

In the early modern period, a number of Latin texts arose that combined references to Japan, Catholicism and the Greco-Roman antiquity, including pagan mythology. This presentation examines two of these works in particular: An oration published in Spain in 1628, in which Jason and the Argonauts are likened to Xavier and his followers in Japan, and a Polish dramatic presentation bearing the date of 1701 in which Mercury, Xerxes and the priest of Dodona among other characters appear in a story centered on the miraculous discovery of a cross inside a tree near Nagasaki. These works are prime examples of the diversity of early modern European Latin literature which could combine tales from the new and old worlds in highly imaginative and creative ways

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