

angle. The projection was and still is extremely helpful in navigation.

Maps *Tabulae geographicae C. Ptolemei ad mentem auctoris restitutae et emendatae* by Ptolemy were published in Cologne in 1578. Sheets for that edition were analyzed and engraved by Mercator. He planned to publish a map collection representing maps of various parts of the world. The first part, consisting of 51 maps of western and middle Europe (France, Belgium and Germany) was published in Duisburg in 1585. Mercator published a collection of 23 maps (Italy and Greece) four years later. The third part, consisting of 36 maps was published in 1595, a year after Mercator had died. In the same year, Mercator's complete work was published with the name *Atlas sive cosmographicae meditationes de fabrica mundi et fabricati figura*.

It was the first time in history that the term atlas was used for a map collection. Since 1595, over 30 editions of *Atlas sive ...* have been published. The atlas was translated in 5 languages and was also published in a reduced edition with the name *Atlas minor*.

With the help of his son Rumold, Mercator finished and published the world map *Orbis terrarum compendiosa* description in 1587.

Mercator authored an important modification to Ptolemy's conical projection. The projection was adjusted and used by French astronomer De L'Isle for his large map of Russia published in 1745. It is interesting that scientists attributed the modification De L'Isle for over a century. However, the projection was used by Mercator in his edition of Ptolemy and later maps of France and Germany from 1585. In

fact, the preface to his Ptolemy contains a complete and accurate description of the projection.

In addition to everything mentioned, Mercator was interested in geomagnetism and he also wrote *Evangelicae historiae quadripartita monas*, an overview of Gospel in Latin published in Duisburg in 1592. Therefore, Mercator was not exclusively a cartographer and a technician, but also a philosopher and a humanist who was interested in spiritual tendencies of his period.

Many more information about Mercator's life and work can be found at a web site maintained by Wilhelm Krücken at <http://www.wilhelmkruecken.de>. The entire world celebrated the 500th anniversary of Mercator's birth. Here we represent some events organized in his honour.

Ivka Kljajić ■

## Mercator Revisited, Cartography in the Age of Discovery

Sint-Niklaas, April 25-28, 2012

The international conference *Mercator Revisited, Cartography in the Age of Discovery* was held in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium, from April 25 to 28, 2012. Sint-Niklaas is a town about a half an hour of travel by train away from Ghent or Antwerp and 15 km from Rupelmonde, Mercator's place of birth.

The conference was organized by the Unit for Cultural Heritage of the Waasland County and the Ghent University and was supported by the International Cartographic Association (ICA), the Flemish Government, the Town Museum in Sint-Niklaas and Koninklijke Oudheidkundige Kring van het Land van Waas (KOKW).

Invited lectures were held by Prof. Dr. Georg Gartner from the Vienna



zapadne i srednje Europe (Francuska, Belgija i Njemačka) objavljen je u Duisburgu 1585. Četiri godine kasnije izdao je zbirku od 23 karte (Italija i Grčka). Treći dio od 36 karata objavljen je 1595., godinu dana nakon Mercatorove smrti. Iste je godine objavljen sveukupan Mercatorov rad kao cjelina pod naslovom *Atlas sive cosmographicae meditationes de fabrica mundi et fabricati figura*. Tada je prvi put u povijesti na naslovnici uveden izraz atlas za uvezanu zbirku karata. Od 1595. godine do danas tiskano je više od 30 izdanja *Atlas sive ...* Taj je atlas preveden na 5 jezika, a objavljen i u smanjenom izdanju pod imenom *Atlas minor*.

Mercator je uz pomoć sina Rumolda 1587. završio i izdao kartu svijeta

pod naslovom *Orbis terrarum compendiosa descriptio*.

Mercator je autor važne modifikacije Ptolomejeve konusne projekcije. Tu je projekciju prilagodio i upotrijebio francuski astronom De l'Isle za svoju veliku kartu Rusije objavljenu 1745. Zanimljivo je da su znanstvenici više od stoljeća tu modifikaciju pripisivali De l'Isleu, previđajući Mercatorovu zaslugu. Međutim, tu je projekciju Mercator upotrijebio u svom izdanju Ptolomeja, i kasnije na svojim kartama Francuske i Njemačke iz 1585. Zapravo, predgovor njegovu Ptolomeju sadrži potpun i jasan opis te projekcije.

Osim svega navedenog, Mercator se bavio geomagnetizmom, a napisao

je i *Evangelicae historiae quadripartita monas*, pregled Evanđelja na latinskom jeziku tiskanog u Duisburgu 1592. Dakle, Mercator nije bio isključivo kartograf i tehničar, nego također filozof i humanist koji se zanimao za duhovna stremljenja svojega doba.

Mnogo više informacija o životu i radu Gerarda Mercatora može se naći na web-stranicama koje održava Wilhelm Krücken na adresi <http://www.wilhelmkruecken.de>.

U 2012. godini po cijelom je svijetu obilježena 500. obljetnica Mercatorova rođenja. U nastavku ćemo prikazati neka od događanja priređena njemu u čast.

Ivka Kljajić ■

## Mercator Revisited, Cartography in the Age of Discovery

Sint-Niklaas, 25-28. travnja 2012.

U gradiću Sint-Niklaas u Belgiji održana je od 25. do 28. travnja 2012. međunarodna konferencija pod naslovom *Mercator Revisited, Cartography in the Age of Discovery*. Sint-Niklaas je gradić udaljen oko pola sata vožnje vlakom od Ghenta ili Antwerpena i 15 km od Rupelmondea, Mercatorova rodnoga mjesta.

Organizatori konferencije bili su Jedinica za kulturnu baštinu pokrajine Waasland i Sveučilište Ghent University, a podržali su je Međunarodno kartografsko društvo (ICA), Flamska Vlada, Gradski muzej u Sint-Niklaasu i Koninklijke Oudheidkundige Kring van het Land van Waas (KOKW).

Pozvana predavanja održali su prof. dr. Georg Gartner s Tehničkog sveučilišta u Beču i predsjednik ICA-e, prof. dr. Jerry Brotton sa Sveučilišta

Queen Mary u Londonu, dr. Thomas Horst sa Sveučilišta Bundeswehra u Münchenu te prof. dr. Mark Monmonier sa Sveučilišta Syracuse. Osim pozvanih predavanja na programu su bila još 24 predavanja drugih autora, a na konferenciji je bilo oko 70 sudionika.

Tiskani Zbornik radova sadrži tri potpuna članka, 17 sažetaka i četiri sažetka radova koji su izabrani za objavljivanje u časopisu *The Cartographic Journal* na temelju recenzija koje je proveo Znanstveni odbor konferencije.

Sint-Niklaas je belgijski grad i općina smješten u istočnoj Flandriji. Glavni je grad regije Waasland i poznat po najvećem trgu u Belgiji. Crkva sv. Nikole utemeljena je u 13. stoljeću i dala ime gradu. U 16. stoljeću bila je znatno oštećena, a poslije je njezina

unutrašnjost izrađena u baroknom stilu. Crkva Naše Gospe i gradska vijećnica, koje se nalaze na velikom gradskom trgu potječu iz 19. st. S novog željezničkog kolodvora vlakovi polaze prema Ghentu i Antwerpenu svakih pola sata, a prema Bruxellesu, Mechelenu i Leuvenu svaki sat. U gradu postoji i dobra mreža autobusnih linija. Sint-Niklaas je nakon obnove svojega glavnog trga dobio titulu najboljega grada u Flandriji naklonjenoga pješacima. Konferencija se održala u Gradskom muzeju (Stedelijke Musea – SteM) u kojemu je istodobno bila postavljena velika izložba posvećena Mercatoru (Mercator Digital). U neposrednoj blizini je Mercatorov muzej u kojem se čuvaju dva izvorna Mercatorova globusa, Zemlje i neba, i to je jedini muzej u Belgiji koji je posvećen



Sint-Niklaas, 2012



isključivo kartografiji. Tu se, između ostaloga čuva 41 knjiga tiskana u 16. stoljeću koje zajedno s *Certain Errors in Navigation* Edwarda Wrighta iz 1667. čine cjelinu nazvanu *Bibliothecae Gerardii Mercatoris*.

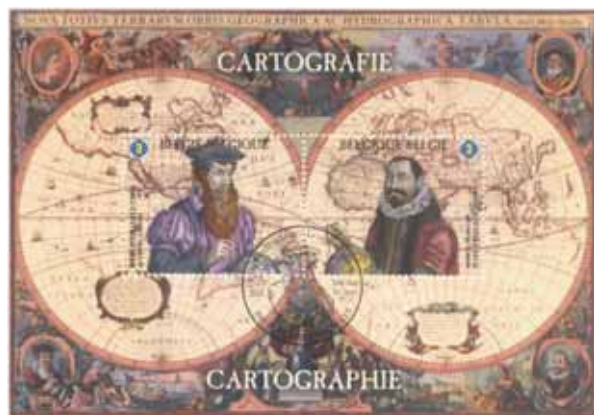
U sklopu konferencije bila je priređena svečana večera, a nakon zavr-

1865. Taj arhivski materijal čini praktično neiscrpan rudnik informacija o povijesti Officina Plantiniana, o tipografiji, tiskanju, izradi i prodaji knjiga općenito, kao i o kulturnom životu i društveno-gospodarskim odnosima u Nizozemskoj i Europi do 19. stoljeća. Tu je i neprocjenjiva knjižnica, koja je

obljetnica, ali i ispitati razvoj odnosa između Mercatora i njegova izdavača, Plantina te objasniti kako su iz Antwerpena Mercatorove karte otišle u svijet. Uz izložbu je izdana vrlo lijepa knjiga/katalog, na 124 stranice, urednica je Iris Kockelbergh, izdavači Museum Plantin-Moretus / Print Room i BAI publishers, ISBN 978-90-886-629-9.

Posebna izložba posvećena Mercatoru postavljena je u Kraljevskoj knjižnici Belgije u Bruxellesu pod naslovom *Kraljevski izvori Mercatora*. Ta je izložba posvećena Mercatoru i njegovu suvremeniku Christianu Sgrotenu (oko 1525–1603).

Njemačka pošta izdala je marku na kojoj su prikazani Mercator i njegova kartografska projekcija. Nažalost, Mercatorova projekcija prikazana je na marki na pogrešan način! To je bilo pokazano u pozvanom predavanju Marka Monmoniera na konferenciji u Sint-Niklaasu.



šetka konferencije ponuđeni su organizirani posjeti Ghentu (27. 4. 2012.) i Antwerpenu s posjetom muzeju Plantin-Moretus (28. 4. 2012.).

Muzej Plantin-Moretus jedinstvena je harmonična kombinacija kuće za stanovanje i poslovnoga prostora. Veličanstvene sobe s neprocjenjivim umjetninama, tapiserijama, pozlaćenom kožom, slikama (uključujući 18 Rubensovih), kipovima, keramikom i porculanom, stvara atmosferu profinjena luksuza i bogatstva. Originalna radionica još je značajnija i daje muzeju jedinstvenu osobnost. Radionica s tiskarom, prostorom za slaganje i korigiranje tekstova, knjižarom i uredom vlasnika i danas je netaknuta i sačuvana kakva je bila u 16. i 17. stoljeću, jedinstvena na svijetu. Zbirke koje su tu prikupljene i sačuvane u svojem povijesnom postavu, posebno su značajne, prikazujući rezultate 300 godina tiskarskoga rada i skupljanja umjetnina. U radionici se čuva osam tiskarskih preša iz 17. i 18. stoljeća. Tu se čuva i kompletan arhiv sa svim detaljima aktivnosti i poslovanja od osnivanja Plantinove tvrtke 1563. pa do

nastajala od sredine 16. stoljeća i koja sadrži više od 20 000 svezaka. Sa 638 rukopisa iz razdoblja od 9. do 16. stoljeća, i 155 inkunabula, uključujući jedinstvenu Gutenbergovu Bibliju (oko 1461.), Muzej Plantin-Moretus je izniman dokumentacijski centar za svakoga tko se zanima za povijest i umjetnost knjiga od 9. do 19. stoljeća. Te zbirke čine posjet muzeju Plantin-Moretus s njegovih više od 30 prostora, nečim stvarno posebnim – to je raj za ljubitelje knjiga. Zbog svega navedenoga muzej Plantin-Moretus je na popisu svjetske kulturne baštine UNESCO-a.

Nadalje, u muzeju se povremeno održavaju izložbe na kojima se izlažu pojedini dijelovi zbirke. Tako je od 24. 3. do 17. 6. 2012. postavljena izložba *Mercator – Istraživanje novih horizonata*. Ta izložba govori o razvoju znanosti i kartografije, o tome kako su pomorci plovili preko svjetskih oceana, kako su istraživači otkrivali putove i nova mjesta i o znanju koje su oni donijeli kući iz tih mjesta i obratno te kako se putovalo poznatijim dijelovima Europe. Izložbom se željela proslaviti Mercatorova 500.



Belgijska pošta izdala je posebno izdanje maraka koje prikazuju Mercatora i Jodocusa Hondiusa. Njih dvojica su se stvarno susreli, no njihov je odnos bio ponajprije komercijalni. Hondius je živio u Wakkenu i smatra se Mercatorovim nasljednikom u izradi karata. Godine 1604. kupio je Mercatorove bakrene ploče od njegova unuka. Na temelju njih i vlastitih dodataka, Hondius je 1606. objavio prvo poboljšano izdanje Mercatorova atlasa iz 1595, zbirku od 149 karata. Bio je to velik komercijalni uspjeh.

Miljenko Lapaine ■

University of Technology and the President of ICA, Prof. Dr Jerry Brotton from the Queen Mary, University of London, Dr. Thomas Horst from the Bundeswehr University Munich and Prof. Dr. Mark Monmonier from the Syracuse University. In addition to the invited lectures, the program included 24 lectures by other authors and there were about 70 participants altogether at the conference.

The printed Proceedings contains three complete papers, 17 abstracts and four abstracts of papers selected for publishing in *The Cartographic Journal* based on reviews by the Scientific Board of the conference.

Sint-Niklaas is a Belgian town and municipality located in eastern Flanders. It is the capital of Waasland and famous for the largest square in Belgium. The Church of St. Nicholas was established in the 13th century and the town was named after it. The church was greatly damaged in the 16th century, and its interior was subsequently constructed in the baroque style. The Church of Our Lady and the town hall, which are located in the large town square, were constructed in the 19th century. Trains travel from the new train station to Ghent and Antwerp every half an hour, and to Brussels, Mechelen and Leuven (Louvain) every hour. The city also has a network of bus lines. After rebuilding its main square, Sint-Niklaas was titled the town friendliest to pedestrians in Flanders. The conference was held in the Town Museum (Stedelijke Musea – SteM), where there was also a large exhibition dedicated to Mercator (*Mercator Digital*) at the same time. In the vicinity of the museum, there is also the Mercator Museum which preserves two original Mercator's globes, of the Earth and the Heavens. It is the only museum in Belgium dedicated entirely to cartography. The museum preserves 41 books printed in the 16th century along with *Certain Errors in Navigation* by Edward Wright from 1667 which together compose the *Bibliothecae Gerardi Mercatoris*.

The conference also included a gala dinner, and when the conference

ended trips were organized to Ghent (April 27, 2012) and Antwerp with a visit to the Plantin-Moretus Museum (April 28, 2012).

The Plantin-Moretus Museum is a unique combination of a house and business place. There are magnificent rooms with priceless works of art, tapestries, gilded hides, paintings (including 18 by Rubens), statues, ceramics and porcelain. They create an atmosphere of elegant luxury and wealth. The original workshop is even more significant and provides the museum with a unique personality. It has a printing house, space for arranging and correcting texts, a bookshop and the owner's office are still intact and the same it was in the 16th and 17th century, making it unique in the world. Collections preserved here in their historic form are especially significant because they represent results of almost 300 years of printing and collecting works of art. The workshop preserves eight printing presses from the 17th and 18th century. There is also a complete archive with all details about activities and business since Plantin's company was founded in 1563 up to 1865. The archive material is a practically inexhaustible mine of information about the history of *Officina Plantiniana*, typography, printing, book production and selling in general, as well as the cultural life and social-economic relations in The Netherlands and Europe up to the 19th century. There is also a priceless library, which originated in the 16th century and which contains more than 20 000 volumes. With 638 manuscripts from the 9th to the 16th century and 155 incunables, including the unique Gutenberg Bible (about 1461), the Plantin-Moretus Museum is an exceptional documentation centre for everyone interested in history and book art from the 9th to the 19th century. These collections make visiting the Plantin-Moretus Museum with its more than 30 rooms something really special – it is a book lover's heaven. Due to everything mentioned, the Plantin-Moretus Museum is on the World Heritage list of UNESCO.

Furthermore, the museum occasionally organizes exhibitions showing parts of museum collection. Thus the exhibition *Mercator – Research of New Horizons* was organized from March 24 to June 17, 2012. It is an exhibition about the development of science and cartography, about how sailors sailed across oceans; how explorers discovered new places and the knowledge they brought home or took to those places and about traveling to known parts of Europe. The exhibition was conceived to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Mercator's birth, as well as to research the development of relationship between Mercator and his publisher, Plantin and explain how Mercator's maps went from Antwerp to the world. The exhibition is accompanied by a very nice book/catalogue with 124 pages edited by Iris Kockelbergh and published by the Museum Plantin-Moretus / Print Room and BAI publishers, ISBN 978-90-886-629-9.

A special exhibition dedicated to Mercator was also organized in Brussels in the Belgian Royal Library and titled *Royal Sources of Mercator*. The exhibition was dedicated to Mercator and his contemporary Christian Sgrooten (around 1525–1603).

German Post issued the stamp depicting Mercator and his map projection. Unfortunately, the Mercator projection is portrayed on the stamp in a wrong manner! It was shown in the Mark Monmonier keynote at the Sint-Niklaas conference.

The Belgium post issued a special issue of stamps showing Mercator and Jodocus Hondius. The two men actually met, but their relationship was first and foremost a commercial one. Hondius, inhabitant of Wakken, is considered to be Mercator's heir when it comes to mapmaking. In 1604 he bought Mercator's copperplates from that man's grandson. Based on them and his own additions, in 1606 Hondius published the first improved edition of the 1595 Mercator atlas, a collection of 149 maps. It was a huge commercial success.

Miljenko Lapaine ■