nonetheless is a serious book contributing to debates over the nature of science and scientific revolutions.

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TREASURES OF THE GERMANISCHES MUSEUM

Focus Behaim Globus. Edited by Gerhard Bott (Germanisches Nationalmuseum Verlag, Nuremberg, 1993). Teil 1, Aufsätze, pp. 496; Teil 2, Katalog, pp. 497–977.

The Germanisches Museum in Nuremberg celebrated the Columbian quincentenary by mounting (under the leadership of Johannes Willers) a major exhibition of instruments, maps, globes, and artifacts of early exploration, all focused on the wonderful “Erdapfel” made in 1492 by the Nuremberg geographer Martin Behaim. Since the magnificent collection of astronomical instruments is no longer on permanent display at the museum, this catalogue (with its many ancillary scholarly articles) offers a guide to their now generally invisible holdings.

The first of five parts of the exhibition introduced the cosmos and the solar system. It included the drawings of the northern and southern constellations from which Nuremberger Albrecht Dürer made his famous woodcuts, as well as the woodcuts themselves. Appropriately, a first edition of Copernicus’s De revolutionibus, a classic printed in Nuremberg, took its place in the exhibition, borrowed from nearby Erlangen. (For many years I thought that, ironically, the city where the book was printed no longer contained a copy, but recently I learned of one in the Lutheran church archives there.) Also in the display was a splendid collection of astrolabes, represented in the catalogue with twenty colour photographs and numerous black-and-white details and meticulously described by David King. The special group of instruments by the sixteenth-century astronomer Johannes Praetorius received a prominent place in this section.

Early books, rare maps, a 1464 portolano, and the famous Jagiellonian globe (lent from Cracow), along with surveying instruments, formed the central core of the second, geographical, section. Letters and documents from Behaim led up to the climax of the exhibition, in Section 3: the Behaim globe itself, the oldest surviving terrestrial globe. The shorter Section 4 on the means of discovery was not without its own gem, the remarkable gilt Schlüsselfelder ship, a detailed model that repays close scrutiny. The final part, on travels, collections, and discoveries featured the reconstruction of a Renaissance “Wunderkammer”, a room full of wonders ranging from a stuffed quetzel bird to a two-headed calf. The hundreds of items in the exhibition are carefully catalogued, and almost always illustrated, generally in colour, in vol. ii of this luxurious set.

Vol. i is given over to forty essays, all in German, grouped according to the