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Ms C.CCLI

Basinio da Parma, *Astronomicon*

Italian

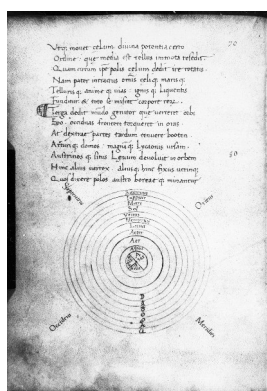
second half 15th century/ after 1513

text

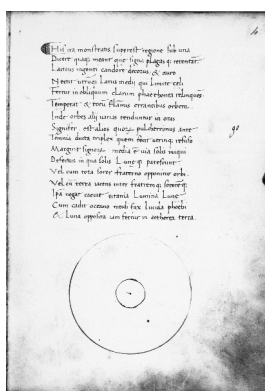
ff. 1r-29v Basinio da Parma, *Astronomicon*
(note: Since McGurk's examination, the pages have been re-paginated in pencil beneath the verse. The newer, pencil pagination is used in this description.)

ff. 1r-29v BASINII PARMENSIS ASTRONOMICON
LIBER PRIMUS.
[H]ETHERIOS ORBIS subiectaque templa deorum —
Templa cano atque vias semper volventis olympi. Τελος

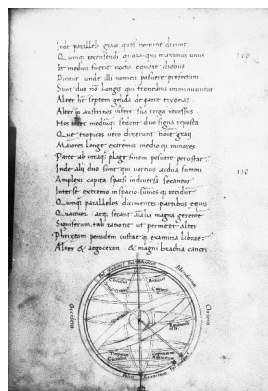
illustrations



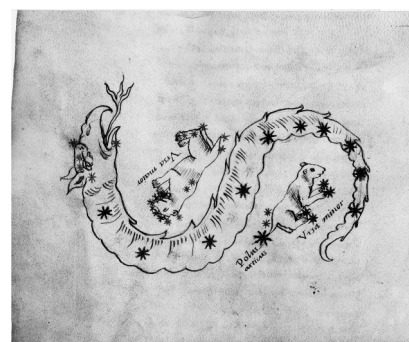
fol. 2v



fol. 3r



fol. 3v



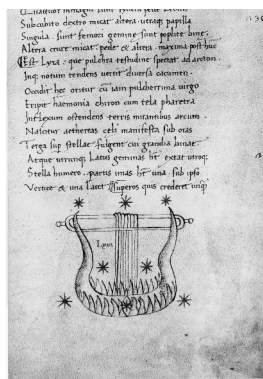
fol. 5v



fol. 6r



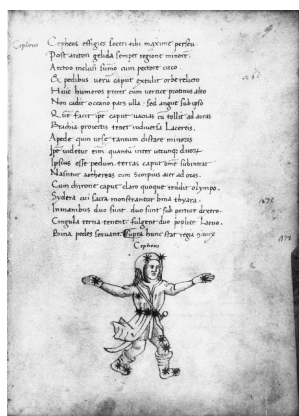
fol. 6v



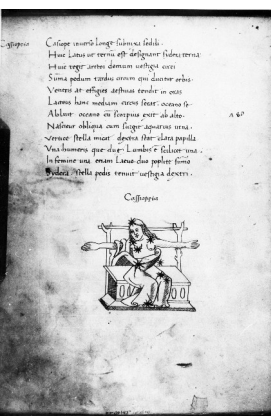
fol. 7r



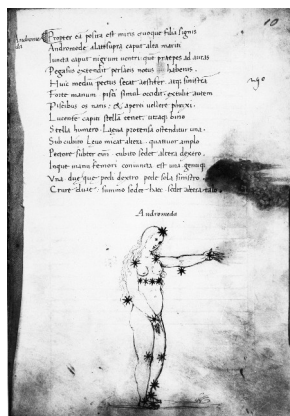
fol. 7v



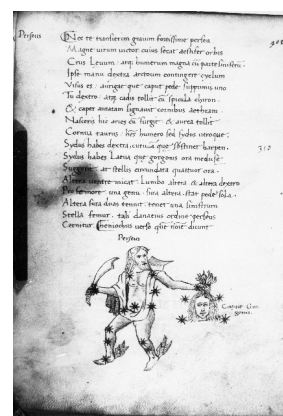
fol. 8r



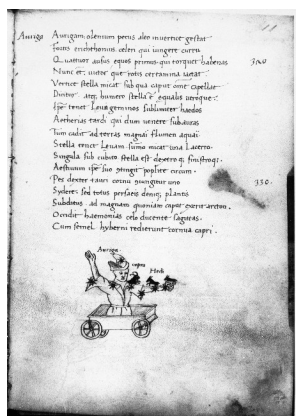
fol. 8v



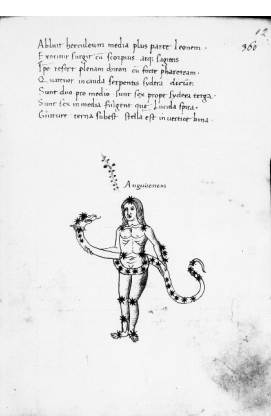
fol. 9r



fol. 9v



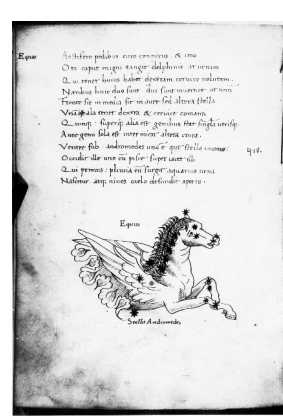
fol. 10r



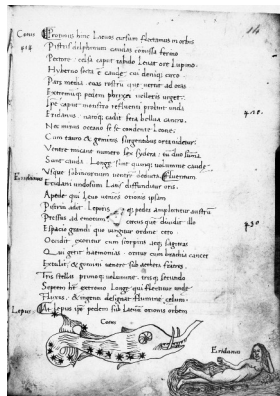
fol. 11r



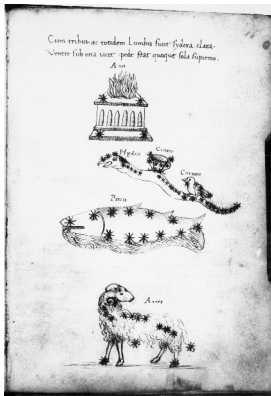
fol. 12r



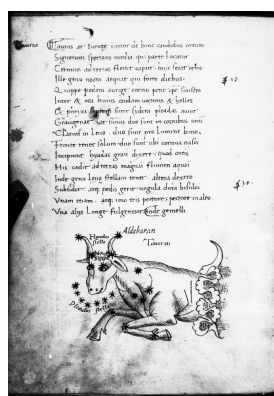
fol. 12v



fol. 13r



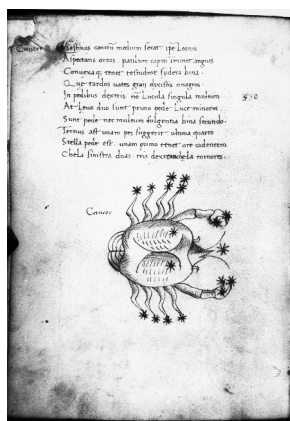
fol. 15r



fol. 15v



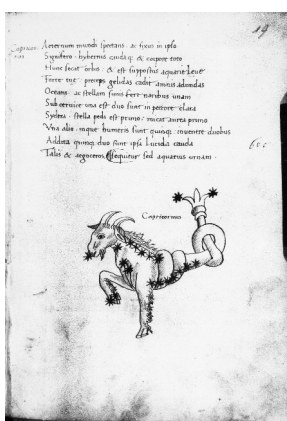
fol. 16r



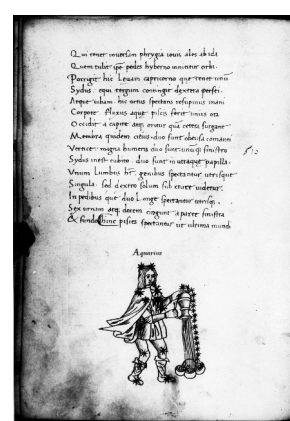
fol. 16v



fol. 17v



fol. 18r



fol. 18v



fol. 19v

- fol. 2v A diagram of the concentric circles of the spheres with T-map of the earth at the centre and 'Saturnus' at the outermost layer
- fol. 3r An incomplete diagram of 2 concentric circles.
- fol. 3v Drawing of an armillary sphere
- ff. 5v-18v Illustrations of 34 constellations in dark brown ink with the stars marked in gold. The folii containing the illustrations of LEPUS, ORION, CANIS MAIOR, CANIS MINOR, ARGO and CENTAURUS are missing, so the illustrations jump from PEGASUS (fol. 12v) to CETUS (fol. 13r) TRIANGULUM is missing and the folio with SCORPIO (presumably holding the Scales), SAGITTARIUS (with SAGITTA and CORONA AUSTRINUS?) is also missing.

The figures are accompanied by Latin labels. Labels have been added to a few of the stars: Polus articus in *Draco inter arctos*, Arcturus on Bootes, Caput gorgonis in Perseus, Capra and hedi, Stella Andromedes in Pegasus, Hyades, Aldebaran and Pleiades in Taurus and nodus celestis in Pisces.

The drawings are done in two different styles: HERCULES, ANDROMEDA, ARIES, GEMINI, LEO and PISCES are in one fine hand and the rest are in a coarser hand, with these latter drawings having been copied from the Hyginus, *De astronomia* edition printed by Jacobus Paucidrapius de Burgofranco in Venice in 1513.

- fol. 5v **DRACO INTER ARCTOS** with **DRACO** shaped like an 'S' and with a dragon's head towards the right. **URSA MAIOR** and **MINOR** are back-to-back, facing into the body of the Snake. **DRACO** has 2 stars in the eyes, 1 on the jaw, 2 on the head and 10 along the body, or 15 stars in all. **URSA MAIOR** (labelled: Ursa maior) has 8 stars around the head, 2 on the shoulder, 2 on the tail and 3 on the right hind leg, or 15 stars in all. **URSA MINOR** (labelled: Ursa minor) has 3 on the tail (one labelled: Polus articus) and 1 in each foot, or 7 stars in all.
- fol. 6r **BOOTES** (labelled: Bootes) walks to the left, but looks over his shoulder to the right. He is carrying a sickle in his right hand and a spear in his left. He is dressed like a peasant, with a wide-brimmed hat, a short coat, short boots, leggings, and a pouch at his left side. He has 1 star in the hat, 1 on each shoulder, 3 on the chest, 1 at the waist (labelled: Arcturus), 1 on his right elbow, 1 on each foot and 4 on the spear, or 14 stars in all.
- CORONA BOREALIS** (labelled: Corona) is depicted as a crown with 9 stars along the head-band.
- fol. 6v **HERCULES** (labelled: Hercules) is nude and kneels toward the left. He faces away from the viewer and is bearded. Covering his left arm, there is a lion's skin with a face, 2 legs and a tail visible. In his right hand, he raises a club. He has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 2 along the back, 1 in each elbow, 1 in the right knee, 1 in the right calf, 1 in the right foot, 1 on the left hand and 4 in the lion's skin, or 15 stars in all.
- fol. 7r **LYRA** (labelled: Lyra) is shaped like a harp with the supports shaped like bull's horns and the sounding board looking like stylised flames. There are 7 strings connecting the cross-bar to the bottom. There are 8 stars.
- fol. 7v **CYGNUS** (labelled: Olor) stands facing the left with its head lowered, a long tongue sticking out and its wings raised. It has 1 star in the head, 1 in the neck, 5 in each wing and 1 on the tail, or 13 stars in all.
- fol. 8r **CEPHEUS** (labelled: Cepheus) stands facing the viewer, walking to the right, with his arms stretched straight out to the side, with a close-fitting cap on his

head and a sword held at his left hip. He has 2 stars in the head, 1 on the chest, 3 at the waist, 2 in the left knee, 1 in each hand and 2 on each foot, or 14 stars in all.

- fol. 8v **CASSIOPEIA** (labelled Cassiopēia) is depicted seated on throne with a stick-top with her hand held out horizontally to the sides. She is nude to the waist and her long hair is also exposed. She inclines her head to the left. She has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in the right breast, 2 at the waist, 2 on her left knee and 1 on her right foot, or 9 stars in all.
- fol. 9r **ANDROMEDA** (labelled: Andromeda) is nude and stands to the right. Her long hair falls to her waist. She extends her left hand in front of her and holds her right hand in a *pudica* gesture. She has 1 star in the head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 in each elbow, 1 in each hand, 4 across the chest, 1 in each knee and 2 in each foot, or 17 stars in all.
- fol. 9v **PERSEUS** (labelled: Perseus) is nude, except for a mantle thrown across his shoulder. He walks to the left, but turns his bearded head backwards to the right. He has a shaped shield hanging from his left shoulder and wings on his feet. He holds the Medusa's head (labelled: Caput Gorgonis) by its hair in his extended left hand and holds a scimitar in his raised right hand. He has 1 star on each shoulder, 1 at the waist, 3 across the hips, 1 on each hand, 1 on each knee, 1 on each shin, 1 on the right foot and 4 in the Medusa's head, or 17 stars in all.
- fol. 10r **AURIGA** (labelled: Auriga) is standing in a square cart to the right so that nothing shows beneath his hips. He raises his right hand in the air. He has a softly pointed cap and bell sleeves on his tunic, and is carrying Capra (labelled: capra) on his left shoulder and the Haedi (labelled: Hedi) on the wrist of his rein-holding hand. He has 1 star on the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on each elbow and 2 in the left hand, or 7 stars in all.
- fol. 11r **OPHIUCHUS** (labelled: Anguitenens) is nude, faces towards the viewer. He holds the **SERPENS** in a horizontal position, and it is wrapped so that it crosses behind his back and scoops in front of his genitals. Serpens's head is to the left and faces the man. OPHIUCHUS has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 3 in the left hand, 2 at the waist, 1 on each knee, 1 on the right shin, and 1 on each foot, or 12 stars in all. SERPENS has 5 in the head and 18 in the body, or 23 stars in all.
- fol. 12r **SAGITTA** (labelled: Sagitta) points to the right and has 4 arrows.

AQUILA (labelled: Aquila) faces to the right, but turns his head backwards over his shoulder to the left. His wings are outstretched to either side. He has 1 star in the head, 1 in each wing and 1 in the tail, or 4 stars in all.

DELPHINUS (labelled: Delphin) is a fish with a curved snout swimming to the left. It has 4 stars in the face, 1 on the back, 2 on the belly and 2 on the tail, or 9 stars in all.

fol. 12v **PEGASUS** (labelled: Equus) is depicted as half a winged horse flying to the right with its body ending in clouds. Its front legs are crossed at the ankles. It has 2 stars on the nose, 2 on the face, 1 on each ear, 4 on the neck, 1 on the back, 1 on the wing, 2 on each front knee and 1 on the belly (labelled: Stella Andromedes), or 17 stars in all.

fol. 13r **CETUS** (labelled: Cetus) is a fish that swims to the right with an elephant's trunk for a nose and a nautilus shell for an eye. It has tusks rising from its lower jaw and its tail ends in a curl. It has 6 stars in the belly, 5 in the tail and 2 at the end of the tail or 13 stars in all.

ERIDANUS is a nude male figure, lying belly down in a river, with his head towards the right, but he is turning to look back to the left. He leans his head on his right hand and raising his left arm behind him. He has 13 stars in the water.

fol. 15r **ARA** (labelled Ara) is a square structure with steps and an arcaded front. There are flames coming from the top. There are 4 stars.

HYDRA (labelled Hydra) is a snake with a pointed beak that is set diagonally (but the tree has disappeared).

CRATER (labelled: Crater) is a two-handled cup placed on its back.

CORVUS (labelled: Corvus) is a bird that faces to the front of the Snake. HYDRA has 3 stars in the head and around 17 stars in the body. CRATER has 2 stars on the rim, 4 in the body and 2 in the handles, or 8 stars in all. CORVUS has 5 stars in the body and 2 on the feet, or 7 stars in all.

PISCIS AUSTRINUS (labelled: Piscis) is a large fish set in the water, swimming to the left. Water gushes forth from its mouth. The fish has 12 stars.

ARIES (labelled: Aries) walks to the left, but turns its head back to the right. It has very shaggy fleece. It has 1 star on the head, 3 on the horns, 3 on the neck, 4 on the back, 3 on the flank, 1 on the belly, 1 on the right front foot, 1 on the left hind foot and 1 in the tail, or 18 stars in all.

- fol. 15v **TAURUS** (labelled: Taurus) is depicted as half a bull facing to the left, with his right hoof extended and his left hoof tucked under. He ends in clouds. He has 1 star on each horn (labelled: Hyades stelle and Aldebaran), 2 on the forehead, 1 in each eye, an arc of 7 in front of his nose (labelled: Pleades stelle), 4 on his neck, 1 on each knee and 1 in the left hoof, or 20 stars in all.
- fol. 16r **GEMINI** (labelled: Gemini) are depicted as two nude males. They stand facing each other with their inner arms crossed so they have their hands on each other's shoulders and their outer arms down by their sides. The left Twin has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his right hand, 1 on each knee, 1 on the right foot and 2 on the left foot, or 9 stars in all. The right Twin has 1 on the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the right elbow, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 7 stars in all.
- fol. 16v **CANCER** (labelled: Cancer) is round-bodied and faces the right, with 2 claws and 8 legs. It has 1 star on the nose, 2 on the shell, 2 on the left claw and 3 on the right claw and 6 on the top claws and 4 on the bottom claws, or 18 stars in all.
- fol. 17v **LEO** (labelled: Leo) stands facing to the left with his head turned back to the right. His tail runs between his legs and rises above his back. He has 3 stars in the head, 2 on the neck, 2 on the chest, 4 on the torso and 2 on the belly, 1 on the right front foot, 1 on the left hind leg, 1 on the left hind foot and 2 on the tail, or 18 stars in all.
- VIRGO** (labelled: Virgo) is winged and stands to the left, wearing a long robe. She holds a plant in her right hand and a caduceus in her left hand. She has 1 star in her head, 2 on each wing, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in each hand and 6 across her knees, or 14 stars in all.
- fol. 18r **CAPRICORN** (labelled: Capricornus) faces to the left and stands on his left leg with his right leg tucked under. His tail is knotted and ends in a trefoil. It has 1 star on the nose, 1 on the neck, 2 on the chest, 5 along the back, 2 in the right hoof, 7 on the belly and 2 at the end of the tail, or 20 stars in all.

- fol. 18v **AQUARIUS** (labelled: Aquarius) stands to the right, wearing a short tunic and a short cape that billows out behind him. He holds a ewer in both his hands in front of him and the water from it pours into a lobed, flat dish. He has 2 stars in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on each nipple, 1 on the left elbow, 1 on each knee, 1 on the right shin and 1 on each foot, or 12 stars. There are 16 stars in the urn and stream.
- fol. 19v **PISCES** (labelled: Pisces) swim in opposite directions, belly-to-belly, with their mouths connected by a line. The string is labelled: Nodus celestis. There are 12 stars in the top fish; 12 in the cord and 17 in the bottom fish, or 31 stars in all.

notes

i paper + i vellum + 29 + i vellum; 21.5. x 14.5; the text is written in grey script and paginated in pencil at the bottom of the verse. Incipit in black ink. The knot on opening folio design looks much later. Paper scored into 25 lines with double scored vertical line at outside margin.

The same hand that has written the labels on the constellations appears to have added labels in Latin and line numbers in the margins alongside the text. There are also some Greek words in the margins (see ff. 23v and 29r).

Illustrations by two different hands. See LIPPINCOTT 2006, pp. 21-23. The first hand is the original one and demonstrates a fine and easy renaissance style with parallel shading and the figures standing on a ground line = ANDROMEDA and GEMINI. The second hand must postdate 1513 as pictures are copied directly from 1513 Paucidrapius edition of Hyginus. This is the only Basinio manuscript not to coincide with Hyginus family of illustrations that have Aries *infra Triangulum*.

On the guard sheet f. i v a hand of the eighteenth century notes the acquisition by Angelo Maria Bandini for the library in 1772: "Aere Biblioth. Publicae Maruc/. Aug. Mar. Bandinius". The ms was used by DRUDI for his edn of 1794 (see CHISENA 2017, pp. 43-46).

bibliography

A. M. BANDINIUS, *Catalogus codicum Latinorum Bibliothecae Mediceae Laurentianae*, Florentiae 1775, II, pp. 117-123.

DRUDI, *Opera Praest.*, pp. IV-V.

SOLDATI 1956, p. 84, n. 1.

membranaceo con figure

McGURK IV, 1966, p. 29.

2nd half XVc, humanist cursive; 30 ff, 210-147; text = 2r-30v; drawings = 6v-20v.

ANGELI 1986, p. 93.

A. GARCÍA AVILÈS, *Arte y astrología en Salamanca a finales del Siglo XV*, *Anuario del Departamento de Historia y Teoría del Arte*, vol. IV, 1994, pp. 53-55.

Cimeli marucelliani: Biblioteca Marucelliana, Firenze, 14 aprile- 31 maggio 1997, ed. M. M. Angeli, Florence 1997, pp. 4-5.

ŚNIEŻYŃSKA-STOLOT 1994, p. 65.

MARIANI CANOVA 1994, p. 207.

ANGELI 1999, p. 180 and plate IV (fol. 15v-16r, Taurus, Gemini).

FRIOLI 2006, pp. 260. 267. 278.

LIPPINCOTT 2006, pp 21-23.

CHISENA 2017, pp. 43-46.

BLUME/HAFFNER/ METZGER 2017, cat 106, pp. 100 and 695-700.

Neat humanist miniscule with only minor textual corrections; the spaces for pictures are at the bottom of the pages throughout; note that broad pen strokes resemble woodcut technique; fol. 30r: erased ownership entry as a drawn label rolling at the ends, under a quartz lamp: »LODO V(ICH)V VE/SE CASUO PLETIS.«