

rara magnetica

raramagnetica.de

a repository of historical sources related to the premodern research on magnetism

created by christoph sander

in 1898, gustav hellmann published his anthology called *rara magnetica* (1269-1599). with this collection, he aimed at making available some of the earliest, yet rare publications in the field of geomagnetism that predated william gilbert's *de magnete* of 1600.

this website has a similar goal. while the concept of rarity has deeply changed in the digital era, it still needs ways to re-publish relevant but understudied sources – or sources that are not available in modern machine readable editions but should be.

this website will therefore publish less and well known sources for the study of magnetism in the premodern era. it will include both images and texts and provide tools to investigate each of them independently and both of them in combination.

this research emerged within the research group [visualizing science in media revolutions](#) at the bibliotheca hertziana, max planck institute for art history in rome, and the [institute for advanced jesuit studies](#) at boston college

go to raramagnetica.de and get started!

more content will be added soon!