# Oxford

# **Bodleian Library**

### Digby Ms 83 (S.C. 1684)

Hyginus, Recensio interpolata

English

12th century

# <u>text</u>

- ff. 1r-76v
  Opusculum de ratione spherae (Book IV of this work is an illustrated version of the Hyginus, Recensio interpolata). The constellation drawings are found as part of Book IV of this 'opusculum'. The text begins with the first 5 lines of the Excerptum de Astrologia Arati (cf. Saxl-Meier, III, 1, p. 346). It then develops into a series of entries for each constellation taken from Hyginus, Astronomica, Books II and III. The mythological texts from Book II are immediately followed by the star lists from Book III for each constellation, in a similar manner to BL, Arundel 339, but (acc. Saxl, p. 346) this manuscript also has the use of the scholia Strozziana and Sangermanensia. The initial letter for each section is in red and the text is in sepia.
- ff. 1r-76v (in red) Incipit opusculum deratione spere. ex summorum disciplinis philosophorum cum labore et diligentia excerptum.

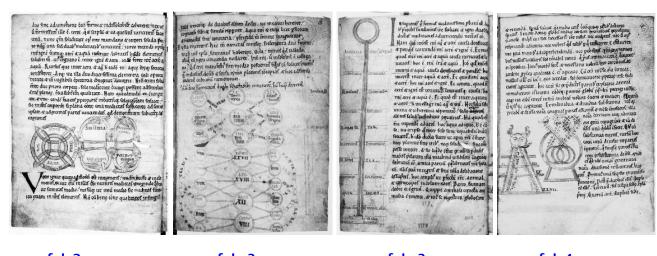
(incipit with an elaborate beginning initial of yellow circle with red pen vine work inside and a red winged dragon lying below the circle of the 'Q' as its tail; then continuing in sepia ink) QUICUMQUE MUNDANE SPERE RATIONEM ET ASTRORUM legem seu stellarum in ea existentium nosse desiderat. – deque humoribus intellige. sicut hec figura evidentissime deSIGNAT. (cf. Saxl-Meier III 1953, 1, p. 346)

fol. 42v (in red) INCIPIT PROLOGUS LIBRI. IIII. (in sepia) REM UTILISSIMAM & liquido sensui corporeo Nisi cui quasi quędam nux est ratio – dispositione signrum

incuntantur progrediamus. (in red) EXPLICIT PROLOGUS. INCIPIT LIBER . IIII. DE INVOLUTIONE SPERE. (in sepia) DUO SUNT IGITUR EXTREMI VERTICES MUNDI. quos polos appellavimus septemtrionis scilicet & austri . Quorum alter a nobis semper videtur alter vero nunquam. In e<sup>o</sup> autem qui videtur tria sunt (43r) signa constituta. Si quidem intra circulum nomen habet. Que resupinate altera capud alterius tegere vid ----r. verso semper capite maioris ad caudam minoris. Harum prima que in ipso circulo priores habet pedes x. et ix. Stellis in se revolutis rotatur. Stelle autem sic sunt dispositę. Septem in capite. omnes obscuras. In utrisque ...

- fol. 67r ... ut tanquam sinat se ad crateram transire. (=Hyginus, *Astronomica*, II, 40, line 267; cf. Viré, 1992, p. 88) (note: on ff. 59r-61r, there is an insert between Pisces and Orion [what is this?])
- fol. 67r (in red) DE COMETIS. (first intial in red, rest in sepia) QUe ad figurationem signorum pertinent. ad hunc finem nobis erunt dicta si plura videas; vitio scrip<sup>t</sup>oris deputa. ( = Isidore, *Etym.*, III, 71, 16-17)
- fol. 67v (the text continues with, in red) Sententia ARATI DE SPERA. (first intial in red, rest in sepia) UT igitur plenarie rationem spere videamus; de circulis ipsius quod reliquum est sub iungamus. estivium circulum unum de quattuor esse. Dicemus qui therinos tropicos vocatur.

This is followed by sections on each of the circles, including the Milky Way, the zodiac signs, their risings and setting, numbers of hours for every month, and 'de speciebus anni' until the explicit on fol.76v. There is a space for an illustration on the top of fol. 76r on the 'concordia' of the elements.)

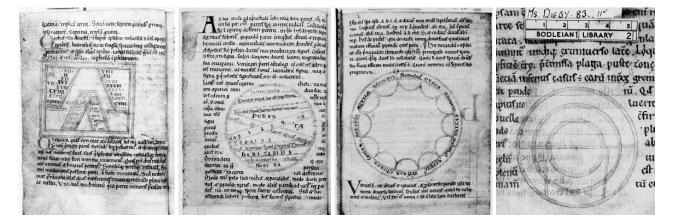


### fol. 2v

fol. 3r

fol. 3v

fol. 4r

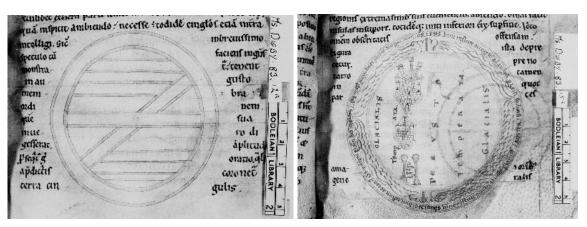




fol. 9v

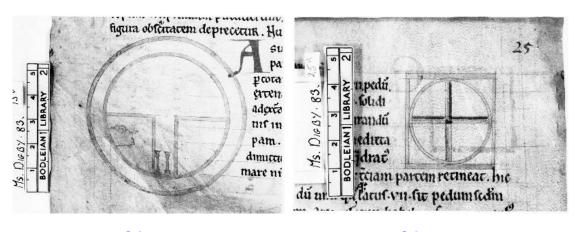
fol. 10r

fol. 11v



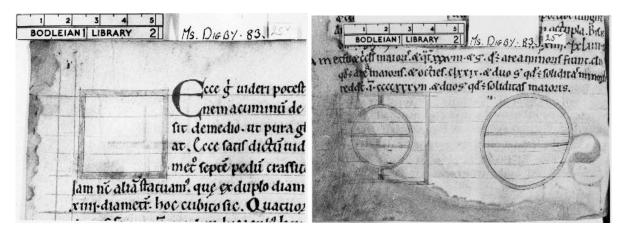
fol. 12r

fol. 15r



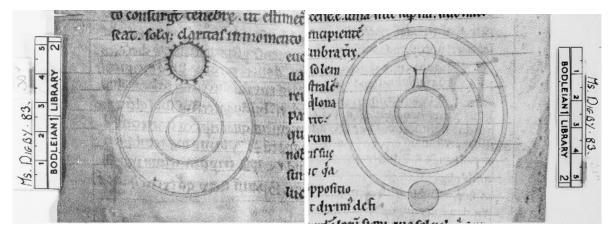


# fol. 25r



### fol. 25v





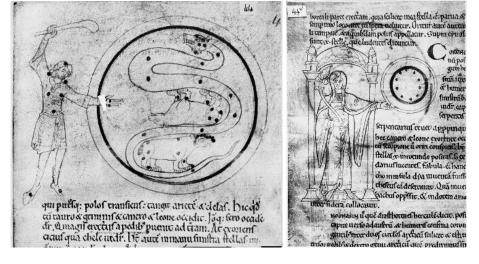






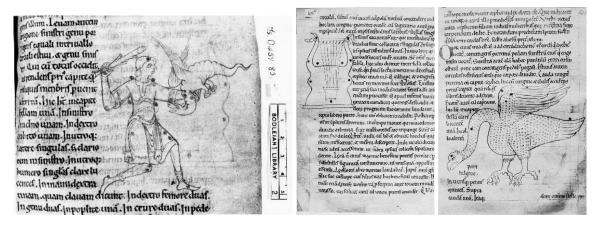
fol. 36v

fol. 39r



## fol. 44r





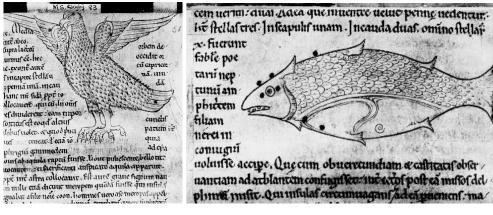
fol. 45r

fol. 46v

fol. 46r



# fol. 48r



### fol. 51r



### fol. 51v





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fol. 54r

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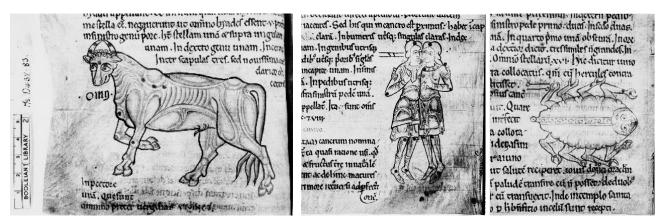
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fol. 53r

fol. 54v

### fol. 52v

### fol. 52r



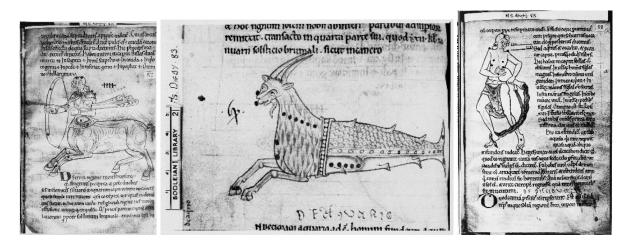
## fol. 53v

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fol. 55r

fol. 55v

fol. 56r



fol. 57r

fol. 57v

fol. 58r

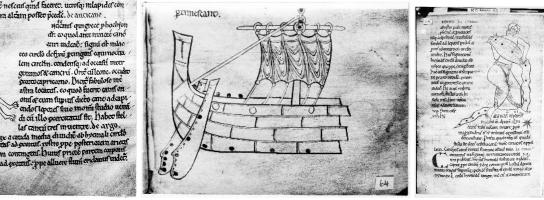


# fol. 58v

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# fol. 62v

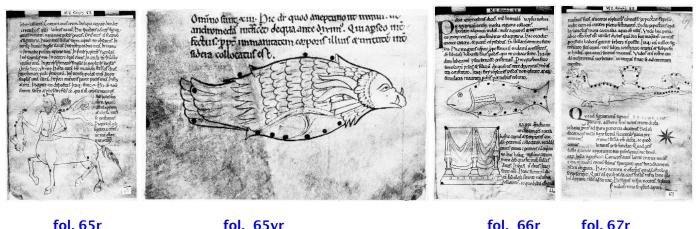
fol. 63r





fol. 64r





fol. 65r

fol. 65vr

illustrations

- ff. 44r-67r Drawings in sepia ink of 37 constellation groupings with the stars marked by golden dots. There are also depictions of the Pleiades and the Hyades. A few of the constellations are framed with double lines and some have gold highlights or features and others have coloured wash, with blue and green predominating. The text of both sections on the constellations wraps around the figures in such a way as to suggest that it was written after the space for the pictures was blocked out. The constellations of the southern hemisphere do not follow the normal Hyginian order. Nevertheless, the pictures and positions of the stars are almost identical to Oxford Bodley 614.) For more information, see the comments, below.
- DRACO INTER ARCTOS is set within a double circular frame and there is the hole fol. 44r of a compass point in the middle of the circle. DRACO has a dragon's head and 4 bends in his body. He has pointed ears, a ruff around his chin an open mouth with sharp teeth and he faces to the left. The bears are back-to-back, face in opposite directions and both face outwards from the body of Draco.

URSA MINOR is within the third bend and URSA MAIOR is within the fourth bend, standing on Draco's tail. They are about the same size and have short tails. Draco has 5 stars in its head and 10 in its body, or 15 stars in all. Ursa Minor has 2 stars in his tail, two on the haunch, and 1 in the left hind leg and two front legs, or 7 stars in all. Ursa Maior has 10 stars in the head and neck, 4 in the

body, 2 in the left front leg, 2 in the right hind leg and 3 on the tail, or 21 stars in all.

**BOOTES** stands to the left of the circular frame that encloses *Draco inter arctos*, but holds his left hand out in front of him so it seems as if he were a ring master presenting his act, with his left hand crossing in front of the frame. He stands facing the viewer, wearing a knee-length tunic with elbow-length loose sleeves and an inner garment with tighter, long sleeves. He holds a club above his head with his right hand. He has 1 star in his head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 on each nipple, 1 on his belly, 4 in his left hand and 1 on each foot, or 12 stars in all.

- fol. 44v CORONA BOREALIS is a circle of 10 gold stars that is surrounded by a circular, gold frame. The frame is then enclosed by a double circular frame (with the same centre; and with the hole from the compass point for all three evident) drawn in sepia ink. The outer frame is held in the left hand of a standing female figure, who has her head covered by a veil. She holds a plant in her right hand. She resembles a depiction of Virgo. The female figure stands on a pedestal and is set between columns with a curved architectural structure above her head.
- fol. 45r HERCULES crouches to the right wearing a knee-length tunic with loose sleeves over a tighter, long-sleeved shirt. He also has short boots on his feet. He faces the viewer and dips on to his right knee. He holds a club with sawn-off branches upraised in his right hand and, in his left hand, he holds a small dragon by its belly, so that its head faces downwards and its back is towards the hero The dragon is winged with a long curved tail and two legs. It opens its mouth towards Hercules. Hercules has 1 star in his head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in each elbow, 1 in his right hand, 1 on each side of his waist, 2 on his left thigh and 1 on his right thigh, 2 in his right knee, 2 in each foot and 4 in the dragon, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 45v LYRA is reminiscent of a *bucranium*, but the wavy contours have lost much of their original significance. It has outward curling upper supports, somewhat like horns, and 8 strings attached to pegs at the top and coming to a point at the bridge. It has 1 star on the tip of each arm, 2 in the middle, 1 on each side of the shell, 1 on each shoulder, and 1 at the base or 9 stars in all. (**note**: there is a trimmed folio here, with writing on it, that forms part of the quire with ff. 43r-v.)
- fol. 46rCYGNUS stands in profile to the left with its very long neck bent so that the<br/>head is carried quite low. Its wings are raised above its back. There are 3 stars

in the right wing and 2 stars in the left wing, 1 in the head, 1 in the neck, 1 on the back and 1 in the tail, or 8 stars in all.

fol. 46v CEPHEUS sits in a low-backed throne on a cross-hatched pillow. He wears a crown and holds a plant vertically in his left hand. He wears a long robe and has a mantle fastened with a pin at his neck that falls over his shoulders. His arms are held out to either side. He has 2 stars in his crown, 1 above each shoulder, 3 in his waist, 1 in left knee, 3 in each foot, 1 on his right elbow, 1 in each hand and 1 on his throne (on the right side, below his arm), or 18 stars in all.

- fol. 47r CASSIOPEIA sits in a low-backed throne on a pillow. She wears a crown with a wimple underneath and a long robe with a mantle hanging over her shoulders and down along her body. She holds her hands out to either side, but her arms are bent at the elbows so they form a 'W'. She has 1 star in her head, 1 on each of the four corners of the seat of her throne, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in her right breast, 3 running from her belly to her groin in a straight line and 1 on right foot, or 12 stars in all.
- fol. 47v ANDROMEDA stands facing the viewer. She is nude to the waist with her pendulous breasts and ribs are detailed. She wears a long skirt that has a knotted belt at the waist. Her elbows are held out to her sides, with her forearms and hands hanging vertically downwards. There is a rope that runs horizontally at the level of her waist (but is not connected to anything) that knots around each wrist. Her head is exposed. She has 1 star in her head, 1 in each shoulder, 4 beneath her ribcage (above the girdle), 3 in the girdle (of which 1 is in the knot), 1 on each elbow, 1 on her left forearm, 1 on each hand, 1 on each knee, and 1 on each foot, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 48r **PERSEUS** stands facing the viewer, twisted slightly to the left. He wears a kneelength tunic and has a long cape pinned at his neck that falls to his ankles. He has wings on his head and on his boots. He holds a long pole with a curved hook (*harpe*) raised behind his head with his right hand and holds the snake-haired Medusa's head in his left hand down toward his left side. He has 1 star on each shoulder, 1 in each hand, 1 on his belly, 1 on his groin, 1 on his left thigh, 1 (?) in his right knee and 1 on his left knee, 1 on his left shin, 1 on his right foot and 4 in the Medusa's head, or 15 stars in all.

# fol. 48vThe PLEIADES are depicted as the busts of 7 women set within circular gold<br/>frames. All of their heads are covered, except for the central one. The whole

group is then framed within a double circular frame (the compass holes for al these frames are visible). Each has a star on her head.

The **HYADES** are also depicted as busts of 7 women set within circular gold frames. Their heads are all covered. The whole group is then framed within a double circular frame (the compass holes for all these frames are visible). Each has a star on her head.

- fol. 49v OPHIUCHUS stands within a rectangular frame facing the viewer, but slightly to the left. He is nude and holds the SERPENS in a complicated way. He holds its head up with his right hand (its head faces away from him), it then runs down his right side and crosses in front of his chest. Here, he holds its body with his left hand. It then curls around his left forearm and back, behinds his hips, and then around the front of his right thigh, passing between his legs and ending in back of his right thigh and foot. The Serpent-holder is bearded and has 1 star on his head, 1 each shoulder, 2 on his belly, 1 on his right thigh, 1 on each knee, 1 on each foot, 4 in his right hand and 3 on his left hand, or 17 stars in all. The Serpent has 2 stars on top of his head, 4 around the chin, 5 on the body below the first curve from the head, 6 in the middle of the body and 6 in the curve towards the tail, or 23 stars in all.
- fol. 50v AURIGA stands within a frame and faces the viewer, turned slightly to the right. He is nude except for a long mantle that is caught on his right shoulder in a knot and covers the left part of his chest and much of his left arm. He holds two small goats upraised in his right hand and, in his left hand, he holds a flail with three thongs upside-down. On his left shoulder, there is a goat's head with long gazelle-like horns in profile. He has 1 star in his head, 2 above his right shoulder, 1 in his right elbow, 2 in the right hand and 1 in is cape, or 7 stars in all.

**SAGITTA** is placed vertically along the left margin of the page and has its tip fol. facing towards the top and has 3 stars.

- fol. 51r AQUILA stands facing the left with his wings raised to either side. It has 1 star in its head, 1 in each wing and 1 in its tail, or 4 stars in all.
- fol. 51v **DELPHINUS** is a fat fish that swims to the left. It has 4 stars in its head, 1 on his back, 2 on his belly and 2 on its tail, or 9 stars in all.
- fol. 52r **PEGASUS** is a full-bodied, winged horse that leaps to the right and has large genitalia. It has 1 star in each ear, 4 in the mane on its neck, 1 on the wing close to its back, 1 on or near the shoulder, 1 in its chest, 1 on each front knee, and 1

on its belly, or at least 12 stars in all. It may have once had 2 on its nose, but only a brown smudge remains.

- fol. 52v TRIANGULUM is two, concentric gold triangles with a knotted vine decoration inside. It has 3 stars, 1 in each corner.
- fol. 53r ARIES (the chapter is labelled in red: De ariete) leaps to the left, but turns its head back to the right and looks upwards. He has tightly curled horns, a fleecy coat and a long tail. His body has red detailing and his horns are yellow. He has 5 stars in the head, 5 like a necklace around his neck, 4 in the belly, 1 on the right forefoot and 1 on the left hind foot, or 21 stars in all.
- fol. 53v **TAURUS** (the chapter is labelled in red: De tauro) is a full bull that trots to the left with his right forefoot bent under him. His muscles have been delineated in yellow and tan. He has 2 stars in each horn, 1 in its forehead, 1 above each eye, 3 on the back, 1 in the chest, 1 on each front knee and 1 on the right forefoot, or 14 stars in all.
- fol. 54r **GEMINI** (the chapter is labelled in red: De geminis) are depicted as two young men in knee-length tunics with leggings. They stand so closely together that their chests, bellies and thighs touch. They hold their head together and have their inner arms around each other's shoulder. The left Twin raises his hand in salutation and the right Twin points at him with his right hand. Their tunics and tights are green. The left Twin has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in the right elbow, 1 in each knee and 1 on each foot, or 8 stars in all. The right Twin has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 2 on the chest, 1 in the left elbow, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 10 stars in all. There may be an additional star in or below the left foot (Propus).
- fol. 54v CANCER (the chapter is labelled in red: De cancro) is a lumpy oval-bodied creature with a smiling lion's face and a decorated backbone. It has 4 muscular claws on each side and a pronounced anus. It has 1 star on its mouth, 2 on its head, 3 stars in its right front claw, 2 in its left front claw, 1 on each of the three right legs, 2 on the first left leg, 1 on the other two left legs, or 15 stars in all.
- fol. 55r LEO (the chapter is labelled in red: De signo leonis) stands to the left with its mouth open and its tail curled between its legs. His face and body are redorange. It has 3 stars in its head, 2 on the neck, 3 on the shoulder, 1 on the chest, 1 on the right forefoot, 1 in the left haunche, 1 in the left hind leg and 2 in the tail, or 14 stars in all.

- fol. 55v VIRGO (the chapter is labelled in red: De virgine) stands facing the viewer dressed in a long yellow robe with a yellow hooded mantle over her head. She raises her right hand in a gesture of salutation and holds a palm frond in front of her chest with her left hand. She has no wings. There 1 star in her head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in each hand, 2 in each sleeve, 5 on her skirt and 1 on each foot, or 16 stars in all.
- fol. 56r SCORPIO (the chapter is labelled in red: De signo ljBRE and de scorpione) is placed so that his head faces the top of the page. He has two human arms instead of claws and a lion's face. His body has blue highlights and his scales are green. He has 4 legs on each side, 2 tapering bits behind his rearmost legs, a decorative band at the beginning of his tapering tail. He holds the Scales in his front hands with the pans coming towards his head. He has 1 star in each hand, 3 in his head, 7 on his back, and 7 on his tail, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 57r SAGITTARIUS (the chapter is labelled in red: DE SIGNI sagitarii) prances to the left. He wears a tight-fitting shirt on is human half. He also has a long cloak that flutters out behind him to the right. All of him (except his hair) is marked with orange-red highlights. He holds the bow in his right hand and pulls the string with his left. He has 2 stars in the head, 2 in his left shoulder, 1 on the right elbow, 1 on his right hand, 2 in the bow, 1 in the arrow, 1 on his belly, 1 on each front knee, 1 on each front hoof and 1 on his tail, or 15 stars in all.
- fol. 57v CAPRICORN faces to the left with both feet extended in front of him. He has smooth, curved horns and a beard. There is a decorative band separating his two halves and his posterior part is shaped like a fish. He has yellow highlights throughout. He has 2 stars on the nose, 6 in the neck, 2 on the chest, 5 on the belly, 2 at the end of the tail and 2 on the right front foot, or 19 stars in all.
- fol. 58r AQUARIUS stands facing the viewer, lunging slightly to the left, but looking to the right. He has long hair and his torso is nude. He has a large belt around his waist decorated with circlets and wears a drape covering his hips. He holds the vase with two spouts in front of him, resting his right hand on its base and his left hand on its neck. It pours water to the right, which then snakes back in front of his left shin and wraps itself around his right foot. His skirt is green and the water is green with a gold stripe. He has 1 star in his head, 1 in his hair, 1 on each shoulder, 4 on his chest, 1 on his right hand, 3 on his lap, and 1 on his left foot, or 13 stars in all.

- fol. 58v **PISCES** (the chapter is labelled in red: DE PISCIBUS) are swimming in opposite directions with their bellies together. They are painted with blue details. They are connected at the mouth with a cord. There are 14 stars in the top fish, 12 in the cord and 12 on the bottom fish, or 38 stars in all.
- fol. 62v ORION stands facing the viewer and turned slightly to the right. He is dressed a knee-length robe with a long mantle that is pinned at his right shoulder. He raises a knobbly plant/club with his right hand and holds a long sword above his head with his right hand. He has a scabbard at his waist that swings out in front of him. He has 3 stars in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in his right elbow, 1 in his right hand, 3 at his waist, 3 in the scabbard of the sword (the one closest to the top has lost its gold), 1 in each knee and 1 in each foot, or 17 stars in all.
- fol. 63rLEPUS leaps upwards to the right. He has 1 star in each ears, 2 in his body, 1 in<br/>each hind foot and 1 on his tail, or 7 stars in all.

**CANIS MAIOR** (the chapter is labelled in red: De canicula) leaps to the right. His mouth is open and he has a loose collar with a hanging 'dog tag' on it. He has 1 star in his mouth, 1 on his forehead, 1 in each ear, 3 on his back, 2 in his chest, 3 on his left forefoot and 1 on his right forefoot, 1 on his groin, 1 in his right hind foot and 4 on his tail, or 19 stars in all.

- fol. 63v CANIS MINOR (the chapter is labelled in red: de anticane) is placed vertically on the page and has its mouth open. It has 3 stars on it belly.
- fol. 64r ARGO (the chapter is labelled in red: de argo) is half a ship whose timbers have clearly been cut half-way through the hull at the right side. It has a mast with a full sail and a rope between the mast and the stern. There are 2 steering oars. It has 3 stars on the mast, 5 on the deck, 5 in one oar, 4 in the other oar and 4 along the keel, or 21 stars in all.
- fol. 64v ERIDANUS (the chapter is labelled in red: de eridano ) stands to the right with his knees slightly bent. He is nude to his waist, but has a wide belt on his hips decorated with circlets and a long drape around his lower half. He holds the upturned urn with a square pattern in front of his chest, holding the base with his right hand and the neck with his left. It pours water in front of him, which then flows back under his left and then his right foot. Eridanus has 3 stars in his urn and 11 (3+3+5) in the water, or 14 stars in all. Below his left foot, there is a large star-shaped star, which is not labelled.

- fol. 65r CENTAURUS (the chapter is labelled in red: de centauro) walks to the left with his right foreleg raised. He is bearded and his human part is nude, except for an animal-skin cloak (complete with head and two front legs) that flows from his shoulders to the right. His two halves have a decorative band separating them. He holds a *thyrsus* with red highlights in his left hand so that it rests on his shoulder and holds an upside-down LUPUS (a rabbit) extended in front of him by its heels in his right hand. He has 3 stars in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 2 on his belly, 1 on his left elbow, 1 on his left hand, 1 in the horse's chest , 1 in each foreleg, 1 on the horse's haunch, 2 on each hind leg and 3 in the tail. There are 3 additional stars in the animal skin/cape, making a total of 23 stars in all. Lupus has 2 in its hind legs, 3 on its back and 3 on its head, or 8 stars in all. Together, there are 30 stars.
- fol. 65v **CETUS** (the chapter is labelled in red: de ceto) is a very fat fish with tusks coming from his lower jaw and he swims to the right. He has 6 stars below his belly, 5 on his back, 2 at the end of the tail, or 13 stars in all.
- fol. 66r**PISCIS AUSTRINUS** (the chapter is labelled in red: de pisce nothio) is a fat fish<br/>that swims to the left. It has 12 stars.

**ARA** (not labelled and missing its capital letter) is a platform with 3 uprights (candles ?) which are covered by a piece of cloth. It has 4 stars.

fol. 67r HYDRA (not labelled and missing its capital letter) is a 7-headed dragon (one head is larger than the other six) with a long dragon's body. It has a lumpy back and two clawed feet.

**CRATER** is a two-handled pot that rests on Hydra's back and **CORVUS** faces to the front, standing of Hydra's tail. HYDRA has 3 stars in his heads, 3 below his head and 19 stars along its body, or 25 stars in all. CRATER has 8 stars and CORVUS has 7 stars. There is a depiction of a large star accompanying the section on 'De COMETIS (in red)' at the bottom of the page.

<u>notes</u>

i (paper)+ ii-v (vellum) + 80 + i vellum; fol. iir: 'De Sphaera' in sepia; fol. iv r: numerous signatures of Robert Coxhill and his motto: 'qui ne ay ne peult';

Saxl (p. 346) says that even though this is the inc. for the *Excerptum de Astrologia Arati* (Maass, pp. 309-12), the following text is actually the compilation, which for the most part is taken from Books II and III of Hyginus with use of the *scholia Strozziana* and *Sangermanensia*. The text on comets that follows this is from Isidore, *Etym.*, III, 71, 16-17.

### recheck text here. ff 43r-67r.

A quick check shows that this is not the case, but that it is actually the entries from Books II and III for each constellations running one after the other. Such as one sees in **BL**, **Arundel 339**. Nevertheless, the pictures and positions of the stars are almost identical to **Oxford Bodley 614**.

To check: this is the incipit and explicit from other *recensio* on the zodiac:

inc.: fol. 18r	Sciendum itaque est Deum in ipso fermamento xii. domicilia que
	signa
expl.: fol. 22r	Coniunctio eorum habet omnino stellas . xii. secundum modum
	prenotatum.

And from the section on constellations:

- inc.: fol. 23v De involutione spere. Duo igitur sunt extremi vertices mundi quos polos appellavimus.... (short paragraphs on the constellations, taken from Hyginus, the *scholia Sangermanensia*, Isidore, *Etymologia* and William of Conches; cf. Saxl-Meier III 1953, 1, p. 315 and comments, below.)
- expl.: fol. 34r ... ad voluntatem creatoris ad aliquid designandum accensus. His signis siderum notatis. si plura videas. vitio scriptoris deputa. caveat itaque omnis cui forte huius opusculi de dyserum ratione figurati modum transformare placuerit. ne quicquam horum signorum aliter quam hic continetur depingat. nec punctos stellarum extra prenotata loca disponat. quia in singulas notis figurarumque distinctionibus et formis. subtilis continetur intellectus. Sola vero brevitatis causa eorundem signorum formaturę stellarum que

determinata loca hic scriptis nominatim non distinguuntur. (cf. Saxl-Meier III 1953, 1, p. 315)

### <u>bibliography</u>

MILLÀS VALLICROSA 1931, I, pp. 259ff and pl. 20 (ff. 44v-45r).

VAN DE VYVER 1936, p. 69.

Hyginus comp.

SAXL-MEIER III 1953, 1, pp. 345-46.

mid-12th century, English, parchment, 76 ff, 20.9 x 14.3; with coats of arms of Kenhelm Digby and his motto 'Vidica to tibi'; noting that similar texts appear in Breslau, Uni.-Bibl. Ac. IV. oct. 11 (11th c); Erfurt, Stadtbücherei, Ampl. Q. 23 (12th c) and Hannover, IV. 394 (13th c)

SAXL 1957 (Lectures), I, pp. 99 ff, 108 ff.

p. 99: 'Harley 647 is a ms purely classical character which was brought over from France' it was copied into Cotton Tib BV; Cotton Tib C I, Harley 2506, Bodley 614 and Digby 83; (p. 108) written and illuminated in the 1st half of the 12th c both it and Digby 83 (in the neighbourhood of Winchester about 1150) preserve modernised versions of Cicero, but also both have the information on the missing constellations taken from Hyginus (he illustrates Walters W 734), and at the end, the author 'says explicitly that these images are not to be drawn indiscriminately as they indicate certain positions of the stars in the sky and should therefore be carefully copied'. Text is a new concoction of several sources, mainly from Hyginus; contains some passages from William of Conches; impressed with the new discoveries in Spain that passed via France, centralised in Chartres (where William taught); (p. 109) in Digby 83, the material is better arranged and the chapters that precede the constellation are entirely new and untraditional with mention of Arabic names of the 28 lunar mansions; Hebrew and Arabic names of the planets; and a reference to astrological theory; illustrations are more refined than Bodley 614, but pretty conventional throughout; the new parts are not illustrated at all; he says this marks an end point of the great classical tradition, which began at the monastic reform.

ENGLISH ROMANESQUE ILLUMINATION 1951, pl. 11

ROMANESQUE ART, C. 1050-1200 [exh Manchester City Art Gallery] 1959, no. 24.

DESTOMBES 1964, no 25.

McGURK IV 1966, p. xxiii.

with Bodley 614, shows variation in the conformism of Hyginus illustrations, but text they accompany are only partly from Hyginus.

EVANS 1969, pl. 65.

PÄCHT and AEXANDER 1970, III, p. 22, no 196.

British; third quarter,12th century; partly coloured drawings; same model as Bodley 614; provenance = Robert Colshill in the 15 century, fol. 1