



Musical instruments in competition with magic

Roger Bacon and the power of music

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Abstract: Roger Bacon – in particular, in the *Communia mathematica* and *Opus tertium* – borrows from accounts about the power of music on bodies and souls from a tradition dating back to Antiquity, but he gives them a renewed meaning since he infuses them within his scientific-technological project aiming at changing the world – a project framed according to an eschatological view. Extraordinary musical instruments become weapons competing successfully with magicians' frauds.

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