



Florence

Biblioteca Laurenziana

Plut. 89. sup 43

\*Germanicus Aratea with *scholia Stroziana* ('Siciliensis')(with Hyginus, *De Astronomia*, q.v.)

Florence

c. 1475

textff. 6v-48v Germanicus, *Aratea*, with *scholia Stroziana*

fol. 2v IN ISTO CODICE CONTINETUR LIBER ARATI ET IGINII DE IMAGINIBUS.

ff. 3r-4r INCIPIT LIBER ARATI DE SIGNIS CELESTIBUS. ARatus quidem fuit Athinodori patris filius matris autem Delitophile – (ends imperfectly) peritię mathematicę repperimus autem illum et super. (= 'Aratus genus' section (V) from the *Revised Aratus latinus*, cf. Maass 1898, pp. 146-50)ff.4r-6r Celum circulis quinque distinguitur – Connexio vero piscium comunem habet stellam. (= excerpts from the *scholia Stroziana*, cf. Breysig 1867, pp. 105-09)

**note:** a number of the words are extended so that the line breaks occur in the right places. Also, on fol. 4r the text has a break after: ... insulas maris continuatur cum sequenti// (and two lines after this break, there is 'vacat'. On fol. 4v, the text begins: 'is (crossed through) rubri alioque vertices eminentiasque terrarum nostris ...')

ff. 6v-47v Ab iove principium magno deduxit aratus –  
Hlc primos ortus crater permit ulterioris  
Vocalis rostro corvi super ydraque lucet.  
( = Germanici Caesaris *Aratea*, vv. 1-430; cf. Breysig 1867, pp. 1-26 (see notes for variant expl.)) .

**note:** that the poem has the usual verses missing from the text for this family: vv. 248-50; 255-57; 270-72;28-80;284-86; 289-90;315-17; 321-23;328-30;333-35; (but v. 340 is included); 341; 344-46; 356-58; 363-65;379-81;393-95.



- ff. 7r- 48v      *scholia Stroziana*: Queritur quare ab iove cepit et non a musis – in ala duas In cauda tres ... (these words are followed by a triple dot symbol, that refers to a marginal addition, continuing the passage: ‘in pedibus singulas ab unguibus sunt omnes sex omnes simul fiunt 44’. (cf. Breysig 1867, pp. 109-81)
- note:** the Greek passages are missing from ff. 7r-7v: ... iovem in aliqua parte celum [...] // et ipse aratus [...] Cum dicit heroditus ... comicum qui dicit [...] hoc autem constat et ipsum dicere [...] Nam quia nihil ...
- ff. 48v-50v      Ethereum venit taurus super imbris atrum – Hec eadem tibi signa dabunt non irrita pisces (= Breysig 1867, fragm. III, ll. 52-163, pp. 47-54)
- ff. 50v-54v      SOlem per se ipsum constat moveri non cum mundo verti – quarto namque his certissimus auctor (= excerpt from *scholia Stroziana*, cf. Breysig 1867, pp. 193-202)
- ff. 55r-57v      AB ruma in favonium cesari nobilia sidera significant – xlv. die ab equinoctio dicimus fieri (= excerpt from Pliny, *NH*, XVIII; cf. Breysig 1897, pp. 203-09)
- ff. 57v-60v      Ante omnia autem duo esse nomina celestis inurie – in media segete non esse noxias tempestates (= excerpt from Pliny, *NH*, XVIII; cf. Breysig, pp. 210-15)
- fol. 60v      Vertices extremos circa quos celi spera volvitur polos antiqui nuncuparunt – Sunt omnes XX. (= excerpt from *scholia Stroziana*; cf. Breysig 1867, pp. 111- 12, esp. the section at the bottom of p. 112).
- ff. 61r-70r      Primum a sole capiemus presagia purus oriens manu sinistra bootis (= Pliny, *NH*, XVIII, 341-42; which then jumps into Hyginus, *Astronomica*, IV, 6-14, ending incompletely) exteriori parte purus oriens manu sinistra bootis exteriori parte circuli pervenit coniuncta – conclusiorem locum totumque spacium impleat lumine. Si quis...
- Non sene trova piu.
- ff. 70v-71v      blank
- ff. 72r-107v      Hyginus, *Astronomica* (for a description of this section, see the Hyginus mss)





gombus claris singulas in dextero pede duas in sinistro unam. Sunt omnes xx

25

**A**n dromede uero radiat qua stella sub ipsa

media ala unam in extremis penis unam in armo unam in extremis in pectore unam in spina unam in umbilico claras unam in singulis gombus singulas sunt omnes xxiii

26

singulas pedum posteriorum singulas omnes xxviii

27

**S**ed etiam proprio clauis cognoscere signum dexteron si quis donum hoc spectabile nullo iustibus ueneratum undis in sede notatum illi laterum ductus equata duorum sunt spacia unius breuior sed clarior ignis Hunc aries iuxta medium dexteron habet

uero dicunt egypti esse effigiem stellis figura tam in tribus angulis idem in trigono et nulli talem ambitum facere habet stellas tres in singulis angulis singulas e quibus una est clarior

28

tres ad orientem tres ad occidentem tres omnes xxxviii

29

utis ubiq; micat tantum occupat ab ioue extra sublata similis prope cassiopiam. ublimis fulget pedibus proterare iude

et per caliginem uix uidentur

30

**S**i dera comunem ostendunt ex quibus

no ex qua lychnus. Cum odare asteropeia Denomaus. Oderope cum sisypho. oam apud homines dignitatem habent

31

ra leia preme part subiecta dia consi

32

**A**ve medij fulgonis erunt penna utraq; lera. Dexterior iuxta regalem cepheos ulnam. A leua fugit instanter sibi pegason ala

mit est ergo collum in pennis ala quinq; in pennis unam in cauda totam sunt omnes xxviii

33

apomerus sopitas condere flammam tres occasus ortulq; intercepti oia cum terrores auget nocana mammos

35

**D**e illegem titan etiam cum contigit arcum

36

**S**i dera que mundi pars celsior ethere uoluit. Queq; uident boream uentis affluera serenis. Dixerunt hinc alius declinis ducitur ordo. Sicut et infans obscuris flantibus astitos. **N**eptunus ut Artemidorus refert amphitrem uoluit in coniugium accipere. que cum ob uerendum maonitudinem et uirginitatis

in medio obscuram unam in pennis duas et unam splendidam

38

simi. et uero munitum signum dicitur quod in numero muliarum stellas habeat. ore unam in folio duas in pennulis uentris in dorso unam in cauda duas. Sunt omnes Delphimus autem non currit multum super pnicorum

38

la caput magniq; humeris sic balteus ardet. uic uagina entis pennis sic pede fulget

ochus obscuriores Balteus eius et gladius. et tene esse exilimantur

39

**V**ntretiq; solis radios accenditur et las

quum inter hyemale tropicum et arcticus subterranum qui australis uocatur

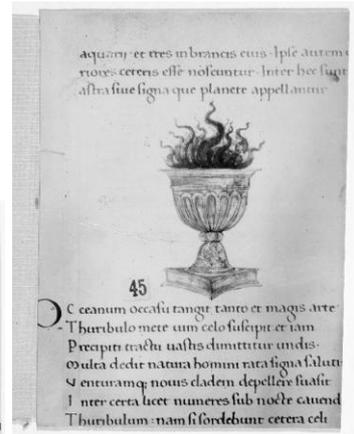
41

**S**i unumq; oncur sic occidit in fera fidus. T uasuum. Leuorem perpende sub oratione.

simulam undam in posterioribus pedibus singulas. Sunt omnes septem

42

**A**t cum decurrens in hinc tam naua remos. A uerumq; naten uotis dimittas ab ore. Perleque optatam captiens conuolte regam



fol. 4v: planisphere: see the planispheres and hemispheres section.

fol. 6v Jupiter on his eagle is facing towards the left, while the brown eagle faces to the right. He holds a handful of pink lightning in his extended right hand and a yellow sceptre in his left, which rests on his shoulder. He has a set of three concentric haloes (white, pink-yellow and blue) around his head and wears a pink mantle so his right shoulder and arm are exposed. He is bearded. His eagle stands upon a looped piece of light blue fabric with blue clouds beneath.

ff. 9r-47v Coloured drawings of 44 constellations, plus the Pleiades, with stars marked gold



stars. The missing constellations are: Equuleus, Libra and Corona Austrinus. The drawings are in brown pen and coloured with a series of washes, with short feathery strokes, in the highlights, details, etc.

- fol. 52r Sol is dressed in a pink robe with a blue mantle standing in a yellow-brown *quadriga* drawn by four horses that are splayed into two pairs with alternating pink and green bridles and harnesses. He holds the reins in his left hand and a sceptre held out in his right.
- fol. 55r Luna stands in her brown chariot with green trim, which is drawn to the right by two brown bulls. Her head is covered by a white wimple and she wears a pink dress with a blue cloak with a green lining and wearing a long cloak that flows behind her. She has a light blue crescent moon on her head and points with her right hand to the torch she carries in her left hand.
- fol. 61r Austronotus is centaur that leaps to the left. Its sex is indeterminate as it has long hair, a feminine face and slightly enlarged breasts, but the torso is definitely male, with very prominent hip muscles. It has two bunches of blue carnations in hands that it holds outstretched to either side.

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### significant features

For the general appearance of the figures, see the appendix to this section. The stars are placed as follows:

- fol. 9r **DRACO INTER ARCTOS:** Draco (green wash): 3 in the comb, 11 in the body, or 14 in all.
- URSA MINOR** (brown wash): 1 in head, 1 in belly, 2 in shoulders and 3 in the tail, or 7 in all.
- URSA MAIOR** (brown wash): 7 in the head, 2 in the neck, 2 in each forepaw, 1 in the shoulder, 1 in the chest, 4 in the back, 1 in the groin, 2 in the thigh, 2 in the left hind foot, or 24 in all.
- fol. 11r **HERCULES** (light brown lion's skin and hair of Hercules, brown club, green in the snake and the leaves and acorns of the tree): 1 in the head, 1 in the right shoulder, 1 in the hand, 1 in the club, 2 in the hip, 2 in the buttocks, 2 on the left thigh, 1 on the left



shin, 1 on the left foot, 1 on the right knee, 1 on the right shin and 1 on the right foot with 7 on the skin, or 22 in all.

fol. 11v **CORONA BOREALIS** (green with white lacy border with a pink band and blue ribbon): 9 stars.

fol. 12v **OPHIUCHUS** (green wash on snake, yellow hair and brown grey scorpion): Ophiuchus has 1 in his head, 2 (or 3) on his shoulders, 3 in each hand, 1 on his hip, 1 on his back, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 15 in all.

**SERPENS** has 8 in his head, 8 mid-body and 10 on his tail, or 26 in all.

**SCORPIO** has 4 in his claws, 3 on his mouth, 5 in his body, 5 in his tail segments and 2 on the tip of his tail, or 19 in all.

fol. 14v **BOOTES** (brown wash in his stick, hair and beard, with a violet robe, red strap and scabbard and blue and grey in the handle of the sword): 1 in his head, 2 in his shoulders, 3 on his chest, 1 on his right elbow, 2 on his right hand, 2 on his stick, 1 in his sword and 1 on each foot, or 14 in all.

fol. 15v **VIRGO** (particularly attractive figure with white, green, blue and violet wings, a violet cape with a green lining and a pink robe with a violet belt) 1 on each shoulder, 2 in each wing, 1 in each hand, 6 in the thigh, 1 in each foot, or 16 in all.

fol. 17v **GEMINI** (with male and female genitals; both have grey-blue cloaks and blonde hair, with a yellow lyre): left Twin: 1 in head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 on right elbow, 1 on right hand, 1 on each knee, 1 on each foot, or 9 in all. Right Twin: 4 on the chest, 1 in the left hand, 1 on the left knee, 1 on the right foot and 2 on the left foot, or 9 in all.

**CANCER** (grey): 1 in the nose, 2 in the shell, 6 in the upper claws, 6 on the bottom claws, or 15 in all.

fol. 19r **LEO** (yellow-brown with a pink tongue and blue clouds): 3 in his face, 2 in his neck, 3 on his back, 1 on the chest, 1 on the tummy, 2 in the tail, 2 on the feet, or 14 in all.

fol. 20r **AURIGA** (in a green robe with a pink cloak, brown car with green trim with white horses with yellow bands around their middles and blue clouds): 1 in his head, 2 in his shoulders, 1 in his right hand and 2 in left hand, or 6 in all.



- fol. 22r **TAURUS** (pale yellow-brown with blue clouds): 2 in the head, 1 in the nose, 1 in the neck, 4 in the chest 3 on the back, 1 in the belly, 1 on each knee, 2 on the right hoof, or 16 in all.
- fol. 23r **CEPHEUS** (violet robe with a white hood and a pink mantle with a green lining, so the reverse folds of the robe show pink along the hem, brown sword with a grey handle, white strap across his chest, yellow boots and blue clouds): 2 in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in each elbow, 1 on each hand, 3 at the waist, 1 on the right thigh, 2 in the left shin, 2 on the right foot, 3 on the left foot, or 19 in all.
- fol. 23v **CASSIOPEIA** (blue robe, red pillow, brown throne): 1 in her head, 2 at the top of the throne, 1 in her left shoulder (**CHECK** each? I just marked the right shoulder in my notes and I drew it on my picture, so I must have thought it was odd ) , 1 in her breast, 1 in her belly, 1 on each hand, 3 in her lap, 2 on the cushion, or 13 in all.
- fol. 24v **ANDROMEDA** (long blonde hair, with a red robe with a violet dress underneath, blue clouds): 1 in her head, 2 in her shoulders, 1 in her right hand, 3 in her chest, 4 in her hips, 3 on the hem of her dress, or 14 in all.
- fol. 25r **PEGASUS** (white with blue clouds): 3 in its face, 4 in the wings, 2 in the chest, 1 in its shoulder, 1 in the belly, 1 on the back, or 12 in all.
- fol. 26r **ARIES** (white): 1 above the head, 3 in the nose, 2 in the neck, 3 on the belly, 1 on each foot, or 11 in all.
- fol. 27r **TRIANGULUM** (blue with white highlights): 3 stars
- fol. 28r **PISCES** (blue): 12 in the top fish, 12 in the cord and 7 in the bottom fish., or 31 in all.
- fol. 29r **PERSEUS** (pink cape, grey blade on his halberd, both Perseus and Medusa with blonde hair) 1 in his halberd, 1 in his head, 2 in his shoulders, 1 in his back, 1 on his right elbow, 1 in each hand, 1 in his hip, 1 on each knee, 1 on each shin, 1 on each foot, 3 in the Medusa, or 18 in all.
- fol. 30r **PLEIADES** (dresses in pink, green, blue. Pink/green, blue, green on blue clouds): no stars.
- fol. 31r **LYRA** (yellow wash with pencil drawing evident): 9 stars.



- fol. 32r **CYGNUS** (white): 1 in head, 1 in neck, 5 on right wing, 5 on left wing, 1 in chest and 1 in tail, or 14 in all.
- fol. 32v **AQUARIUS** (yellow-brown urn with blue water): 2 in his head, 1 in his shoulder, 1 in his arm, 2 in his elbow, 1 in each hand, 3 in his hip, 2 on his thigh, 1 on his right shin, 1 on each foot, or 16 in all and 31 in his stream.
- CAPRICORN**: 4 in his horns, 4 in his head, 1 in his nose, 2 on his chest, 2 in his right hoof, or 13 in all.
- fol. 35v **SAGITTARIUS** (yellow-brown with a grey tip to his arrow): 2 in his head, 1 in his skin/cape, 1 in his right hand, 2 in his bow, 2 on his back, 1 in the belly, 2 on the rump, or 11 in all. There is an extra **SAGITTA** with 2 stars.
- fol. 36v **AQUILA** (grey-brown with yellow beak and claws): 1 in its head, 2 in its wings, 1 in its chest, or 4 stars in all and 4 stars in **SAGITTA**.
- fol. 37v **DELPHINUS** (blue): 1 in mouth, 6 in the body, 2 in the tail, or 9 in all.
- fol. 37r **ORION** (blue tunic, green cloak, grey sword): 3 in his head, 2 in his shoulders, 3 in his belt, 1 on his left elbow, 1 on each knee, 1 on each foot, 4 in his sword, or 17 in all.
- fol. 39r **CANIS MAIOR** (white with green collar): 1 in tongue, 1 in head, 2 in neck, 3 in chest, 1 in elbow, 1 on right forefoot, 3 on left forefoot, 1 on back left foot, 1 on the tail, or 14 in all.
- fol. 41r **LEPUS** (yellow-brown): 2 in its ears, 2 in its chest, 1 on its back and 1 on each back foot, or 7 in all.
- fol. 42r **NAVIS** (grey with a crimson flame): 3 in the flame, 4 on top of deck, 5 in the keel, 5 in the oars and 4 in the poop, or 21 in all.
- fol. 43r **CETUS** (blue-green in blue clouds): 6 in body and 8 in tail, or 14 in all.
- fol. 43v **ERIDANUS** (brown hair, yellow urn and blue water): 6 in his right arm, 3 in his right leg and 1 in each foot, or 11 in all.
- fol. 44v **PISCIS AUSTRINUS** (blue): 12 stars
- fol. 45v **ARA** (yellow cup with red flame) 2 in flames, 2 in cup, or 4 in all.



- fol. 46v **CENTAURUS** (yellow-brown throughout): 3 in his hat, 1 on the animal skin, 1 on the right elbow, 1 on the right hand, 1 on the waist, 3 on the chest, 2 on the belly, 2 on the rump, 3 in the tail and 1 on each back leg, or 18 in all. In addition, there are 2 stars in the dish and 4 (?) in **LUPUS** (rabbit).
- fol. 47v **HYDRA** (green with yellow belly): groups of stars run 3/ 6/ 3/ 4/ 2 with 10 at the tip of the tail, or 28 in all.
- CRATER** (yellow with red flame): 10 stars.
- CORVUS** (black with a red beak): 5 stars.

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### notes

The title page is in gold and blue alternating letters. On the first folio, the Medici arms on fol. 3r are held by two putti with blue and green wings; the gold shield has a red background set within a gold band/wreath/gold band. Red *palle* with a blue on at the centre. The incipit is in gold, and the text has decorative initials with gold, red and blue flowers and green vine design. Note that there is no punctuation at the end of sections.

on fol. 3v has some blanks in the text: ...inquit quasi presidens ab imperatore [ ] et yliadem scripsisse ad se [ ] homerum & ei direxisse...

on fol. 4r has some blanks in the text: ... ab his longissime [ ] sol i [crossed out] ab est - ends with Item plurimas insulas maris continuatur cum sequendi [these 3 words crossed out] vacat// (fol. 4v) is [crossed out] rubri aliosque vertices eminentiasque terrarum ...

Also, the lines are obviously copied one-by-one from its model since the scribe uses very long ligature within words to space out the letters so that he can follow the model.

Numerous additions in different hand in outer margins, and also later italic hand adds marginal notes, like 'aetas aura' (fol. 15v); breaks in pages: fol. 7v: et ipse aratus [ ] cum dicit heroditus ... dicit [ ] hoc autem constat et ipsum dicere [ ] namque; fol 33v: later hand has added some single words in Greek; fol 54v: quia nocturnioris [crossed out] nocturni roris humor qui est [ ] siderum; fol. 58v: sentitur ut [ ] dies [ ] aquilam diximus in ita alia exoriri, with marginal note: nil deficit.

folio size is 25.5 x 18 cm

Placement and number of stars quite close to Vat Barb lat 77.

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### bibliography

McGurk, IV, pp. xviii-xix; xv.

Sicilian Germanicus *Aratea*; xxv: inconsistencies with Aratus tradition, but not sufficient to warrant notice of lack of uniformity within these texts; and pp. 26-29: 2/2 XVC, produced for the Guardaroba Medicea, having the Medici arms on fol. 3r.; Germanicus illustrations with stars marked from 6v-47v; Hyginus illustrations with stars marked from 72v-91v (says identical to the few found in Florence, BNC, Magl XI, 114).



Reeve, *CQ*, 1980, p. 512, n. 21.

Florentine copy of  $\sigma$ ; twins with Urb lat 1358 in illustrations (Saxl-Meier, III, pp. 149-51) and by the same hand, which AC de la Mare says Florentine

Saxl-Meier, III, pp. 149-51

Martin, *Hist*, p. 40.

says that the so-called tag of scholia Stroziana comes from Breysig, having read this ms (it was Stroziana XLVI); XIV c, says that Breysig published this as a scholia after Ms **Laur Plut 89 sup 43\*** (Stroziana XLVI) from the 14th c; says not really a scholia; all come from an exemplar probably from the Carolingian period which was discovered by Poggio in Sicily which he called 'fragmentum Arati nuper in Sicilia repertum'. It is a kind of Aratean corpus where extracts from the *Aratus latinus*, Book 18 of Pliny, Hyginus, etc are mixed together; all the manuscripts have a star map, Zeus on the eagle and a series of constellations and the sun and the Moon

Karl Robert (*Erat Castast Rel*, p. 220).

has shown that the scholia Stroziana comes from a contamination between the Basileensia and Sangermanensia scholia (the latter being the re-managed Aratus latinus).

Viré, *Rev d'Hist textes*, 1981, p. 166: XV c Italian; ff 72-107 and 127-169r

Cox-Rearick, *Medici*, 1984, p. 169, n. 35.

Bandini, III, 1776, pp. 310-11

C. Leonardi, 'I codici di Marziano Capella', *Aevum*, 34, 1960, pp. 45-46 w/bibl.

*Miniatura fiorentina del Rinascimento, 1440-1520: Un primo censimento*, [Inventari e cataloghi Toscani, 18], ed. A. Garzelli, Florence 1985.

**This book is impossible to use as it has no index.** **Laur 89.43** Aratus illum'd by Gherardo; plates 954-56 = Hercules, Virgo and planisphere

Haffner, *Stermbilzyklus*: p. 113.

as far as she can tell, none of the Florentine mss predate 1468; **Florence 89.43** has Medici arms, but it is not under Giovanni's or Piero's items (see Ames Lewis on Piero's library, 1984) and the decoration recalls mss commissioned by Lorenzo or Giuiano (cf *dell'Ombra dell'lauro*, 1992, pp. 71ff, nr 2, 52, pp. 150-58). Garzelli gives the miniatures to Gherardo (Garzelli p. 95 and see also Levi d'Ancona 1967, p. 129); She notes Reeve's comment about the appearance of the 'Fragmentum noviter repertum in Sicilia' and wonders if the model for all these might not be Manetti's mss. as it was the first Neapolitan copy?

Byvanck, 'De platen in de Aratea van Hugo de Groot', *Mededelingen der Koninklijke Nederlandsche Akademie van Wetenschappen, Afd. Letterkunde*, nieuwe reeks, XII, no. 2, 1959, pp. 169-235, esp. p. 217(no. 48).

ff 6a-55a, written for the Guardaroba Medicea, 15th c

consulted 1981, 1988 and June 2004