



## Rabelais, Fischart, and Urquhart at Thélème

Ambiguity and usefulness of the utopian model

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Abstract: The highly ambiguous episode of the Abbey of Thélème provides us with a case study of *translatio studii*, which succeeds perfectly in adapting Rabelais's text to cultural, historic, and personal parameters. Fischart and Urquhart transpose the episode to make it, respectively, an antipapist satire and a prison lament, thereby emphasizing both the malleability and the ongoing relevance of Rabelais's work, as well as the creative imitation that it inspires.

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