

*honesty*

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July 8 - Aug 6, 2023

In 1784, an early witness of Wolfgang von Kempelen's Speaking Machine — one of the first to articulate a somewhat complete range of vowel and consonant sounds — recorded in letter a response to hearing its set of sounds, together functioning as something of a synthetic bridge to nowhere:

*You cannot believe, my dear friend, how we were all seized by a magic feeling when we first heard the human voice and human speech which apparently didn't come from a human mouth. We looked at each other in silence and consternation and we all had goose-flesh produced by horror in the first moments.*