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**The Motion of Celestial Bodies in Medieval Iconography  
Christian Assimilation of Ancient Cosmology**

The objects of this iconographic research are medieval representations of spherical models of the world in which angels move the celestial bodies by putting into motion the planets of the universe. They are medieval interpretations of ancient models explaining the movement of celestial bodies. These pictures represent the intention to adapt the Christian understanding to ancient cosmological concepts, especially to those of Aristotle and to those linked to the Ptolemaic system. In this article, I demonstrate how in the Middle Ages ancient ideas around the structure of the universe, based on rational observations of the skies, were interpreted in a specific way reflecting the traditions and dogmas of the Church. The ancient idea of movement within the universe became quite specific within Christian culture, and since it was without reference to observed astronomical data, it was easy to add the figures of angels and give them unique functions. The Church Fathers played an important role in shaping medieval iconography representing the movement of the universe.