from Ancona, active between 1435 and 1556. Volcius was also directly influenced by the cartographer Gracioso Benincasa (c. 1400-82).

The work of Volcius is traditional in the sense that he uses brush painting techniques and parchment as base, more than a hundred years after Ptolemy's copperplate and woodcut maps were printed.

Volcius was producing manuscript portolans from 1592 to 1607, i.e. long after the printing of Ptolemy's *Cosmographia* in 1477 in Bologna and in 1478 in Rome, and after the printing of a woodcut edition of *Geographia* in 1482 in Ulm.

As a counterpoint to the opinion that Volcius' work was traditional, one should not ignore his artistic and decorative accomplishments. He created his portolan charts using several decorative elements: e.g. miniature representations of Madonna and saints, portraits of kings, pictures of sailing ships, etc.

Nordenskiöld classifies Volcius' portolans as, 'masterpieces of execution'. In contrast to Volcius, he states that other portolan makers were not cosmographers and geographers, but talented craftsmen. Although very little is known about the life of Volcius, we know for certain that he was born in Dubrovnik in 1563. He spent nearly the whole of his professional life in Livorno and Napoli, where he died in 1607. Despite the scarce information on Volcius' private life, we are fortunate to be



Portolan of the Atlantic and western Mediterranean, 1592

BIMCC's Map of the Season

BIMCC Members are invited to contribute and send to the editor proposals to present, on the central page of this Newsletter, a map which they particularly like and which they would like to share with other Members; it may be a map which has an interesting history or a curious anecdote attached to it, it may be the centre piece of your collection, it may be a map which you would like to bring to the attention of the cartographic community, etc.

The Editor



able to describe his professional work.

From 1592 to 1593 Volcius lived and worked in Naples. One portolan was made in Portoferraio in 1595. From 1596 to 1601, Volcius worked in Livorno. This was the most flourishing period of his life in which he produced nine new portolans.

Volcius always signed his portolan charts with Latinised form of his name: *Vincentius Demetrius Volcius Raguseus*.

Twenty-one various Volcius' portolans have been identified and analyzed: one is in a private collection, while one has been lost after it had been recorded in the literature and 19 of them are kept at ten different libraries through the world:

- 4 in Biblioteca Nacional, Madrid
- 3 in the University Library, Helsinki
- 1 in The Newberry Library, Chicago
- 1 in Biblioteca Vaticana, Roma
- 5 in The Houghton Library, Cambridge USA
- 1 in Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris
- 1 in The Hispanic Society, New York
- 1 in Biblioteca Municipale, Bologna
- 1 at Yale University, New Haven
- 1 in Archivio di Stato, Firenze.

These charts of Volcius show the best tradition of portolan-making and high quality of artistic illumination.

Vincentius Demetrius Volcius Raguseus, a master in portolan charts making, deserves our full attention.

Drago Novak

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Prof. Novak
at the BIMCC
conference

LOOKS AT BOOKS (III)

Five Centuries of Maps and Charts of Croatia – Pet stoljeća geografskih i pomorskih karata Hrvatske Edited by Drago Novak, Miljenko Lapaine and Dubravka Mlinarić

Zagreb: Školska Knjiga, 2005. 468 pp., 186 colour and 35 b/w ill., including 110 of maps and documents from the Novak collection. Hard cover, 23.5 x 29 cm. ISBN 953-0-61571-X

For many of the participants in the 5th International BIMCC Conference last December, Prof. Drago Novak's presentation on the portolans of Volcius (see above) offered a first encounter not only with a not so well known Croatian map maker, but also, in cartographical terms, with the Adriatic Sea and Novak's home country Croatia.

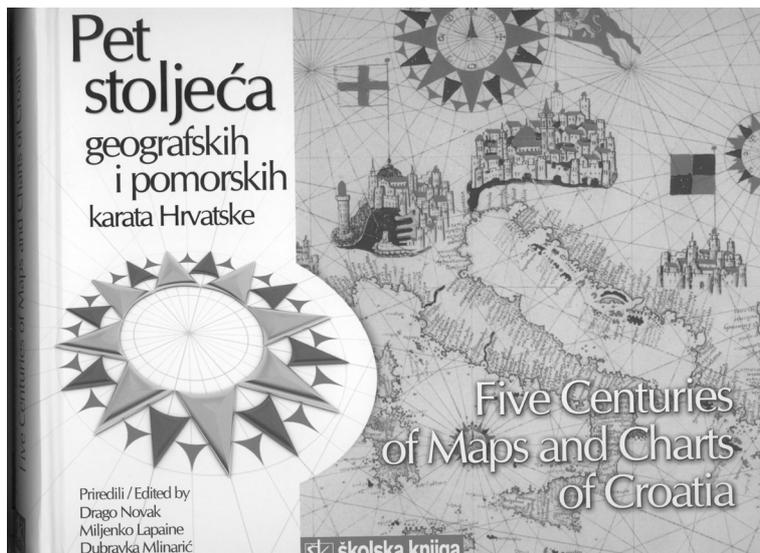
The book presented here is a welcome complement to this first look at a region with a turbulent past, now on the way to stability and peace. Basically, this volume contains the proceedings, in Croatian and in English, of the Sixth International Symposium of the International Map Collectors' Society (IMCoS), held in Zagreb and Dubrovnik in 1988. It also contains six chapters on related subjects, not presented at the Symposium.

As Mirko Marković points out in the first chapter, Croatia is already shown on a map by El Idrisi in 1154. Situated on the Adriatic coast, it has since times

immemorial offered the shortest practical connection between Europe and the Orient. The constant pressure for regional domination exerted by Venice in the west, the Austrian Empire in the north, in opposition to the Ottoman Empire that had annexed half of Croatia in the south, kept the country prominently represented on maps. And yet no dedicated work on the history of Croatian cartography has so far been published. This book must be seen as an important stepping stone towards achieving this goal.

The two following chapters document Croatia's prominent place on ancient maps and offer some classical illustrations from Ptolemy via Peutinger and Ortelius to Von Reilly. Particularly instructive is the chapter on territorial boundary changes as it provides a chronology of the complex political evolution in this region comprising Croatia, Slavonia and Dalmatia.

The next two chapters introduce us to Croatian cartographers some of whose work remains largely



ignored but certainly deserves our attention. Just over half of the 34 names are not recorded in *Tooley's Dictionary of Mapmakers* (revised ed.) And perhaps some have been made Croats against their will: nine of the cartographers, among whom Camocio, El Idrisi, Joh. Christoph Müller, Martin Stier, although foreigners, are considered as Croatian cartographers solely on the basis of their interest in Croatian lands which they drew maps of, or because they worked some time in Croatia. That's perhaps going a bit too far.

Mireille Pastoureaux then presents some interesting maps of Croatia from the Bibliothèque Nationale de France. Particular mention is made of what is known as Napoleon's map of Dalmatia, a manuscript map that is the result of a French survey of Dalmatia begun in 1806 when Napoleon's armies invaded Istria, Dalmatia and part of Croatia. Drago Novak later devotes a whole chapter to this map, relating the story of French domination between 1806 and 1813, and describes all 13 map segments in detail, with some of the accompanying illustrations showing a surprisingly realistic orography.

Five other map makers and their maps and charts relating particularly to Croatia and the Adriatic each have a chapter to themselves:

- Vincenzo Coronelli (1650-1718) whose work for the Most Serene Republic of Venice Helen Wallis describes in her usual engaging style.
- Vincentius Volcius (1563-1607) presented here by Drago Novak for the first time, with 17 of the 20 existing portolans reproduced in beautiful colour.
- Pîrî Reis (ca 1470-ca 1554), one of the most prominent representatives of Ottoman cartography, analysed in great detail by Drago Novak, with Dubravka Mlinarić. His manuscript *Kitab-i Bahriye* (Book on Navigation) contains over 200 sea charts and maps of Mediterranean islands, among which 23 depict the Adriatic coast; 17 are shown in full colour.

- C. F. Beautemps-Beaupré (1766-1854), whose manuscript Atlas of the Adriatic Coast with its 4 sea charts, 11 harbour plans and 2 pages of coastal outlines is presented by Mira Miletić-Drder. This atlas resulted from Beautemps-Beaupré's hydrographic survey undertaken in 1806 on the orders of Napoleon and is now in the National and University Library in Zagreb.

- Diogo Homem (ca 1530-ca 1576) in around 1571 produced a portolan containing seven charts of the eastern Atlantic and parts of the Mediterranean. Mirela Slukan Altić describes her new findings on this portolan now held in the Croatian State Archives, and illustrates the text with not only colour reproductions of all seven charts, but also an index chart of the

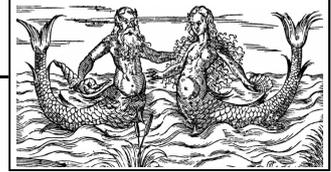
geographical areas covered by Homem here, showing the double coverage of the Adriatic. These two charts are additionally presented with an overlay of modern coast lines, in support of her observant analysis of chart accuracy.

As a complement to the subjects mentioned there is a chapter by Dušanka Čanković overviewing five centuries of the Adriatic on maps, and one by Josip Lučić on the mapping of the Republic of Dubrovnik, Ragusa by its older name, a trading place and cultural centre of the greatest importance. Volcius was born here. Not to forget Anica Kisić's captivating exposé on the origins of Camocio's and Rosaccio's *Isolario* in Croatian collections, casting some light on how these cartographers dealt with the islands and harbours of the region. Thirty fine illustrations underline her point. A connection with the modern world of cartography is proposed in a separate chapter dealing with cartography at the end of the 20th century.

As with any serious publication, each chapter has its end notes and bibliography, and the book carries in addition a succinct summary of each chapter, biographical notes on all authors, a list of illustrations, and an index of names. Although it has taken quite a number of years for this book to be published, it is welcome as an invitation to get to know this important part of our Europe, through its history and its maps and charts.

I would like to put on record, and with gratitude, the professional and friendly link Drago Novak has established with our Circle of which he is a member since many years. The *liber amicorum* published in 1998 on the occasion of his 65th birthday under the title *Rainbow Bridge – the Physician and Traveller between two Worlds* pays tribute to an eminent radiologist, traveller, collector of paintings, ex-libris... and maps. May this link be long-lasting and fruitful, and open the door to a most hospitable country well worth while (re) visiting.

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The Van Keulen Cartography – Amsterdam 1680 – 1885

written and compiled by Dirk de Vries, Günter Schilder, Willem Mörzer Bruyns,
Peter van Iterson and Irene Jacobs

Canaletto/Repro-Holland, Alphen aan den Rijn, the Netherlands, 2005, 633 pp., hardback, ISBN 90 6469 807 4.
To order: EUR299.- at www.canaletto.nl

For two hundred years, the Amsterdam based Van Keulen firm was a leading house in the production of sea charts, books and navigational instruments. Unlike many family businesses they easily survived the three generation cliché-model for family businesses (build-up, highlight and decline).

This major work on the history, production and significance of the Van Keulen firm was the fruit of the cooperation of passionate specialists in maritime affairs and history, most of whom are related to the Utrecht University. A rediscovery of a great number of Gerard van Keulen's manuscript charts in the *Biblioteca Angelica* in Rome in 1992 prompted them to write this book and, by doing so, opened up this wealth of rare maps to a larger public. In the general introduction they mention that up to now the publications on Van Keulen have focused on the 1885 auction or the Leiden manuscript charts or the *Zee-Fakkel*. It is clear from the authors' contributions that they intended to fill a certain gap and to make a valuable addition to the existing literature. Mission accomplished! Note, however, that the title of this work is somewhat misleading as the authors focus on manuscript maps and not on the entire Van Keulen oeuvre. Map enthusiasts searching detailed information about the *Zee-Atlas* or the *Zee-Fakkel* in their own rights will find less added value in this book, with the exception of a comprehensive overview of their charts in Appendix 6, established by Irene Jacobs.

The book consists of two parts. In the first part (244 pages) the authors describe several themes relating to this printing house and its cartography in increasing order of relevance. In the opening section, Peter van Iterson focuses on the private aspects of the *Family and Firm*. We learn, *inter alia*, anecdotic details of the family's Deventer origins in the 1620s, its skipper background, the family estate, and more in particular, their business address *De Gekroonde Lootsman* on the Amsterdam waterfront. The family which, now and then, held shares in ships and its finances are discussed in detail with special attention to wills and successions. Luckily, the flood of family names is made comprehensible through the insertion of a genealogic table. Occasionally, cartographic information is provided, such as the legal details of the transaction by Hendrik Doncker of his business to Johannes I van Keulen in 1693 or the purchase by the then double firm (van Keulen – Hulst) of nautical and port charts of Giacomo Alagna of Messina in 1763. The death of Gerard Hulst van Keulen in 1801

brought an end to the tradition of father-to-son successions, but the family connections continued to play a role in the firm until 1840 when Jacob Swart, who had previously, i.e. in 1827, been appointed director of the firm, became its sole proprietor in 1840. The declining business effectively came to its end at an auction of the remaining books, instruments and ship logs in 1885, hence, the logical closing date of the book.

After this general section, Willem Mörzer Bruyns (with contribution by Ton Vermeulen) explains *The Importance of the Van Keulens to Navigation*. We understand the authors' choice of 1680 as starting date of the commercial activities of the firm (and of this book), as on 17 July 1680, the authorities of Holland and West-Friesland granted a fifteen-year patent to Johannes I van Keulen to publish a pilot book and a nautical atlas. This led to the publication in the same year of the *Zee-Atlas*, whose design was similar to the



De Groote Nieuwe Vermeerderde
ZEE-ATLAS ofte **WATER-WERELT**.
Vervtoonde in vijf alle de
ZEE-KUSTEN des **AARDTRYKS**,

Beftaende in feer nette Kaerten, foo plate als walfende Graden, waer van eenige van de
meestgelyk verdoende zyn, te welck ook de feer rechte Eijde waer Kaerten, evenich vervtoonde in feer wyldeyde Kaerten
van groote beftick. Beer dienigh voor Schippers, Staateluden, en Liefhebbers der groote Zeevaert.
A M S T E R D A M.
By JOHANNES VAN KEULEN, Boekverkooper en Graefdhofmaker, tegen over de
Nieuwbrug, in de gekroonde Lootsman. 1 6 8 0.

Frontispiece of *Zee-Atlas*
by Johannes van Keulen, 1684



atlas of Pieter Goos who had died in 1675. Shortly thereafter, in 1683, the first four volumes of the *Zee-Fakkel* were published.

According to a 1777 trade catalogue, the van Keulens also made, sold and repaired all kinds of navigational instruments, including cross-staffs, quadrants, octants and compasses. Credit for these and other instruments must be given to several employees of the firm, including Jacobus Robijn and Johannes Loots. The author describes Gerard Hulst van Keulen's involvement in the finding of the longitude at sea and the publication of his *Almanach*. Appendix 7 provides for insight information in the Van Keulen business as it lists the printed trade catalogues of 1777 and 1828. For reasons of completeness, Mörzer Bruyns also mentions Van Keulens' production of non-maritime products, such as town plans of Amsterdam and celestial maps.

In the third section Günter Schilder describes *The Van Keulens and the Dutch East-India Company*. The firm took an increasingly prominent position between 1730 and 1799, the year of the dissolution of the Dutch East-India Company (VOC): first as suppliers of charts and nautical equipment, and later as cartographers. As map suppliers to the Amsterdam Chamber of the VOC, the Van Keulens received clear production instructions (Appendix 1). The wide range of deliveries appear from journals of the Chief Accountant of the VOC, 1700-1796: Appendix 4 to the book lists the supplies of navigational equipment from all suppliers with indication of date and price, including the deliveries by the Van Keulens. The VOC's cartographic

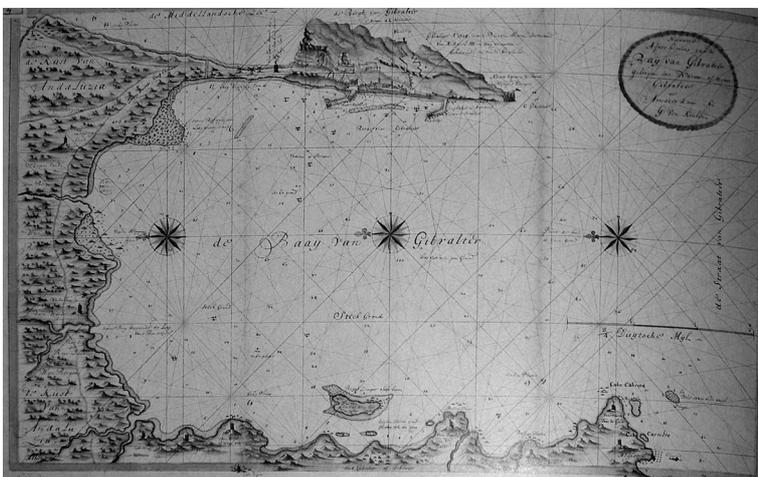


Frontispiece of *Zee-Fakkel* by Hulst van Keulen

activities were focused on three areas: the Amsterdam Chamber, Batavia, the center in the East and various trade factories which were also supplied with cartographic materials. The first deliveries of manuscript charts by the Van Keulen firm to the VOC go back to 1731. After the death of Isaac de Graaf, 'cartographer' of the VOC, in 1743, this position passed to members of the van Keulen family, starting with Johannes II van Keulen. The cartographer worked under full privilege and confidentiality and was not allowed to divulge information to third parties. It was around the same time that efficient quality incentives were given to Dutch navigation: a thorough revision of charts and nautical instruments took place in 1747; in 1743 the *Académie de Marine* of Batavia was founded; in 1748 the *Algemeen Zeemanscollege* was set up. Last but not least, in 1747, the *Heren XVII* — the VOC's board

of directors — also adopted the proposals by Jan de Marre, Examiner of Mates, to improve the quality of the chart and of the instruments (*i.e.* Jan de Marre's so-called *Memoire* in Appendix 2). It goes without saying that all these welcome factors expanded the Van Keulen business beyond expectation. Moreover, the fruitful cartographic cooperation between Jan de Marre and Johannes II van Keulen led to the publication of volume six of the *Zee-Fakkel* (the groundbreaking *Zee-boek voor Indiën*) in 1753 which van Keulen was, exceptionally, allowed to sell on the market. From 1754 onwards Van Keulen supplied VOC vessels with volumes of the *Zee-Fakkel*. After Johannes II van Keulen's death in 1755, his widow, Catherina Buijs, and, from 1772, Gerard Hulst van Keulen became the cartographers of the VOC. Schilder reckons that, from approximately 1750 onwards, the Van Keulens provided half of all the required charts and nautical instruments to the VOC.

Despite the combined efforts of the VOC and the Van Keulen firm, the Dutch could not keep pace with the French and the British where state intervention and effective direction was the general rule in hydrography and sea charting, which led — in those days — to higher volumes and more modern and accurate charts. So, the bad times came faster than expected and were, unfortunately, rather irreversible: naturally, overall decline of the VOC during the last 20 years of the eighteenth century is reflected in a total cartographic malaise. In 1799 the Council of Asian Possessions took



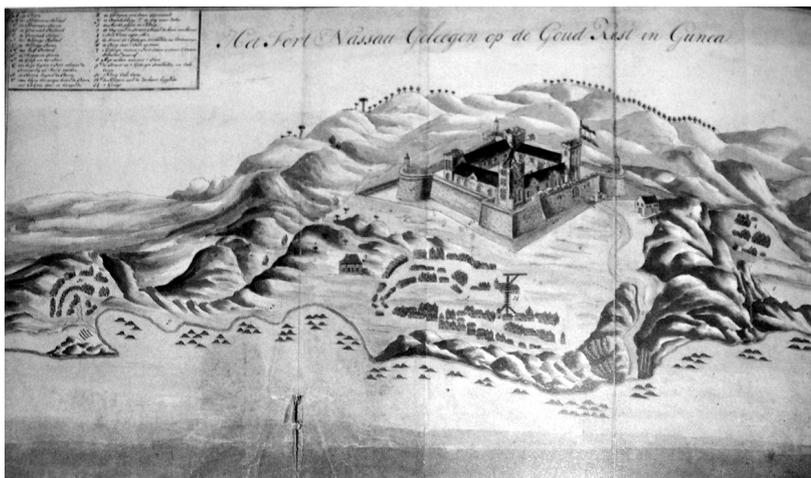
Bay of Gibraltar



over from the VOC, but Schilder deduced from their list of required charts and nautical equipment that the Van Keulen firm was still a prominent supplier of materials at that time.

In the final section of part 1, Dirk de Vries introduces *The Manuscript Charts* of the firm. He argues that these charts must be considered as supplements to the printed nautical maps because of any lack of resemblance and since the former focus on smaller sections of coast lines than their printed counterparts. Seventeenth and eighteenth century facsimile copies of the manuscript maps played a key role in the research of the original manuscript maps. The authors traced 757 manuscript charts in total of which 334 are kept by the *Universiteitsbibliotheek* Leiden which acquired its collection in 1908. Other large owners are the *Staatsbibliotheek* Berlin (116 maps, 'discovered' by Schilder in 1974), the *Biblioteca Angelica* Rome (84 maps sold by Van Keulen to the Italian cardinal-to-be Dominico Passionini in 1713) and the *Nationaal Archief* Den Haag (69 maps). The manuscript charts can be subdivided into three different formats: most charts are large-size (59 x 99 cm), but some are much smaller (52 x 64 cm or 51 x 58 cm). The charts are uniform in layout, drawing style, script, ornamentation and use of exotic colours. After a principally carto-bibliographic approach, de Vries tackles the more intriguing questions: what was the purpose of these manuscript maps of which more than half lacked coordinates? Why were only 300 of the charts dated? Why did Van Keulen not take the following step and print these charts? Few unambiguous answers are given. In the last issue, de Vries suggests that Van Keulen produced these manuscript charts to assess the merchantability of a given product where the firm knew that there was a certain public interest, but when they were not sure whether this would be sufficient to warrant the investment demanded by a printed chart. De Vries terminated his contribution by analyzing the dependence by Van Keulen on other cartographers: charts have been derived, *inter alia*, from Greenville Collins *Great Britain's Coasting Pilot* of 1693, from Pierre Mortier's *Neptune François* of the same year and from Vingboon's compiled *Bom-Atlas*.

At the end of the first part, seven appendixes have been inserted, some of which have already been mentioned. In addition, Appendix 3 is the Report of a Commission (it is not made clear in the appendix which Commission) to the Governor-General and Council of the Indies concerning the *Indiase Zeeboek*. Finally, Appendix 5 lists loose printed sea charts published by Van Keulen before 1801. To the extent possible, all appendixes are reproduced in colorful seventeenth century Dutch, but non-Dutch speaking readers might regret that appendixes 1 to 4 have not been translated into English.



Fort Nassau on the Gold Coast of Guinea

The second part of the book (389 pages), prepared by Dirk de Vries, is a fine catalogue of all manuscript sea charts produced by the van Keulens traced in a five-year research programme by the authors' team from 1996 to 2000. The charts date from c. 1704 to 1749 which, arguably, gives Johannes II van Keulen a preponderant position in their creation. They have been largely arranged in the same sequence as the van Keulens did in their atlases, which was based on the order of routes or maritime regions maintained by the Dutch mariners since the late Middle Ages. Some charts exist in more than one and up to four copies, in which case they have been catalogued under the same number, and to the extent possible, the earliest datable chart is reproduced. The charts (and a few prints, *inter alia*, showing Dutch fortresses in Ghana) have been reduced to between 19 to 20 percent of their original size, thereby creating a uniform presentation. Luckily, the beautifully exotic colours of the charts were preserved throughout this publication. Finally, the book is complemented with a separate handy booklet with 20 index sheets which locate the charts on modern maps.

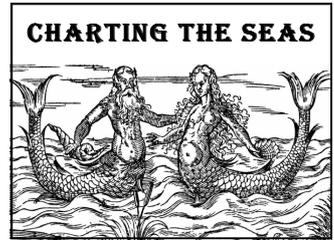
At € 299, this is not a cheap book. However, one must admire the labour intensive effort of its authors. The heavily annotated written contributions are intense and top class. Rightfully, this carto-bibliography will immediately take its place in the scientific research on cartographic printing houses and the van Keulens in particular. An understandable downside of this volume is that the reproductions of the charts are rather small: having a standard format of 11.5 x 19.5 cm per chart, four of them usually cover a double page. Although this basic scientific exercise might not be the most thrilling activity, it is a necessary job which lays the foundation for further research on Dutch sea charting and on the specific contribution by the van Keulens. Later writers on this subject will only be tributary...

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QUICK LOOKS AT BOOKS

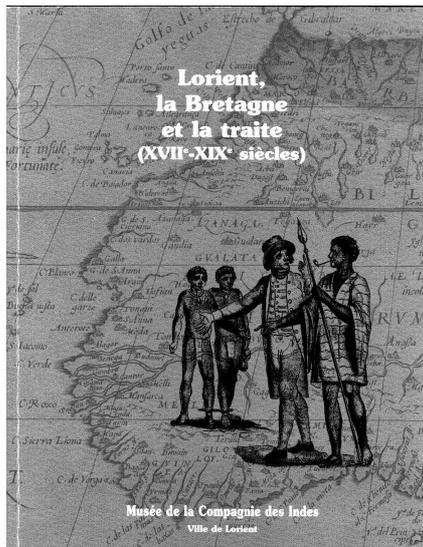
Three short notices on recent publications, by Wulf Bodenstein



Lorient, la Bretagne et la traite (XVII^e – XIX^e siècles) (Lorient, Brittany and the slave trade, 17th – 19th centuries) by Brigitte Nicolas (ed.)

Musée de la Compagnie des Indes, Ville de Lorient, 2006. N° 9/10 in the series of *Cahiers de la Compagnie des Indes*. 224 pp., 111 colour ill. incl. 9 maps, numerous tables. Soft cover, 27 x 21 cm. ISBN 2-915726-02-7. To order : Musée de la Compagnie des Indes, Citadelle du Port Louis, F-56290 Port Louis (France), Tel +33-(0)297-82.19.14, e-mail museeindes@mairie-lorient.fr

This volume presents the proceedings of a conference on the above subject, held in Lorient on 10 and 11 May 2006, to which have been added four articles relating to the exhibition that was held at the Museum of the *Compagnies des Indes* (French East India Company) in Port Louis from 24 June to 15 October 2006 under the title *Comptoirs d'Afrique* (Trading stations in Africa). On a trip through Brittany my wife and I discovered this exhibition by sheer accident, and obtained some documentation on the life and activities of this Company, bearing in mind our own conference on Sea Charts in December.



the point of view of Brittany's role in the slave trade. The interest for us lies more in getting to know the French East India Company, somewhat in the shadow of the Dutch East India Company (Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie, VOC) and the English East India Company, both prominently presented at our BIMCC conference.

Founded by Colbert in 1664, the French East India Company was Louis XIV's response to the by then flourishing English and Dutch companies, established in 1600 and 1602 respectively. The trading activities of this new company led it to develop bases in India, China,

The texts are divided into five chapters, essentially dealing with the role Bretons and Brittany played with regard to the slave trade, the evolution and final abolition of this commerce, the vestiges of the trade in Brittany, and the overseas establishments of the Company, subject of the exhibition.

Coming to terms with one's colonial past has become an obligatory exercise that all former colonial powers have to acquit themselves of. It is not for me to judge whether this has been achieved here from

and on the Indian Ocean islands Ile de France (now Mauritius), and Ile Bourbon (now La Réunion). The Company chose a site in the harbour of Port-Louis to build, equip and man its fleet, and its growing prosperity gave birth to the town of Lorient. In 1721 a fleet of 86 merchant ships were at home in this maritime arsenal.

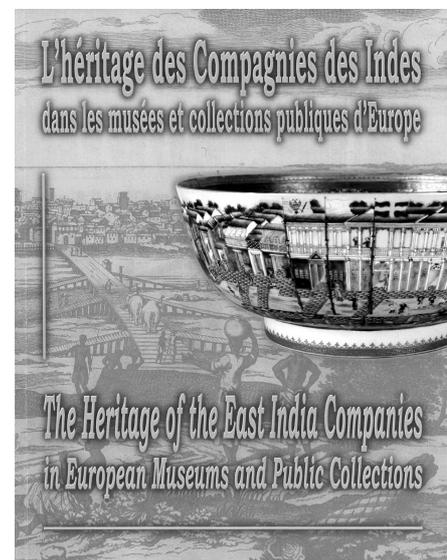
But I'll stop here to mention another most interesting book that will give you an insight into these and some other East India Companies. This way please.

L'Héritage des Compagnies des Indes dans les musées et collections publiques d'Europe

(The Heritage of the East India Companies in European Museums and Public Collections) by Louis Mézin, Pierre Delleur (ed.)

Musée de la Compagnie des Indes, Ville de Lorient, 2006. N° 9/10 in the series of *Cahiers de la Compagnie des Indes*. 224 pp., 111 colour ill. incl. 9 maps, numerous tables. Soft cover, 27 x 21 cm. ISBN 2-915726-02-7. To order : Musée de la Compagnie des Indes, Citadelle du Port Louis, F-56290 Port Louis (France), Tel +33-(0)297-82.19.14, e-mail museeindes@mairie-lorient.fr

As is customary in such publications, you'll find a lot of 'chinoiseries' described and illustrated. But for us the interest lies not only in the articles dealing with the mentioned English, Dutch and French Companies, but particularly in those on the Danish and Swedish East India Companies, founded in 1616 and 1731 respectively, which one does not read a lot about.





The Danish enterprise was handicapped from the start by underfinancing. The first mission in 1620 to Ceylon led to the signing of a treaty with the local Narjak and the establishment of a few trading outposts on Java and Celebes, but these attempts ended in failure as the first return cargo did not cover the initial investments. The Company was disbanded in 1650, but another one was launched 20 years later and operated more successfully for the next 59 years. Danish trade activities continued under different forms of organization, especially with China, until British

supremacy forced them out of business around 1785.

As was the case for the Danish Company, a number of foreign mariners, mainly British, but also Flemish, French, Dutch and even Italians, were in the employ of the Swedish Company. Its fate was even more exposed to intrigues and political hazards of the time. The article raises an interesting point regarding international commercial relations, refuting the opinion of Belgian historian Christian Koninckx that the Swedish East India Company was no more than an extension of the Ostend Company.

Sur la Route des Epices – l'Île Maurice 1598-1810 (Towards the Spice Islands – Mauritius 1598-1810) by Denis Piat

Paris: Les Éditions du Pacifique, 2nd ed., 2004. 208 pp., 136 colour and 5 b/w ill., including 19 maps.
Hard cover and dust jacket, 33.5 x 27 cm. ISBN 2-87868-082-0

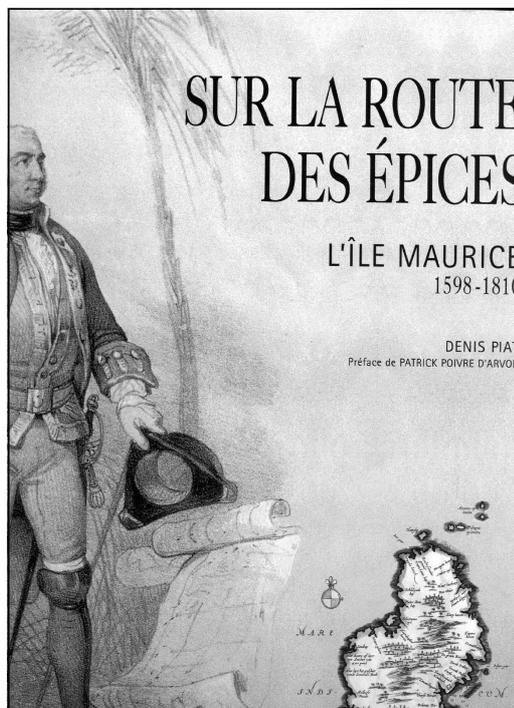
If you feel like a break on the exhausting way to the East Indies that we made you follow during our Conference and the excursion above, here is a suggestion for a stop-over you will not regret.

The author's forefathers established themselves in 1768 on *Isle de France*, as it was known until the British conquered it in 1810. His first probing into his ancestral past developed into a fascination which led him to collect travel books, nautical instruments, and maps with the help of which he began to reconstruct the history of his origins. And in so doing he got absorbed in the history of this tropical archipelago just to the north of the Tropic of Capricorn, a thousand kilometres east of Madagascar.

The picturesque narrative is as classical as it is logical in concept: the Dutch followed the Portuguese who came after the Chinese, who in turn succeeded the Arabs. And so we connect again with the French East India Company which, after the Dutch retreat in 1710 and initial French occupation in 1715 made the island a French possession in 1721.

Among the celebrities who stayed on the island we recognize Jean-Baptiste d'Après de Maneville, captain of the East India Company and renowned cartographer, author of the famous *Neptune Oriental* (1745). And of course Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, author of the famous novel *Paul et Virginie*, a pastoral romance set on this island, published in 1788. Bougainville, Lapérouse, Suffren, Surcouf, king of the (French) buccaneers, the astronomer de La Caille, and many other illustrious Frenchmen stopped over here. Their fortunes and misadventures are fascinating to read.

The next chapter returns to Port Louis to present the most celebrated ships' captains of the East India Company who called on the *Isle de France*, a pleasant supplement to the title described above. The book



closes with the British capture of the island in 1810. The treaty of Paris of 1814 confirms its British sovereignty, and the island's original Dutch name of Mauritius is reinstated.

With its oversized portraits and lavish illustrations one might be inclined to classify this attractive publication as a coffee table book. Fortunately, Eric Leenders' redeeming article on this subject in BIMCC Newsletter No 25 takes the sting and the stigma out of this denomination. There is an index in addition to the end notes, and the bibliography contains over 80 entries, confirming Denis Piat's engagement for serious historical research.



BIMCC Programme for 2007

- **Saturday 3 March 2007, at 14:00, BIMCC Spring Excursion:
Excursion to the Exhibition of VOC (Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie) sea charts
'Treasure from Corpus Christi' at the Maritiem Museum Rotterdam**

Leuvehaven 1, 3011EA Rotterdam — Tel. + 31(0)10-4132680 - Fax +31(0)10-4137342

Guided Tour in English by Sjoerd de Meer, conservator of the MMR.

Please note : The excursion is strictly limited to 20 participants, and preference will be given to paid-up BIMCC Members. Non-Members may be admitted if places remain available. All registrations will be dealt with on a first-come-first-served basis and those accepted will be acknowledged by the Secretary by return mail.

To register send the enclosed form to the BIMCC Secretary (or e.mail to info@bimcc.org) before 20 February. Entrance fee of EUR 4.-.

You may make use of the opportunity to visit in the morning the exhibition 'Land in Zicht!', Vingboons tekent de wereld van de 17^e eeuw' at De Kunsthal (Museumpark, Westzeedijk 341, 3015 AA Rotterdam) which runs only until 15 April 2007. Opens at 10:00 (See details page 36).

- **Saturday 28 April 2007, at 16:30, 9th Annual General Meeting,
at the Collège Saint-Michel,**

Attention: We had to change meeting room. The new one is at the other end of the College building and access is through a different entrance: 12 rue Père E. Devroye, 1040 Brussels

All current (paid-up) members are invited to participate. However, according to the new Statutes adopted in 2005, only Active Members have a vote. In order to reinforce our Team, we invite those of our ordinary members interested in taking an active role in the life of the BIMCC to contact Secretary Eric Leenders. The AGM would be very pleased to welcome new supporters in this Group, currently comprising 19 members, of whom 9 serve on the Executive Committee.

A personal invitation to this AGM with the agenda will be sent out by the Secretary by separate mail.

As always, this will be followed by...

- **Saturday 28 April 2007, at 17:30, Map Evening,
at the Collège Saint-Michel, 12, rue Père Eudore Devroye,
1040 Brussels (Attention: Different room, different entrance!!)**



Our traditional **Map Evening**, brings together all those interested in maps – members as well as non-members – for an informal chat about a piece from their collection, and usually some quite surprising pieces come up. This is also an occasion for newcomers to get to know the Circle.

Wine and snacks will be served; participants are asked to pay EUR 10.- at the door for expenses.

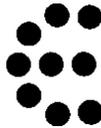
Please submit the enclosed registration form before 16 March to Secretary Eric Leenders(info@bimcc.org).

- **Friday 28 September 2007, BIMCC Autumn Excursion:**

This year's excursion will take us to the of the National Geographic Institute in the *Abbaye de la Cambre* in Brussels. There will be a guided tour from 13:00 to 16:00.

The visit will be limited to 30 participants, and preference will be given to paid-up BIMCC Members. Non-Members may be admitted if places remain available.

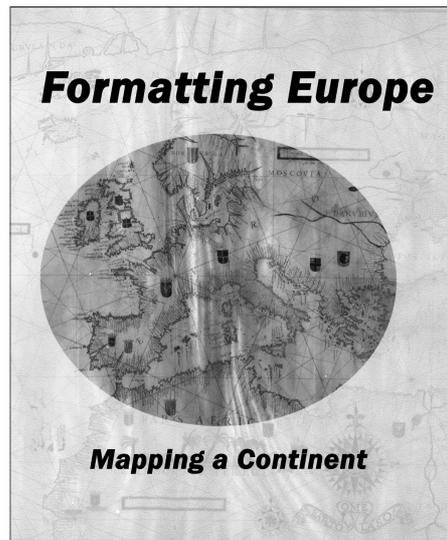
Details will be available in the next Newsletter.



Europalia Europa

Every two years, since 1969, Europalia International organizes a major international multidisciplinary arts festival in Belgium to celebrate one country's cultural heritage. The last event in 2005 received over one million visitors.

In 2007, for the Treaty of Rome's 50th anniversary, the festival will be devoted to the culture of Europe and its 27 Member States. The Royal Library of Belgium and the BIMCC have launched a joint programme consisting of an Exhibition and a Conference on the theme of ***Formatting Europe – Mapping a Continent*** which is now part of the official Europalia programme (www.europalia.be):



Friday 16 November 2007, 09:30 – 17:00 at the Royal Library, Brussels
6th International BIMCC Conference

Formatting Europe – Mapping a Continent

Speakers invited are Dr Peter Barber (London), Dr Angelo Cattaneo (Florence), Dr Markus Heinz (Berlin), Dr Bernard Jouret (Brussels), Mag. Jan Mokre (Vienna), Prof Gilles Palsky (Paris), Dr Peter van der Krogt (Utrecht). Conference Chairman will be Prof Günter Schilder (Utrecht).

Among the subjects addressed will be: European town views by Braun and Hogenberg, 19th century statistical maps, and satirical maps, Globes as European products of science and culture, a Belgian contribution to European relief mapping, and Europe as seen by Italian and German map makers in the Renaissance and the Age of Enlightenment.

Friday 16 November 2007, 18:00 at the Royal Library (Houyoux Hall)
Official opening of the Exhibition of Maps
Formatting Europe – Mapping a Continent

European cartographers have depicted Europe throughout the centuries in several ways: allegorically, physically, politically ... Voluntarily or not, they sometimes took liberties with the reality. But this also was changing during the periods, specially relating to state borders. The exhibition will show maps from the Middle Ages to the 20th century. The maps vary in aspect, aim and scale and have only one common feature: their subject. Grouped chronologically, they show the fascinating evolution of the continent and of its cartography.

The exhibition will last until 8 February 2008, and a tri-lingual catalogue (Dutch, French, English) will be available.

More details in forthcoming issues of the BIMCC Newsletter.



Festschrift Lisette Danckaert

On the occasion of Lisette's 75th birthday last year (see BIMCC Newsletter No 22), Wouter Bracke, her successor as Head of 'Maps and Plans' at the Royal Library (KBR) in Brussels, organised the production of a *Festschrift* by her former colleagues and friends across Europe. The book was presented to her during a friendly ceremony at the KBR's Map Room on 26 October 2006. Most contributors had travelled especially to Brussels for the occasion to listen to the official address from W. Bracke and to memories evoked by former colleagues Frank Daelemans and Elly Cockx-Indestege. Lisette responded with both humour and emotion to this well deserved tribute to her outstanding contribution to the history and conservation of cartography in Belgium (photos can be seen on http://www.kbr.be/cnhs/reportage/page_fr.php?path=.%2Fdanckaert).



Lisette receives *Margaritae* from Marguerite Silvestre

The book* entitled *'Margaritae cartographicae : Studia Lisette Danckaert 75^{um} diem natalem agenti oblata'* (*Pearls of cartography offered to L. Danckaert's 75th birthday*) contains some 15 original articles on (the history of) cartography:

- P.D.A. HARVEY, *Lisette Danckaert: an appreciation*
- J.M. DUVOSQUEL, *Une oeuvre inédite de Jacques de Surhon : La carte de la terre abbatiale de Saint-Hubert (1551)*
- P.H. MEURER, *Studien zur Karte der Gallia Belgica von Gilles Boileau de Bouillon (1557)*
- U. EHRENSVÄRD, *Le Globe royal du souverain suédois Eric XIV*
- O. DAMME, *Un cuivre d'Ortelius aux Musées royaux des Beaux-Arts à Bruxelles*
- J.W.H. WERNER, *Drie opmerkelijke atlassen uit de Lage landen door Gerard Van Schagen, Abraham Ortelius en Joan Blaeu*
- D. BUISSERET, *The manuscript sources of Christophe Tassin's maps of France : the "Military School"*
- G. BÄÄRNHJELM, *Manuscript maps of Belgium in Swedish libraries and archives*
- M. PELLETIER, *De Cassini de Thury à Le Michaud d'Arçon. Les militaires français et la triangulation dans la seconde moitié du XVII^e siècle*
- C. LEMOINE-ISABEAU, *Une carte manuscrite du Hainaut du XVIII^e siècle en quête d'identité*
- H.A.M. VAN DER HEIJDEN, *Jean Baptiste de Bouge's laatste kaart*
- M. SILVESTRE, *La banque de données de Philippe Vandermaelen (1795-1869)*
- R. ANSIAUX & D. REINHARTZ, *'The truth is ... Maps are weapons!' Cartographic impressions and the doomed Belgian colony of Santo Tomas*
- F. HERBERT, *Joseph Kips FRGS (1828-1891) of the Vandermaelen Geographical Establishment (Brussels) and the War Office (London): a francophone Belgian cartographer in London*
- T. KLÖTI, *Die Siegfriedkarte (1870-1949) als Landschaftgedächtnis der Schweiz*
- W. BODENSTEIN, *Lisette Danckaert et le Brussels International Map Collectors' Circle (BIMCC)*

Jean-Louis Renteux

* Edited by Wouter Bracke. Published by the *Belgian Association of Librarians and Archivists*, Brussels, 2006, as: *Archief- en Bibliotheekwezen in België / Archives et Bibliothèques de Belgique Extranummer - Numéro spécial 80*. ISSN 0775-0722
294 p. : couv. ill., ill., maps, tab. ; 25 cm
Can be purchased (EUR 35.00) from: Wouter Bracke, Map Room, Royal Library of Belgium, Keizerslaan 4, B-1000 Brussels, fax+32 2 5195742; tel.+32 2 5195743.

**To be informed or reminded about BIMCC events
send your e-mail address to info@bimcc.org**



News

Library of Congress: 10 000th map placed online

The Geography and Map Division at the Library of Congress has announced the placement of the 10 000th map on its Web site at www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap. The milestone comes 10 years after the division started digitizing maps in 1996. The map is Samuel de Champlain's 1607 chart on vellum of the North American coast from Nova Scotia to Massachusetts. The unique document, originally intended for presentation to Henri IV, King of France, was compiled by Champlain (1567-1635), founder of New France (Canada). The map provides the first thorough delineation of the New England and Canadian coast from Cape Sable to Cape Cod.

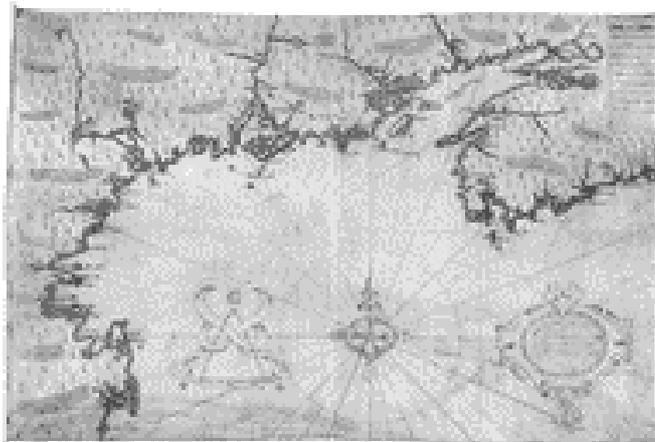
Champlain's map can be viewed at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/gmd/g3321p.ct001431>. The Geography and Map Division's online catalogue can be found at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>. The Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress serves as a major international centre for research relating to cartography and geography. Its collection is the largest in the world, with 5.4 million maps, 75 000 atlases, 500 globes, 3 000 three-dimensional objects and thousands of digital files.

Caert Thresoor – 25 years anniversary

The BIMCC congratulates the founders and the editors, past and present, of the Dutch cartographic journal 'Caert Thresoor' for 25 years of outstanding publications. This journal – being the only one publishing in the Dutch language – finds its pride in the 16th and 17th century history of the Low Countries. The BIMCC is looking forward to strengthened cooperation with our Northern cartographic friends.

Revue de la Bibliothèque nationale de France

Special number (No 24) dedicated to cartography.
Bibliothèque nationale de France, service commercial,
Tel.: +33(0)1 53 79 81 75, Fax: +33(0)1 53 79 81 72,
<http://editions.bnf.fr/revue/sommaire.htm>



New edition of Ptolemy's Geographia

An international team of researchers led by Alfred Stükelberger and Gerd Grasshoff, professors at the University of Bern, announced a new edition of Ptolemy's 'Geographia'. It is based on the exemplar in the Topkapi Museum, Istanbul, described as 'possibly the oldest existing copy'. 'Using this manuscript and other copies from the Vatican, Venice, Florence and Paris they have produced the first complete modern edition of the Greek original, and the first full German translation ... The researchers even managed to correct some of the mistakes in the old versions. Not surprisingly, numerous errors had crept in over the centuries.'

For further details about the project and the new publication see <http://www.ptolemaios.unibe.ch/> or <http://www.maphistory.info/projects.html#ptolemaios>.

No new prime meridian for Europe!

Those of you who spotted that the 'news' which appeared in our Newsletter No. 25 was dated 1 April 2006, and did not take it seriously were right!

Events

Washington Map Society Meetings

The Railroads of Old Washington

18 January 2007

By Lee Rogers

Looking Westward; English 17th Century

Mapping of Virginia

15 February 2007

By John Hébert

Putting America on the Map: The Achievement of Medieval Mapmakers

15 March 2007

By Dr. Evelyn Edson

Dating Old Maps with the Print Clock

19 April 2007

By Dr. Blair Hedges

At 19:00. in the Geography and Map Division, B level, Library of Congress, Madison Building, 101 Independence Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C., USA.

For additional information, contact Chas Langelan (email: clangelan@amtengineering.com)

Note: the events are listed in chronological order (in case of a series of events, according to the first event in the series).



INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS (CONT'D)

Warburg Lectures on Cartography, London ***Maps, Myths, and Gardens: Faithorne and Newcourt's Map of London (1658)***

25 January 2007

Dr David Marsh

The Cartography of Bligh's Open Boat Voyage and his Two Breadfruit Voyages

8 February 2007

Lt Cdr Andrew David

Naming the English Channel: What Maps Tell Us About Geopolitics Through the Ages

March 1, 2007

Dr Renaud Morieux

Burghley and Elizabethan Maps of Lancashire

29 March 2007

Drs Michael Winstanley and Bill Shannon Lord

Surveyor or Plagiarist? The Parks on John Warburton's Map of Hertfordshire (c. 1724)

26 April 2007

Hugh Prince

Nursery Instruction: Cartographical Novelties for Georgian and Victorian Children

17 May 2007

Jill Shefrin

At University of London, Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB, UK, at 17:00.

<http://www.maphistory.info/warburgprog.html>

Enquiries to +44 (0) 20 8346 5112 (Catherine Delano Smith) or Tony Campbell (t.campbell@ockendon.clara.co.uk)

Miami International map Fair

January 27-28, 2007

Visitors are invited to bring in maps of their own for expert opinions and attend educational programs. While many of the attendees are serious map collectors, this event is building awareness of antique maps and encouraging new collectors.

For information contact Marcia Kanner using the above address or by telephone at (305) 375-1492; facsimile: (305) 375-1609. Email: mapfair@historical-museum.org.

At the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, 101 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33130.

<http://www.historical-museum.org/mapfair/mapfair.htm>.

25th International IMCoS Symposium

Guatemala, 4-7 February 2007

There will also be a post-symposium tour February 8-10 to the Guatemalan Highlands and another tour February 11-12 to the ancient Maya ruins of Tikal and Yaxhá.

Additional information on the extensive program can be obtained by emailing to imcos@ufm.edu.gt or P.O. Box 1376, Guatemala City.

<http://www.imcos.org>

Study Day of the Working Group for the History of Cartography, Amsterdam **16 February 2007**

This event is organized by the *Studiedag Werkgroep voor de Geschiedenis van de Kartografie* to mark the 65th birthday of Prof. Günter Schilder, and his official retirement from the Chair in the History of Cartography at the University of Utrecht, the only one of its kind in the world. Unfortunately, official funds are lacking to maintain this function. In view of the fundamental work achieved by and under Prof Schilder over the past thirty years this seems quite incredible. A Foundation has now been created with the objective of ensuring continued funding for this post. We will give more details in the next Newsletter.

Netherlands Maritime Museum Kattenburgerplein 1, Amsterdam, 10.00 - 17.00

The above event is open to all, but intending participants are requested to register as soon as possible with Paula van Gestel on tel +00-31-(0) 30-253 13 79 (work) or +00-31-(0)73-503 71 05 (private), e-mail p.vangestel@geo.uu.nl

Cambridge Seminars in the History of Cartography, Cambridge

The history of mapping the railway **20 February 2007**

David Milbank Challis and Andy Rush

Maps and manuscript transmission in sixteenth-century England and Ireland **8 May 2007**

Christopher Burlinson

At 17:30. Cambridge, Gardner Room, Emmanuel College, St Andrew's Street. For any enquiries, please contact Sarah Bendall (Email: sarah.bendall@emma.cam.ac.uk) or visit <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/maps/camsem.html>

The Oxford Seminars in Cartography, 14th Annual Series, Oxford, UK

Mapping Persia **22 February 2007**

Cyrus Ala'i

Lieutenant James W. Worsley R.E.: his maps of Corfu and Malta, 1824

3 May 2007

Mike Nolan

Mapping with a mission: Geo support to the British Commanders in Chief Mission to the Soviet Forces in Germany 1974-1990

3 May 2007

Alan Gordon

Seminar runs from 17:00 to 18:30 in the Board Room, University of Oxford Centre for the Environment, South Parks Road, Oxford.

For further details contact Nick Millea at +44(0)1865 287119 or nam@bodley.ox.ac.uk or visit <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/guides/maps/herefrme.htm#tosca>



INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS (CONT'D)

The Flanders Map: Mercator or Deventer ? **St Niklaas, Tuesday 6 March 2007**

Lecture by Dr. Eric Leenders Vice-President BIMCC. This subject will be covered in a BIMCC Newsletter.

Mercator Museum, St Niklaas
The lecture will be held in Flemish.

Spheres of Vincenzo Coronelli- **Paris, 22-23 March 2007**

The Bibliothèque nationale de France displays in the Western Hall of its François-Mitterrand site the large spheres created in 1681-1683 by Vincenzo Coronelli for the king Louis XIV at the request of the Cardinal César d' Estrées. A conference will be devoted to these remarkable scientific instruments and *objets d'art*. The papers will cover various subjects related to these spheres: context of realization (political, scientific, etc.), author of the spheres, place of the spheres in the history of astronomy and in the history of cartography, iconographic and textual program of the spheres, construction of the spheres (spheres, circles, bases), history of the spheres during the past three centuries (installations, transfers, updates, etc.), state of the spheres and problems of restoration.

Additional information from Catherine Hofmann
(catherine.hofmann2@bnf.fr) or visit <http://www.bnf.fr/>

Cartography and history in Europe ***Sociological, pedagogical, psychological and*** ***political aspects***

30-31 March 2007

International seminar organized by the Joseph Károlyi Foundation, Fehérvárcsurgó/ Hungary with the support of the Hans Seidel Foundation, Budapest, the Fondation Robert Schuman, Paris, the Institut français, Budapest, the CEFRES (Prague) in cooperation with the Hungarian Association of History Teachers (TTE). It will focus, through historic examples, among others, on some specific themes such as maps as mean of political power, the psychological reactions in front of maps, maps as propaganda tools, the symbolic power of maps, maps in schoolbooks

Location: Károlyi mansion, Fehérvárcsurgó (80 km westward from Budapest). Simultaneous translation.

For further information; Angelica Károlyi
angelica@karolyi.org.hu, tel +36 22 578 080

International Atlas Days,

Thüringen, Germany, 5 and 6 May 2007

After a very successful first *Petermann's Atlas Party* organized in Hagen (Germany) on 1 May 2006 (see BIMCC Newsletter No. 26, p. 26), Jürgen Espenhorst now invites all those interested in atlases published as of 1800 to a two-day event in Thüringen. Hildburghausen is undoubtedly

known to some collectors as the place where the Bibliographisches Institut was established. Between 1828 and 1874 it published thousands of atlases under the direction of Joseph Meyer. This event offers the opportunity to all collectors to buy and sell atlases and books on geography, to exchange and share information on maps and atlases of this period, to visit the historical town and an exhibition of atlases produced there. An engraver of copper plates for maps will also show his skills.

A list of intending participants indicating their area of interest is available on request from J. Espenhorst. Location: Hildburghausen (Thüringen), Stadtmuseum. Information and registration (before 30 March 2007): Jürgen Espenhorst, Pangaea-Verlag, Villigster Str. 32, D-58239 Schwerte, Tel +49-2304-72284, Fax +49-2304-78010, pangaea@cityweb.de. Participation EUR 15.00

22nd International Conference on the History **of Cartography (ICHC)**

Bern, Switzerland, 8-13 July 2007

This biennial meeting is the major international scholarly conference dedicated to advancing knowledge of the history of cartography, of maps and mapmaking, broadly defined. The conference themes are Mapping Relief, Maps and Tourism, Language and Maps, Time as the Cartographic Fourth Dimension, and any other aspect of the history of cartography.

During the conference week, several exhibitions with a cartographic focus will take place in the city of Berne: in the Swiss Alpine Museum, the Swiss National Library, the Stadt- und Universitätsbibliothek Bern (with Bürgerbibliothek Bern).

Bern University, UniS-Building, Schanzenstr. 1, Bern. The conference languages are English, German and French. For details and registration see the conference website <http://www.ichc2007.ch>, or contact Christoph Graber (ok@ichc2007.ch) (Conference Secretary), ICHC2007, c/o swisstopo, Postfach CH-3084 Wabern, Switzerland; Fax: +41 31 963 24 59.

XIth Symposium of the International Coronelli **Society for the Study of Globes**

Venice, 28 - 30 September 2007

This year's symposium will be organized in the hometown of the remarkable map and globe maker, Vincenzo Coronelli (1650-1718), and address all aspects of the history of globes, focussing on those by Coronelli himself. A number of visits are planned to the Museo Correr, the Bibliotheca Marciana (Fra Mauro's world map), Santa Maria Gloriosa (Coronelli's tomb).

Registration with Mrs Heide Wohlschlager, Internationale Coronelli-Gesellschaft, Dominikanerbastei 21/28, A-1010 Wien, Austria. Fax +43-1-5320824, e-mail vincenzo@coronelli.org or visit <http://www.coronelli.org>



INTERNATIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS (CONT'D)

Exhibitions

Frontières (Borders)

Lyon, France, until 4 February 2007

'Frontières' focusses on the geopolitical questions of borders. Following topics are covered: borders of Europe, world migration, North/South Korea border, Israel and Palestina, Mexican-American border policy, the Roma people in Europe and the world of refugees.

Le Muséum, Lyon, 28, boulevard des Belges - 69 006 Lyon, tél. +33(0)4 72 69 05 00 + http://www.museum-lyon.org/expo_temporaires/frontieres/frontieres_accueil.php

History of Nordic Map,

Helsinki, Finland, until 25 February 2007

The exhibition invites you to an enchanting ride through the history of the world view. It shows how Scandinavia was drawn onto the map and how and in what shape Finland was mapped in different centuries. The history of a map also portrays the history of politics, science and arts. An excellent example of this is the mapping of the Nordic countries. Not many maps have been subjected to such bold statements or blatant mistakes. For a long period of time, the Nordic map was drawn based on myths and fables, even though the rest of Europe was mapped almost in the right dimensions. In addition to its tales, the exhibition presents artwork found on maps: chubby putti, aggressive storms and mystical sea creatures. Also the exhibition presents the first atlas in the world and the earliest editions of The History of the Nordic People by O. Magnus. Many rarities are present, for example the first printed Nordic map from 1486.

At the Sederholm House, Aleksanterinkatu 16-18.

Exhibition is open Wed-Sun at 11-17. Visit <http://www.hel2.fi/kaumuseo/english/sederholmintalo.html>

400 Jahre Johannes Mejer, der grosse Kartograph aus Husum (400 years Johannes Mejer, the great cartographer of Husum).

Husum, Germany, until end February 07

Johannes Mejer (1606 – 1674) surveyed the duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, then part of Denmark, and contributed maps to Danckwerth's atlas of the region (1652). Joan Blaeu used his work for the 'Atlas Maior' (1662).

Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke, well-known map

historian, has prepared a companion book illustrated with numerous maps from Danckwerth's atlas and from the map collection of the Royal Library Copenhagen.

Publisher Komregis ISBN 3-938501-12-X, EUR 19.00

Visit <http://www.schiffahrtsmuseum-nf.de/>

At the Schiffahrtsmuseum Nordfriesland, Zingel 15, D-25813 Husum. The Museum is open daily from 10.00 to 17.00.

London: a Life in Maps

London, until March 2007

This major exhibition includes all of the major maps of London since the earliest times and many little-known or hitherto unknown treasures. It will be accompanied by a history of London in maps to be published by the British Library.

British Library's (at St. Pancras), London

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/whatson/exhibitions/forthcoming.html>

'Land in Zicht!', Vingboons tekent de wereld van de 17^e eeuw (Land in sight, Vingboons draws the 17th century world)

Rotterdam, 27 January 2007 - 15 April 2007

Exhibition of 17th century Dutch maps from the National Archives drawn by the cartographer Johannes Vingboons (1616/17-1670) for the Dutch East and West-India Companies.

At Kunsthil Rotterdam, Museumpark,

Westzeedijk 341. Visit http://www.nationaalarchief.nl/agenda/event/Vingboons_tentoonstelling.asp?componentID=11991&SourcePageID=2313#1

www.nationaalarchief.nl/agenda/event/Vingboons_tentoonstelling.asp?componentID=11991&SourcePageID=2313#1

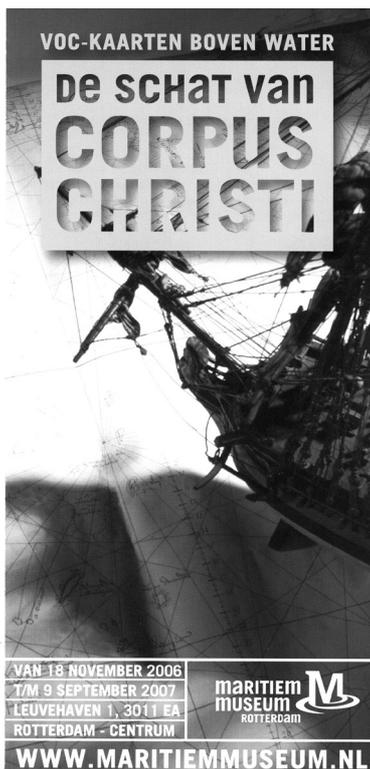
Corpus Christi collection

Rotterdam, until 9 Sept. 2007

The Maritime Museum acquired the 'Corpus Christi collection' also known as 'the School of Geography collection'. This collection consists of 20 Dutch VOC sea charts (13 on vellum) and 10 English sea charts, all dating from the seventeenth century. It is an amazing collection with for instance eight charts by Joan Blaeu and also some charts made by mapmakers in Batavia.

At the Maritime Museum, Leuvehaven 1, Rotterdam.

URI: <http://www.maritiemmuseum.nl/>



Saturday 3 March 2007:
BIMCC Spring Excursion
to visit the Corpus Christi Collection
See page 30

Note: the exhibitions are listed in chronological order, according to closing dates.



AUCTION CALENDAR

Librairie Alain Ferraton
Chaussée de Charleroi 162
B-1060 Brussels
tel. +32 (0)2 538 69 17
fax +32 (0)2 537 46 05
www.ferraton.be
alain.ferraton@skynet.be
27 January 2007

**Peter Kiefer Buch- und
Kunstauktionen**(BIMCC Sponsor)
Steubenstrasse 36
D-75172 Pforzheim
tel. +49 7231 92 320
fax +49 7231 92 32 16
www.kiefer.de, info@kiefer.de
2-3 February 2007

A&E Morel de Westgaver
Rue Henri Marichal 24,
B-1050 Brussels
tel. +32 (0)2 640 22 53
morel_de_westgaver@brutele.be
3 February 2007

**Antoine Jacobs - Librairie des
Eléphants**
(BIMCC Member)
Place van Meenen 19
B-1060 Brussels
tel. +32 (0)2 539 06 01
fax +32 (0)2 534 44 47
**10 February, 10 March, 21 April,
12 May, 16 June 2007**

Marc van de Wiele
(BIMCC Member)
Sint-Salvatorskerkhof 7
B-8000 Brugge
tel. +32 (0)50 33 63 17
fax +32 (0)50 34 64 57
www.marcvandewiele.com
3 March 2007

Henri Godts
(BIMCC Sponsor)
Avenue Louise 230/6
B-1050 Brussels
tel. +32 (0)2 647 85 48
fax +32 (0)2 640 73 32
www.godts.com
books@godts.com
**20 March, 12 June, 9 October,
4 December 2007**

Paulus Swaen Internet Auctions
(BIMCC Sponsor)
tel. +33 (0)6 14 74 11 65
or tel./fax +33 (0)1 44 24 85 80
www.swaen.com
paulus@swaen.com
10 - 20 March 2007

The Romantic Agony
(BIMCC Sponsor)
Acqueductstraat 38-40
B-1060 Brussels
tel. +32 (0)2 544 10 55
fax +32 (0)2 544 10 57
www.romanticagony.com
auction@romanticagony.com
**16 - 17 March, 15 - 16 June,
16 - 17 November 2007**

Venator & Hanstein
Cäcilienstrasse 48, D-50667 Köln
tel. +49 221 257 54 19
fax +49 221 257 55 26
www.venator-hanstein.de
info@venator-hanstein.de
23 - 24 March, 14 - 15 Sept. 2007

Michel Lhomme
Rue des Carmes 9, B-4000 Liège
tel. +32 (0)4 223 24 63
fax +32 (0)4 222 24 19
www.michel-lhomme.com
librairie@michel-lhomme.com
March 2007

Reiss & Sohn
Adelheidstr. 2, D-61462 Königstein
tel. +49 6174 92 720
fax +49 6174 92 72 49
www.reiss-sohn.de
reiss@reiss-sohn.de
23 - 27 April 2007

Zisska & Kistner
Unter Anger 15, D-80331 München
tel. +49 89 26 38 55
fax +49 89 26 90 88
www.zisska.de
auctions@zisska.de
23 - 27 April 2007

Galerie Gerda Bassenge
Erdener Strasse 5a, D-14193 Berlin
tel. +49 30 893 80 290
fax +49 30 891 80 25
www.bassenge.com
art@bassenge.com
25 - 28 April 2007



Ketterer Kunst
Messberg 1, D-20095 Hamburg
tel. +49 40 374 96 10
fax +49 40/374 96 166
www.kettererkunst.de
infohamburg@kettererkunst.de
21 - 22 May 2007

Bubb Kuyper
Jansweg 39, NL-2011 KM Haarlem
tel. +31 23 532 39 86
fax +31 23 532 38 93
www.bubbkuyper.com
info@bubbkuyper.com
22 - 25 May, 20 - 23 Nov. 2007

Michel Grommen
Rue du Pont 33, B-4000 Liège
tel. +32 (0)4 222 24 48
fax +32 (0)4 222 24 49
www.librairiegrommen.be
librairiegrommen@skynet.be
May 2007

Van Stockum's Veilingen
Prinsegracht 15
NL-2512 EW 's-Gravenhage
tel. +31 70 364 98 40/41
fax +31 70 364 33 40
www.vanstockumsveilingen.nl
vanstockumsveilingen@planet.nl
6 - 8 June 2007

Holger Christoph
(BIMCC Sponsor)
Am Hofgarten 5, D- 53115 Bonn
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fax +49 (0)228 261 88 19
www.antiquariat-christoph.com
h.christoph@antiquariat-
christoph.com
Autumn 2007

Loeb-Larocque (BIMCC Sponsor)
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November 2007 (Salle Drouot)

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BIMCC

BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL MAP COLLECTORS' CIRCLE

<http://www.bimcc.org>

Aims and functions of the BIMCC

The BIMCC is a non-profit association under Belgian law (asbl/vzw 0464 423 627) aiming to:

1. Provide an informal and convivial forum for all those with a specialist interest in maps, atlases, town views and books with maps, be they collectors, academics, antiquarians, or simply interested in the subject
2. Organize lectures on various aspects of historical cartography, on regions of cartographical interest, on documentation, paper conservation and related subjects
3. Organize visits to exhibitions, and to libraries and institutions holding important map and atlas collections.

In order to achieve these aims, the Circle organizes the following annual events:

- A MAP EVENING in March or April, bringing together all those interested in maps and atlases for an informal chat about an item from their collection – an ideal opportunity to get to know the Circle.
- An EXCURSION to a Map Collection, between September and November.
- A STUDY SESSION or an INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on a specific major topic every year in December.

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Members receive three Newsletters per annum and have free admission to most of the BIMCC events — non-Members pay full rates.

Annual membership: EUR 30.00,
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To become (and stay!) a Member, please pay the membership dues EXCLUSIVELY by bank transfer (no check please) to:

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and notify the Secretary indicating your name and address.

BIMCC Newsletter

The BIMCC currently publishes three Newsletters per year, in January, May and September. Please submit calendar items and other contributions to the Editor by the 15th of the previous month for the next edition.

Signed articles and reviews solely reflect the opinions of the author.

To be informed or reminded about BIMCC events send your e-mail address to info@bimcc.org

For advertising in this Newsletter (and on our Web site www.bimcc.org), please contact the BIMCC Secretary

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