

Kepler, Galilei und die rudolphinische Wissenschaft

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Johannes Kepler and Galileo Galilei have been contemporaries. Their importance for the evolution of science is proverbial, but there is a remarkable difference in their way of thinking. Galilei ignored innovations of Kepler and criticized his “mysticism”. Their correspondence illuminates this. Galilei describes the manierism at the court of Rudolph II. in Prag in various letters. He criticizes the painter Arcimboldo. From this description it is possible to explain Galilei’s attitude towards Kepler’s “mysticism”. Kepler was representative for the pansophists at the court of Rudolph and the so called “rudolphinische Wissenschaft”. Already in 1576 at the coronation of Rudolph in Regensburg can be recognized the basic tendencies of the future “rudolphinische Wissenschaft”.

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