

Encyclopaedic texts as devotional reading?

**The manuscript context of the *Imago mundi* of Honorius
Augustodunensis**

Defining 'Europe' in Medieval European Geographical Discourse

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"Defining 'Europe' in Medieval European Geographical Discourse: the Image of the World and its Legacy, 1110-1500"

This is a 3-year research project funded by the [Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research \(NWO\)](#) under the [Innovational Research Incentives Scheme VENI](#). The project commenced on February 1, 2017, at the [The Institute for Cultural Inquiry \(ICON\)](#), [Faculty of Humanities](#) at Utrecht University.

The Project

The project will show how the *Image of the World*, one of the most influential texts in European intellectual history which described the world as it was known (or imagined), contributed to the development of the idea of Europe.

The project has two primary objectives:

- to understand the medieval geographical definition of Europe
- to establish how this definition spread in the period 1110-1500

The project will examine the descriptions of Europe in the geographical section of *Imago mundi*, an encyclopedic text written in Latin in the twelfth century, and in its medieval European vernacular translations. In addition, will address the issue of how the description of Europe might have changed in the course of transmission across linguistic, cultural and political boundaries, by including vernacular texts loosely based on the *Imago mundi*, as well as texts that constitute translations in the conventional sense of the word.

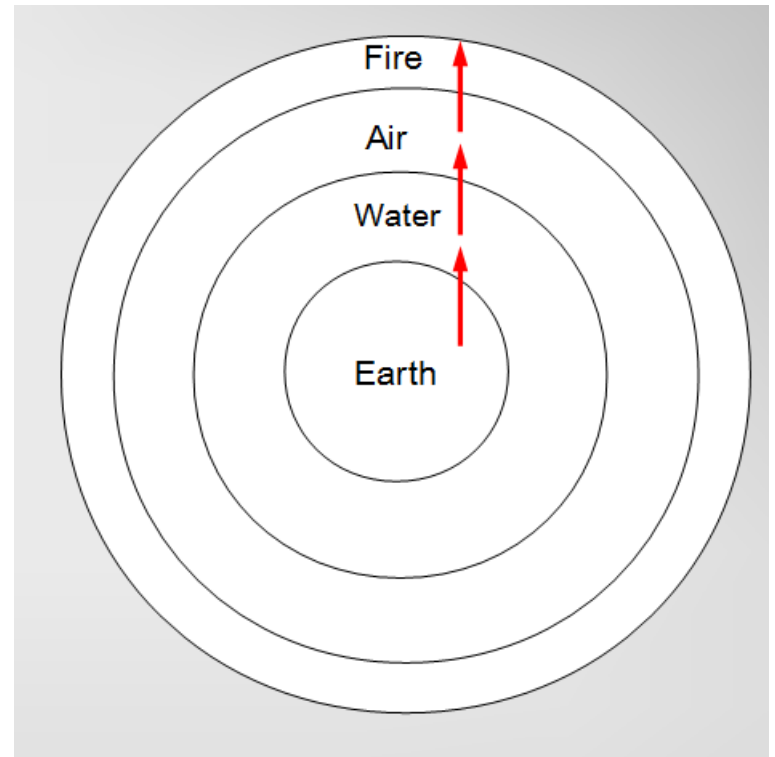
Imago mundi

- **Honorius Augustodunensis (ca. 1090-ca.1130/40)**
- **1110, 1123, 1133, 1139**
- **3 Books**
 - Book I : Space
 - Book II: Time
 - Book III: History

***Imago mundi* I.3: 'De elementis'**

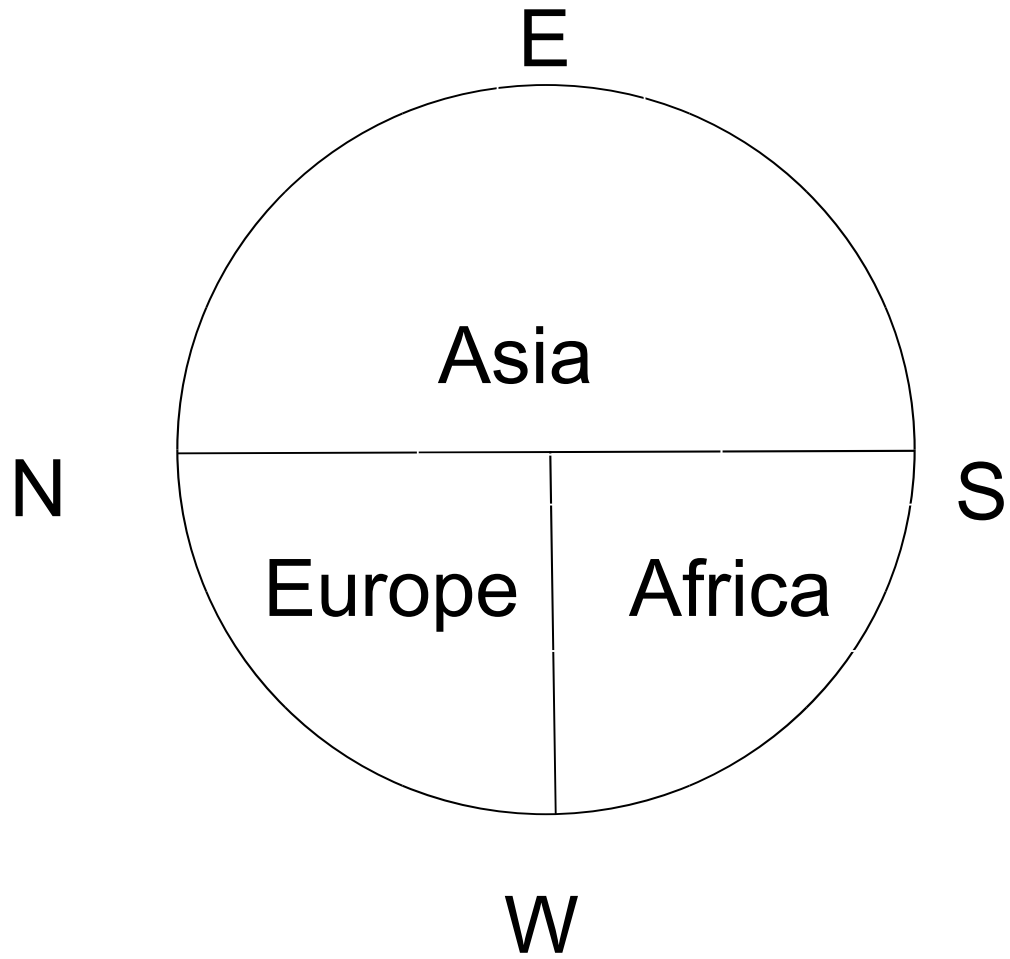
Ex his terra ut puta gravissima
imum, ignis ut puta levissimus
supremum optinet locum, alia
duo medium, quasi quoddam
soliditatis vinculum, quorum aqua
gravior terrae proximum, aer
levior igni proximum possidet
locum.

- Valerie I. J. Flint, ed., *Honorius Augustodunensis.
Imago Mundi, Archives d'histoire doctrinale et
littéraire du Moyen Âge* 49(Paris: Vrin, 1983), p. 50



'Out of these, the earth, holds the lowest place as it is the heaviest, and fire the lightest holds the uppermost place; the other two hold the middle place, like some bond of solid matter, of which the water being heavier occupies the place which is closest to the earth, [and] the air being lighter has a place closer to the fire'

(my translation)



French – Gautier de Metz, *Image du monde*

Latin - *Imago mundi*

Anglo-Norman – *Petite Philosophie*

French– Pierre de Beauvais, *Mappemonde*

Anglo-Norman – *Divisiones mundi*

Spanish - *Semejança del mundo (Mapa mundi)*

Welsh – *Delw y Byd*

Catalan Atlas (1375)

Old Norse version, Hebrew version



Italian – *Ymagine del mondo*

Middle English – William Caxton, *Mirroure of the World*

- *Images of the World*: a database of *Imago mundi* tradition
- Currently 369 mss
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MSS context

- Other works by Honorius, works by Anselm (when mis-attr to Anselm), etc.
- Historiographical texts (particularly with Book III)
- Geographical texts: *Itinerarii*, descriptions of the Holy Land (particularly with Book I)
- Bede, Thomas of Cantimpre (*de nat. r.*), and other encyclopaedic works
- In one case (Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, 113, s. XIII), attr. To Anselm and follows a compendium of Aristotle
- Religious works, devotional works.

Example 1. MS context for Book III (Graz, Universitätsbibliothek, Ms 303)

- *Legenda aurea / historia Lombardica* (Jacobus de Voragine)
- *Decalogus summorum pontificum*
- *Provinciale*
- *Indulgeniae lucranda in ecclesiis urbia Romae*
- *De situ et mirabilibus Hierosolymorum*
- **Imago mundi**
- *Regimen sanitatis ad regem Aragoniae* (Arnoldus de Villanova)
- *Dieta* (Thaddaeus Florentinus)
- *verse* (Arnoldus de Villanova)
- *Pharetra fidei contra Judaeos* (Theobaldus de Saxonia)

- *De erroribus Iudeorum* (Theobaldus de Saxonia); *Disputatio adversus Judaeos, anonymo interprete* (Anastasius Sinaita); *De articulis fidei et ecclesiae sacramentis* (Thomas Aquinas); *Expositio orationis dominicae* (Thomas Aquinas); *Expositio super symbolum apostolorum* (Thomas Aquinas); *Meditaciones* (Ps. Bernardus Claravallensis)

Examples 2: geographical texts (Klosterneuburg, Augustiner-Chorherrenstift, Cod. 722 A)

- *Descriptio terrae sanctae* (Burchardus de Monte Sion)
- *Descriptioo terrae sanctae* (Fretellus) ff.41r-50v;
- ***Imago mundi***
- *Iter Marci Pauli Veneti ex Italico Latine versum* (Franciscus Pipinus de Bononia)
- *Liber de terra sancta* (Odoricus de Portu Naonis)
- *Monachi, historia Hierosolymitana* (Roberti Remensis)
- *Catalogus cardinalium, archiepiscoporum et episcoporum*

Melk, Stiftsbibliothek, 248 / 168, D 23 (ca. 1200)

- **Imago mundi**
- *De gradibus humilitatis et superbiae* (Bernard of Clairvaux)
- *Apologia ad Guillelmum abbatem* (Bernard of Clairvaux)
- sermons of Hugh de Saint Victor
- sermons (Drogo OSB)
- Sermo "Ad solvendum" (ps. Bernard of Clairvaux)
- *De gratia et libero arbitrio* (Bernard of Clairvaux)
- passages from Hieronymus
- *De praecepto et dispensatione* (Bernard of Clairvaux)
- Epistola 42 De moribus et officio episcoporum (Bernard of Clairvaux)

Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. 668 (ca. 1350-1400)

- *Liber de arte fidei christianae*
- *Definitiones communium vocabulorum*
- *Summa de sacramentis*
- *Summa de divinis officiis* (Johannes Beletti)
- *Tractatus de dispensationibus* (Johannes de Deo)
- *Flores decretorum*
- ***Imago mundi***
- *Summa metrica de rebus ecclesiasticibus*

Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. 522 (ca. 1440-1460)

- *Stella clericorum*
- *Expositio orationis dominicae* (Honorius Augustodunensis)
- *Liber de divinis officiis in cap.40* (Remigius Autissiodorensis)
- *Sermones de sanctis*
- ***Imago mundi***
- *Sermones de sanctis*
- *Ermahnungen an Geistliche*
- miscellaneous german texts

Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, 813 (ca. 1240-1400)

- *Expositio orationis dominicae*
- *Tractatus super Job* (Petrus Blesensis)
- *Quatuordecim hexametri latini de virtutibus, qui recto lecti totidem votiorum sensa exprimunt*
- ***Imago mundi***
- *De miseria humanae conditionis* (Innocentius III)
- *De animabus*
- *De pascha domini*
- *Exempla de Beata Maria Virgine*
- *Genealogia Bibliae* (Petrus Pictaviensis)

