

If man had only eyes, hands, and the sense of taste and smell, he would have no religion, for all these senses are organs of critique and skepticism. The only sense which, losing itself in the labyrinth of the ear, strays into the spirit or spook realm of the past and future, the only fearful, mystical, and pious sense, is that of hearing.

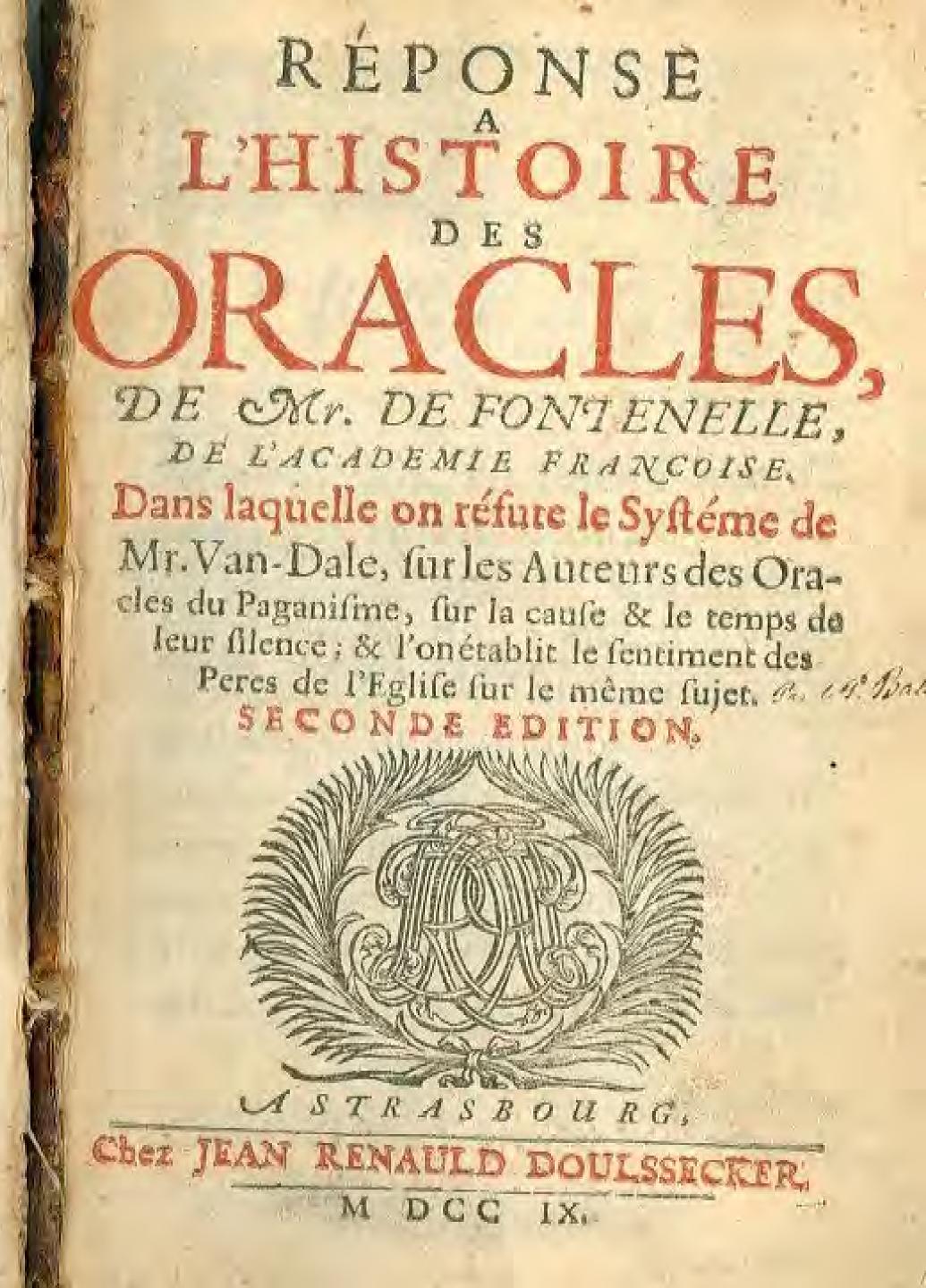
Ludwig Feuerbach, Das Wesen der Religion, 1845

Sacred musics



J.A Sound fordy

Bernard Le Bovier de Fontenelle (1729)



Fontenelle, Histoire des Oracles (1729)



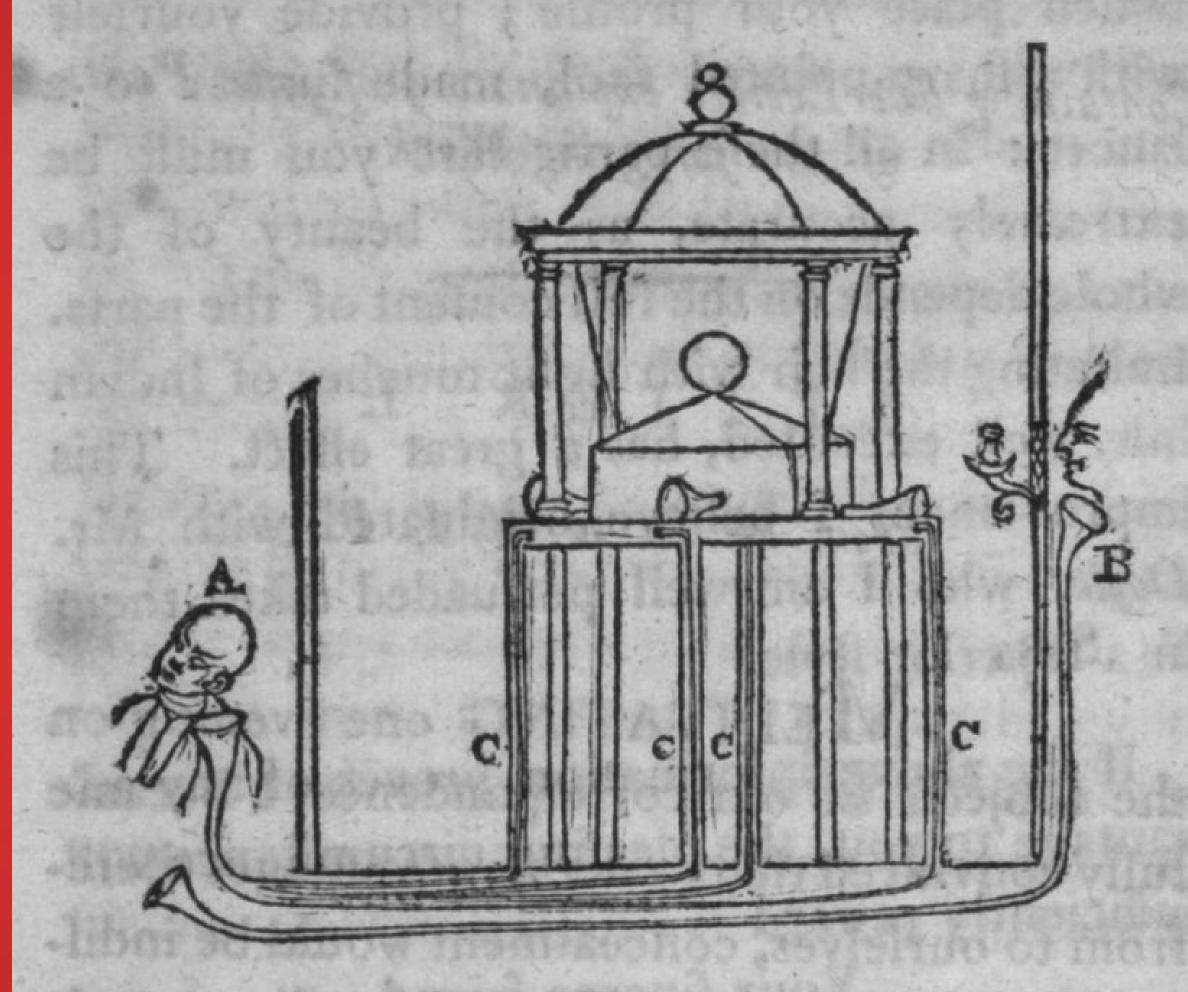
HISTOIRE DES ORACLES.

William Frederick Pinchbeck:

The Expositor; Or, Many Mysteries

Unravelled (1805)

Acoustic Temple. Fig. 1.

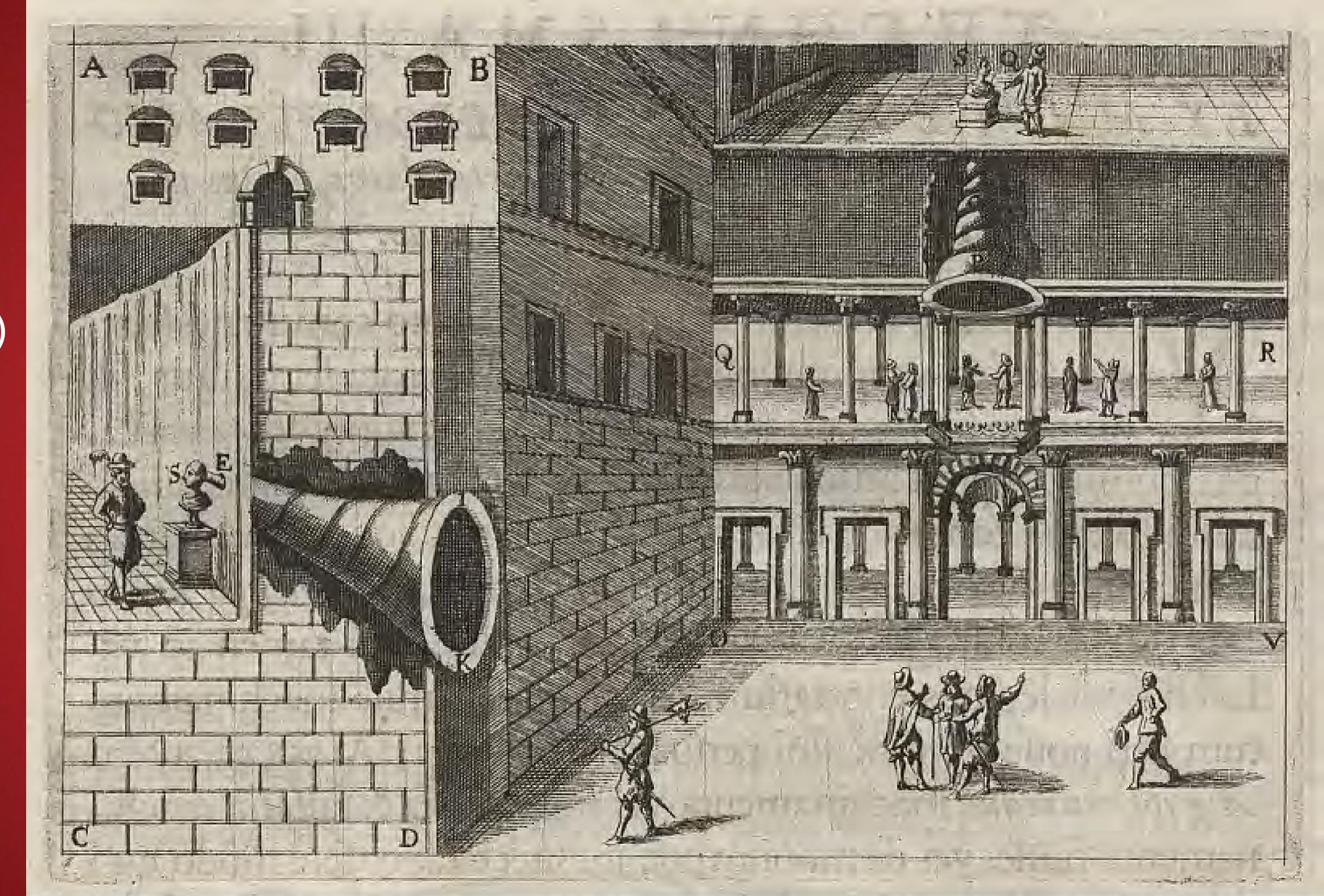


A is the person stationed to hear and solve questions.

B observes what is presented, and communicates in a whisper to A.

CCCC. The tubes by which the sounds are secretly conveyed to the trumpets.

Speaking
Statues
Athanasius
Kircher,
Phonurgia
Nova (1673)



Transmitting the Call to Christian Prayer Athanasius Kircher, *Phonurgia Nova* (1673)



Elihu Vedder,
The Questioner of
the Sphinx (1863)

Elihu Vedder,
The Questioner of
the Sphinx (1875)



The first thing we knew from God and which became connected to us from Him was His Speech and our listening... Therefore all the messengers came with Speech, such as the Koran, the Torah, the Gospels, and Psalms, and the Scriptures. There is nothing but speech and listening. There can be nothing else. Were it not for Speech, we would not know what the Desirer desires from us... We move about in listening.

Ibn al-'Arabi (medieval Sufi scholar)

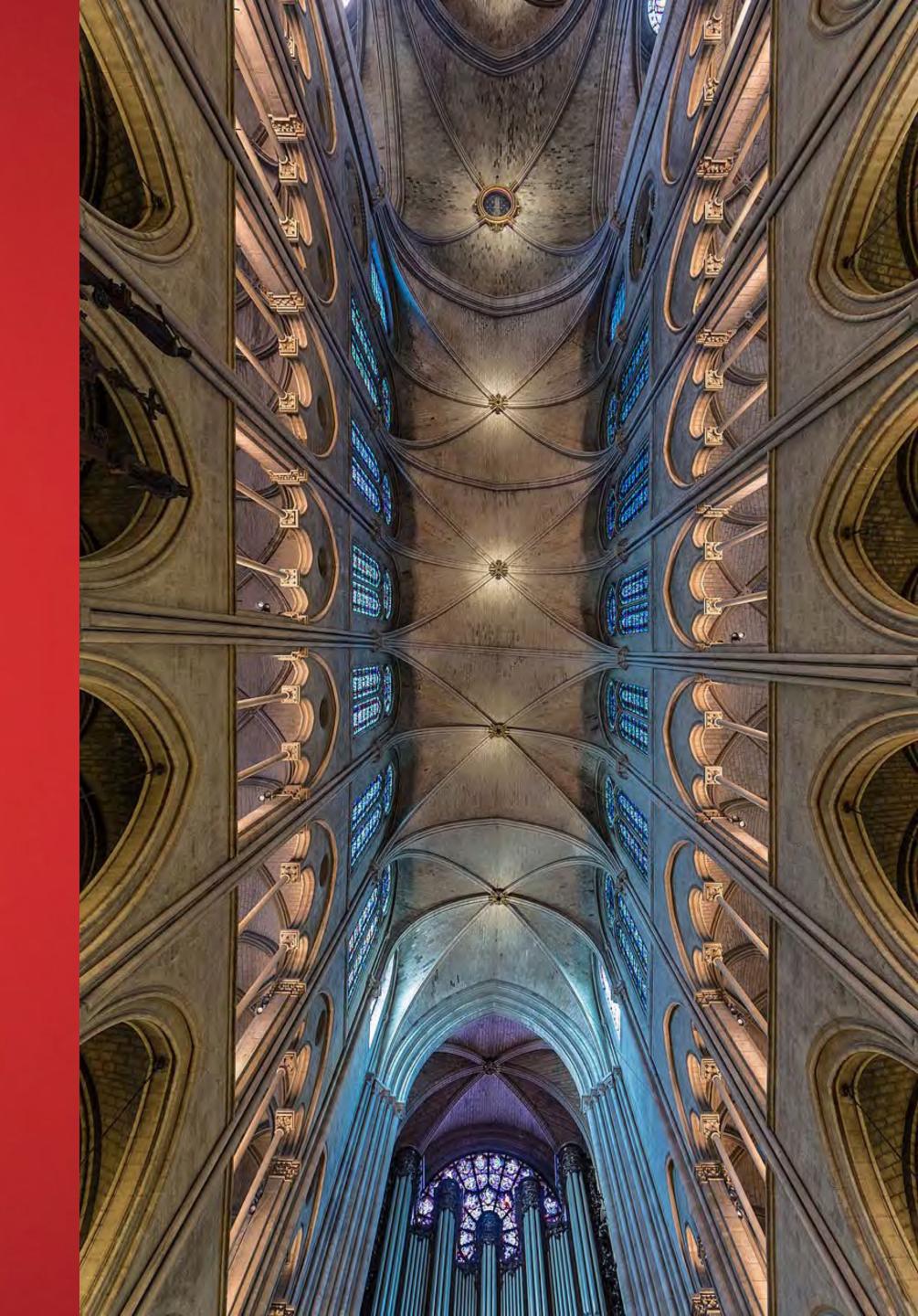
Paravi Lucernam (5th Century)

Gregorian Chant (9th century - et seq)





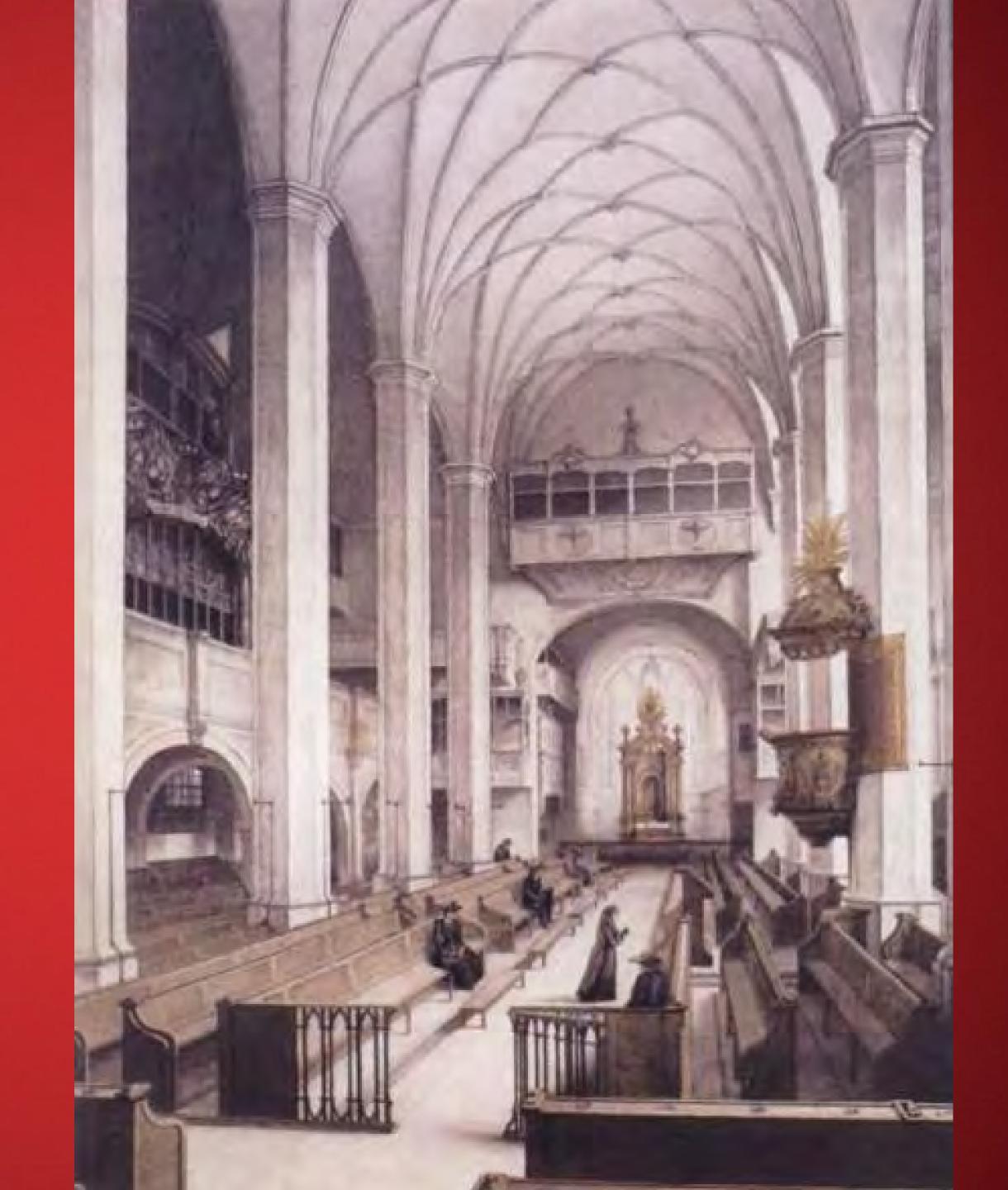
Pérotin Viderunt omnes (1198) Theatre of Voices



Saint Augustine: Confessions (397-398)

50. Thus I fluctuate between peril of pleasure and approved wholesomeness; inclined ... to approve of the usage of singing in the church; that by the delight of the ears, weaker minds may rise to the feeling of devotion. Yet when it befalls me to be more moved with the voice than the words sung, I confess to have sinned penally, and then had rather not hear music. ... Thou, O Lord my God, hearken; behold, and see, and have mercy, and heal me, Thou, in whose presence I have become a problem to myself; and that is my infirmity.

Thomaskirche, Leipzig (1885)



NEXTLECTURE LISTENING

11 FEBRUARY 6PM