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**Brief Biography:**

I was born in 1980. I have graduated in Philosophy and Musicology at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow (Poland). In 2011 I have obtained a PhD in Philosophy – my thesis was concerning the reception of Boethius' idea of *musica mundana* during the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Era. I am also an active musicologist working in the field of early music. The main areas of my interest are history of medieval and early modern philosophy, history of ideas, baroque music. I have participated in many Polish and international conferences (e.g. *Scientiae* 2013), presenting outputs of my research. In 2008 I was granted The Ray E. and Ruth A. Robinson Musicology Award.

**Paper Title:**

The Musical Structure of Athanasius Kircher's Universe

**Paper Abstract:**

My paper aims at investigating the musical structure of the Universe as described by an important music theorist and one of the most original thinkers of the period, Athanasius Kircher. My presentation will be based on Kircher's printed texts, considered against the broad context of the 17th-century musical thought and philosophy. In spite of the progress achieved by the Kircher scholarship (e.g. works by J. E. Fletcher, P. Findlen, J. Godwin, et al.), the abovementioned aspect of his work remains somewhat neglected. The paper shall be organized around two principal topics: (1) the idea of celestial music (*musica mundana*), and (2) the idea of the harmony of human nature (*musica humana* as the reflection of the structure of the universe), as these two manifest in Kircher's writings. The issue will be worked out by me in the contexts of history of philosophy and theory of music – such an interdisciplinary approach is necessary to reveal some unacknowledged aspects of Kircher's ideas. My analysis is based on main works by Kircher (with particular emphasis on the *Musurgia Universalis*). I will try to indicate the medieval sources of Kircher's image of the Universe, in the context of *musica mundana*. I will also say a few words about some cultural implications of Kircher's cosmological views – it is very interesting to consider the way in which cosmological views influenced Kircher's theory of music. The main output of my analysis, is explanation of cosmological models of Kircher, that one can find or infer from his works.