Michael Praetorius is known to the world of musicologists as one of the first systematic researchers in terms of music and musical instruments. In his early-baroque main opus „Syntagma Musicum“ he lists some types of bagpipes among contemporary wind instruments in Germany. The names of three of the instruments displayed there will be in the main focus of the poster presentation: Bock, Hümmelchen and Dudey. From both linguists and musicologists, hardly any thoughts have yet been shed about the etymology of these terms.

The sincere exploration of the etymology and contemporary semantics of the terms used to name these instrumentes will yield greater knowledge about their cultural position and surroundings. Praetorius is the primary source for bagpipe names, which, in some cases, continued to live on in the musical vocabulary through the following centuries and thereby also had an influence on contemporary German names for bagpipes.

Sources:

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