

Vienna

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**Vindob 2352**Michael Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi (De noticia ordinum stellarum)*

Alfonsine Tables

Canones tabularum

Prague

1392-93

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**text**

- ff. 1r-31v Michael Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi*
- ff. 1r-4v De noticia ordinum stellarum fixarum celi seu ymaginum 48 que a philosophis veraciter dinoscuntur .... non simul omnes et eadem hora. Phylosophi quidam multis experimentis noverunt celum esse stallatum ordinabiliter – secundum quod nobis melius videbitur insignire. (= M. Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi*, ed. ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 106-28.)
- ff. 4v-26r De noticia doctrine qua insinuaturo quando unum quodque signum de numero 12 oritur et occidit ... in omni parte mundi. Omnes ymagines numero 48 totum celum comprehendunt – in tela sunt due et hec est forma sui in aspectus celo. (= M. Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi*, ed. ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 130-251.)
- ff. 26r-31v De noticia figuracionis planetarum prout pinguntur. Luminaria firmamenti sunt multa – et aves dirune odiunt nocturnas ut patet in nocticorace, etc. (= M. Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi*, ed. ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 252-281.)
- ff. 32r-33v blank

ff. 34r-51r	Incipiunt canones thabularum Alfoncii regis. Tempus est mensura motis — sicut in coniunccionibus planetarum ut dictum est infra, etc. (= explanation of Alphonsine Tables by Johannes Dank)
ff. 51v-52v	Section on the seven planets and the winds
ff. 53r-80v	Tabule illustris regis Alfoncii
ff. 81r-83r	blank
fol. 83v	Tabulae in a later hand (ascribed to Haller, see provenance notes below)
ff. 84r-95r	Geomantic texts attributed to ps. Socrates Basileus
ff. 95r-96v	Onomatomania
ff. 97r-98v	blank
fol. 99r	Astronomical rota
fol. 99v	blank
ff. 100r-101v	Nomina stellarum fixarum 1e et 2e magnitudinis (with indications that the current year is 1357 re: differences from Alfonso X el Sabio)
fol. 101v	magical prayers
ff. 102v-103r	blank

for additional information about the contents, see ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 534-37 and BLUME — HAFFNER — METZGER 2016, II, i, pp. 215-20 (no. 13).

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## illustrations



fol. 1r

fol. 1r Frontispiece with the opening initial containing an image of two astronomers seated within a wooden stall on a dais. On the left, one is dressed in blue with a fur-lined hood and pink shoes and is raising his left hand to the heavens and holding an astronomical quadrant in his right hand. The astronomer on the right is dressed in a pink robe with a green reverse visible at the neck, sleeves and lower hem and with blue shoes. He raises his hands in amazement as he looks at the quadrant below him. Between the two, there is a slate with the numbers '1393' written on it, a probable reference to the date of the manuscript.



fol. 7r

fol. 7r **ARIES** walks to the left, but turns his head back to the right. He has curved horns, long curly wool and holds his short tail out straight behind him. His right front hoof is raised to hold the end of a staff that rests on his back and which ends in a cross. The ram turns to the right to look up at the cross. He is set within a blue frame with a black background, covered with silver diaper pattern. He has 1 star in each horn, 1 on the forehead, 3 in the nose, 2 in the neck, 4 on the back, 1 on the tail, 3 on the belly, and 1 on each foot, or 20 stars in all.



fol. 7v

fol. 7v **TAURUS** is half a tan bull and faces to the left. His cut-off is behind his belly as is red. His right front foot is slightly extended as if taking a step. He has short horns. He is set within a lavender frame, against a black background covered with silver filigree. There is 1 star in each horn, 3 on the face, 1 on the neck, 5 along the back, 1 on the chest, 1 on the right upper foreleg, 1 on each knee, 1 in the right front hoof, 1 on the left front foot, 8 on the cut-off, or 24 stars in all.



fol. 8r



fol. 8v



fol. 9r

fol. 8v **GEMINI** are depicted as 2 male (?) nudes with very large wings (green on the left and lavender on the right). They turn to face each other, as if walking to meet each other, and reach out with their inner arms so that they cross at the elbow. The left Twin holds a curved stick downwards in his/her right hand and the right Twin holds a harp at waist height in his left hand. They are both blonde and the right Twin has a halo. They are set within a blue frame against a black background with a silver diaper pattern. The left Twin has 1 star on the head and 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the right elbow, 1 on the right hand, hand, 1 on each knee, 1 on each foot, or 9 stars in all. The right Twin has 1 star on his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the left knee, 1 on each foot, 1 on the left hand under the harp, and 2 on the harp or 9 stars in all

fol. 8v **CANCER** is a red-orange crab, placed so that it faces to the top of the page with its back to the viewer. It has 2 large front claws and 4 curved legs with smaller claws on either side. It is set within a green frame against a black background. It has 1 star on each antenna, 3 on the nose, 2 on the back, 8 on the smaller legs, and 3 behind the tail, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 9r **LEO** stands to the left in profile, with his head slightly towards the viewer. He is set within a green frame against a lavender background with silver filigree. He has 3 stars on his forehead and 1 on the mouth, 2 on the neck, 3 on the back, 1 on the right front foot, 2 on the left front knee, 3 on the belly, 1 in the right hind knee and 1 on the left hind foot, 1 in the middle of the tail and 1 at the tip, or 19 stars in all.

**VIRGO** stands facing the viewer towards the left, with long blue wings. She has a long, close-blue dress, which is caught at the waist and has close-fitting long blue sleeves and 4 stripes along the hem. She has a long green cloak with an ermine reverse. Her hair is loose. She holds a branch with 3 leafy twigs upraised in her right hand and a caduceus vertically in her left. She is set within a lavender frame against a black background with lavender filigree. She has 1 star on her head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the each elbow, 1 on the left hand, 1 above

the right hand, 2 in the right wing, 2 at the top of the caduceus, 6 in the border of her dress, and 1 in each foot, or 19 stars in all.



fol. 9v



fol. 10r



fol. 10v

fol. 9v **LIBRA** is depicted as a male figure with blonde hair and a blonde beard, wearing a long, loose pink robe. He holds the Scales with his right hand. He rests his left hand near his hip. He is set within a blue frame against a black background decorated with wing (?) motifs in silver. He has 1 star at his right hand, 1 at the middle of the beam and 1 at each end, and 1 in each pan, or 6 stars in all.

**SCORPIO** faces to the left with a pointed snout. It has a long, smooth body with two larger front claws, and 3 smaller legs with claws along each side. The tail is segmented and ends in a sting. He has 2 stars in front of his nose, 2 in front of his eyes, 1 in each large claw, 3 on his back, 2 on the bottom side behind the bottom legs, 5 in the tail and 2 in the sting or 18 stars in all.

fol. 10r **SAGITTARIUS** is a centaur that gallops to the left. There are prominent black horns on his head, he is bearded and he wears a long lion-skin cape (with feet and tail visible) flowing from his shoulders. His human half wears an orange shirt and he holds the golden bow with his left hand, pulling the white string with his right hand. The **SAGITTA** between his front and hind feet points to the left. There is no frame and he is set against a lavender background with gold filigree. He has 2 stars in the horns, 1 in the left elbow of the lion's skin, 2 in the tip of the arrow, 1 in the feather of the arrow and 2 on the bow, 2 on his haunch, 1 on each front knee, 1 on the belly and 2 beneath the tail, or 15 stars in all. The **SAGITTA** has 1 star in the tip, 1 in the shaft and 2 in the feathers, or 4 stars in all.

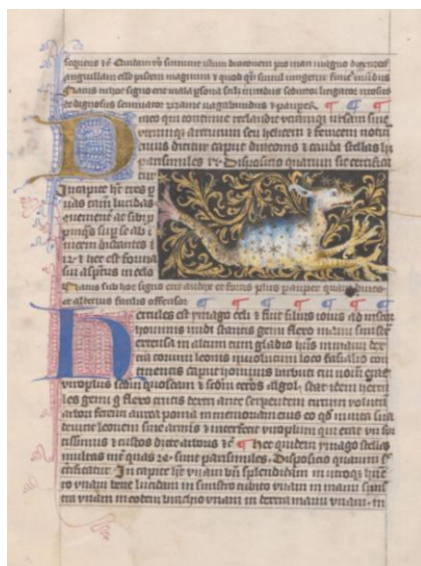
**CAPRICORN** has long curved and segmented white horns and faces to the left. The hind section is set within a blue-grey casing, with bands marking the join. He is set within a green frame against a black background with gold filigree. It has 1 star on the nose and 1 on the chin, 2 in the forehead, 3 on the right horn and 1 on the left, 1 on each front foot, 7 along the top of the body, 5 along the belly, 1 in the middle of the tail and 2 at the end of the tail, or 25 stars in all.

fol. 10v **AQUARIUS** is dressed in a green short tunic with full sleeves, gathered at the wrists, and a low-slung silver belt. He wears a triangular pink hat and his green knee-length cape has a pink reverse. He walks to the right and holds a large grey urn vertically and upside-down in front of him, from which water pours downwards and away from him. He is set within a green frame against a light blue background, covered in gold filigree. He has 2 stars in the hat, 1 above his left shoulder, 2 in the chest, 1 in each elbow, 2 at the waist, 1 in each hand, 1 in each knee, 1 in the left shin and 1 in each foot, or 16 stars in all. There may be some extra stars coming from the mouth of the urn, but they are combined with the tendrils in the decoration and are hard to number.

**PISCES** are two white fish, who swim in opposite direction, belly-to-belly, with their mouths connected by a blue line. They are set within a silver frame against a black background. There are 13 (?) stars in the top fish, 12 stars in the line and 15 in the bottom fish, or 40 stars in all.



fol. 11v



fol. 10r



fol. 12v

fol. 11v **DRACO inter arctos** is set horizontally on the page, with the two bears roughly the same size, but the one near the head of Draco is very slightly smaller. They are placed back-to-back. The three are set within a red frame against a light blue background.

**DRACO**<sup>1</sup> is depicted as a grey, slightly hairy snake and its body forms a loose figure 8. Its nose touches the rear right foot of Ursa maior. It has 3 stars in the head and 12 running in equal intervals along the body, or 15 stars in all.

**URSA MINOR** stands facing outwards in the rear loop of Draco's tail. It is brown and has rounded ears and a short tail. It has pronounced front claws. It has 4 stars in the body and 3 in the tail, or 7 stars in all.

**URSA MAIOR** is placed within the front loop of Draco's body and faces towards the head. It has round ears and pronounced claws on the hind feet. It has 4 stars in front of the face, 1 on the top of the head, 1 on the neck, 1 on the back, 3 on the right front shoulder, 1 on each front paw, 1 on the belly, 1 on each hind foot, and 7 running down the right hind leg, or 22 stars in all.

- fol. 10r **DRACO**<sup>2</sup> is a white dragon facing to the right, with 2 front legs with pronounced claws on birdlike feet and a body covered with small gold dots. The tip of the tail is pink and is shaped like an acanthus leaf. It has a dragon's face, with pointed ears and a long, pointed snout that ends in a curl. It is set against a black background, covered with gold filigree. It has 3 stars on the head, at least 4 in the body and 7 or eight in the tail, or at least 14 stars in all. The stars in the body are intermingled with the dots and are difficult to read.
- fol. 12v **HERCULES** is depicted in the Garden of Hesperides with a blue snake sitting facing him in the tree to the left. He is nude and crouches to the left, facing the viewer. He holds the realistic lion's skin over his extended right hand and holds a straight sword vertically behind him in his left hand. He is bearded. There is no frame and the figures are set on a grassy lawn with a grey-lavender background covered with gold filigree. Hercules has 1 star in the head, 1 in each shoulder, 4 along the top of his right arm, 1 in his left elbow, 1 in his left hand, 1 at the tip of the sword, 1 on his left elbow, 1 on his left forearm, possibly 1 on the head of the lion, 1 on each of Hercules's hips, 1 in his genitals, 1 in each knee, 1 in each shin and 1 in each foot, or 22 stars in all. There are also at least 9 stars in the foliage of the tree.



fol. 13r



fol. 13v



fol. 14r

fol. 13r **CORONA BOREALIS** is a leafy wreath with a rectangular shape in gold (a jewel) and two fluttering ribbons at the bottom. It is set against a black background with gold filigree. There are 9 stars marked.

fol. 13v **OPHIUCHUS** is a nude male, facing to the left with his back to the viewer. He has curled hair and is clean-shaven. He holds very long blue SERPENS by the neck to the left, and its head turns round to face the man. The body of the snake is wrapped once around the man's waist and then makes a loop in his left hand before falling downwards and trailing off to the right. Ophiuchus stands on the back of a brown SCORPIO<sup>2</sup>, which faces to the left and is similar in shape to the Scorpio above, save that it has smaller front claws and is missing one of its bottom legs. The group is set against a black background with gold filigree. The man has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 2 at the waist, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 9 stars in all. The rest of the stars appear to belong to the Snake and total 31 in all. Scorpio has 1 star in front of the nose, 1 on the tip of the nose, 1 on each eye, 1 beside each eye, 2 on the right claw, 1 on the left claw, 2 on the small rearmost left leg, 7 along the body and 2 at the tip of the tail, or 20 stars in all.

**BOOTES** stands facing the viewer and looks to the left. He is dressed in a large blue *tunica exomis* with pink reverses, which reveals his right shoulder. He has a blue and pink cap on his head. He holds a serrated sickle aloft in his right hand and holds a long spear vertically in his left hand. There is a long sword hanging diagonally behind him from his left hip. He is barefoot and there is a bundle of green wheat tied with a rope by his feet, to the left. He stands in front of a black background decorated with gold filigree. He has 1 star in the cap, 1 star in each shoulder, 1 star in each nipple, 1 star in each knee, 1 star in each foot, 6 stars in the sickle and 3 stars on the spear, or 18 stars in all.



fol. 14r **AURIGA** stands facing the viewer in a wooden cart that is drawn to the right by a grey horse and a brown horse. There are 2 oxen (tan and brown) behind the cart, facing to the left). He is dressed in a pink *tunica exomis* with green reverse that exposes his right arm and shoulder and has a gold crown on his head with a pointed pink hat rising from it. He holds a spear vertically in his right hand. He extends his left hand forward to hold the reins and, on his left shoulder, there is a small grey goat facing to the right. Above his left hand, there are two additional tan goats standing towards the left. The scene has a green frame and a blue background with gold filigree. He has 1 star on the tip of his hat, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the left elbow, 1 on the left hand, 1 on each knee, 1 above the head of the brown horse and 2 in front of the Grey horse, or 10 stars in all. There is an interesting underdrawing of an extended area of ground under the feet of the horse, suggesting that there was originally a more radical breaking away from the framed format.

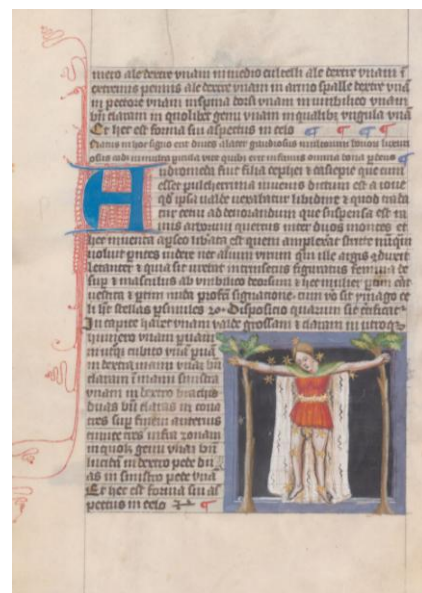


fol. 14v

fol. 14v **CEPHEUS** stands facing the viewer, dressed in a green knee-length tunic that is belted and has bell sleeves to the elbow. Tighter pink sleeves are visible beneath. He has long blonde hair and no beard. He has a long sword on his left hip, hung on a strap from his right shoulder. His arms are outstretched to the sides and his head is turned slightly to the left. He has pointed black shoes. There is a square white purse hanging from long strings attached to his belt. He stands within a red-and orange frame against a blue background with black filigree. He has 2 stars on the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on each elbow, 1 on each hand, 3 on the belt, 1 on the right hip, 2 at the bottom of the purse, 1 on each ankle and 1 on each foot, or 18 stars in all.



fol. 15r



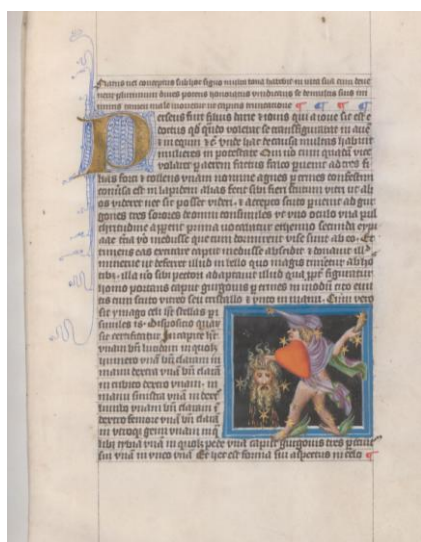
fol. 15v

fol. 15r **CASSIOPEIA** is seated on a wooden stepped throne, the back of which has cross beams made from leafy trees and her arms have been tied to the trunks (a pictorial contamination from

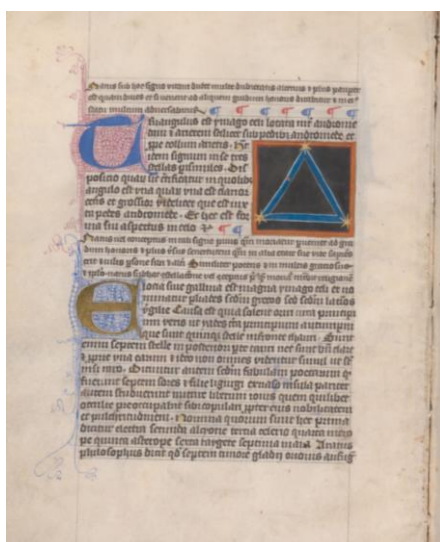
Andromeda). The base of the throne is pierced with arched ‘Gothic’ windows and the step has 8 trefoil holes. She looks to the left, has long unbound, blonde hair and is dressed in a pink mantle with white reverses that exposes her shoulders and right breast. There is red-gold blood issuing from her right hand. She is set within a red-orange frame against a black background. She has 1 star in her head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on her right breast, 4 in her lap, 1 above each hand and 4 stars in the branches of the trees, or 14 stars in all.

**PEGASUS** is half a light grey winged horse that flies to the right with large red-orange wings held aloft. It opens its mouth and stretches its forelegs in front of its body. The cut-off ends with a blank oval. He is set within a light blue frame against a black background decorated with gold filigree. He has 2 stars in the face, 1 on each ear, 4 on the neck, 5 across the wings, 1 on the back, 1 in each front knee, 1 in each front hoof and 1 on the belly, or 19 stars in all.

fol. 15v **ANDROMEDA** is dressed in a very short red-orange dress, belted at the waist, which exposes male genitalia. She has a long green mantle with an ermine reverse hanging from her shoulders. Her feet are bare and her hair uncovered. She appears to hang, but is not tied to the threes that flank her, though both arms outstretched horizontally. Her head lolls slightly to the left. She is enclosed within a lavender frame and set against a black background. She has 1 star on the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the left elbow, 2 on the right elbow, 1 on the right wrist and 1 on the right hand, 3 on the band at her waist and 3 along the hem of her short skirt, 1 on each knee and 2 on her right foot and 1 on her left foot, or 19 stars in all. There appears to be an extra star to the left of the left tree.



fol. 16r



fol. 16v



fol. 17r

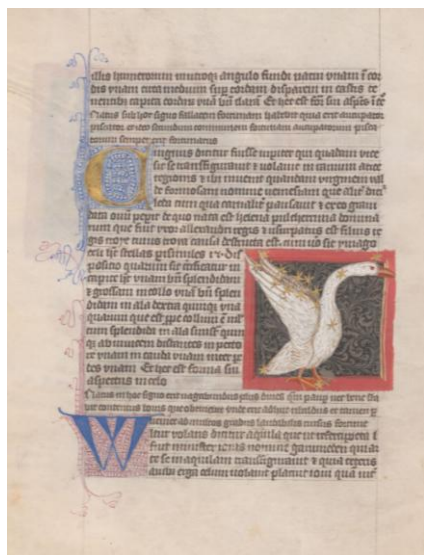
fol. 16r **PERSEUS** is nude and he walks to the left, with his back to the viewer. His top half is enveloped with a heavy green and lavender cloak that flows out behind him to the right and he has a peaked lavender

cap on his head. There are green wings on his ankles. In the leading hand, he holds the decapitated head of a bearded man by the hair. In his following hand, he holds a branched stick held vertically. There is bright red-orange a shield covering his leading shoulder. He is framed with a blue frame and stands against a black background. He has 1 star on his hat, 1 star on each shoulder, 1 on his following elbow, 1 on the leading hand, 2 on the stick, 1 at the waist, 1 in each knee, 1 on the left shin, 1 on the left foot, 1 on the right calf and 3 encircling the beard of the decapitated head, or 16 stars in all.

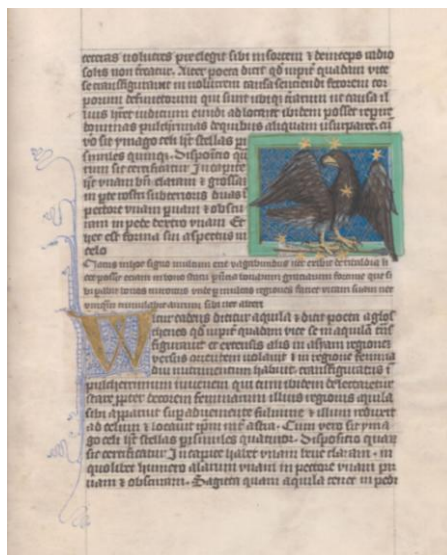
fol. 16v **TRIANGULUM** is a blue triangle set within an orange frame against a black background with 1 star in each angle.

fol. 17r The **PLEIADES** are depicted as 7 women with unbound hair, wearing heavy mantles, set in two rows (4 and 3) and each has a star in her head. They are set within an orange frame and against a blue background that is decorated with a gold diamond pattern, with a large 'W' set into several of the lozenges.

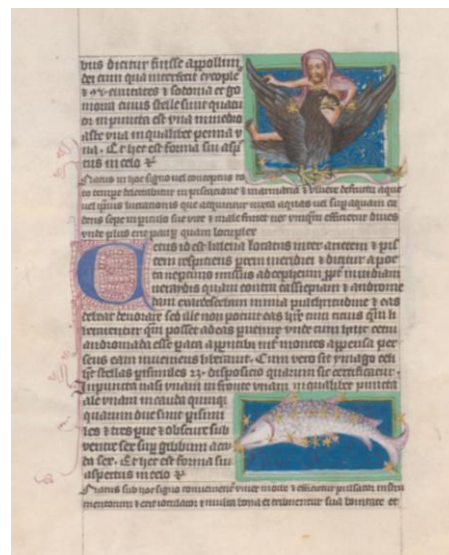
**LYRA** is a 'U'-shaped golden lyre with feathers and scales set within the bottom of the 'U'. There is a horizontal bar encircling the horns at the top and 7 strings. It is set within a green frame against a black background. There is 1 star on the bar, 1 on each horn tip, 1 in the strings, and 5 in the body or 9 stars in all.



fol. 17v



fol. 18r



fol. 18v

fol. 17v **CYGNUS** walks to the right, with an angry expression on its face and its wings are raised and set back. It is set within a pink frame against a black background decorated with silver filigree. It has 1 star on the head, 1 on the neck, 1 on the breast, 5 in each wing, 1 in the tail and 1 on the right foot, or 15 stars in all.

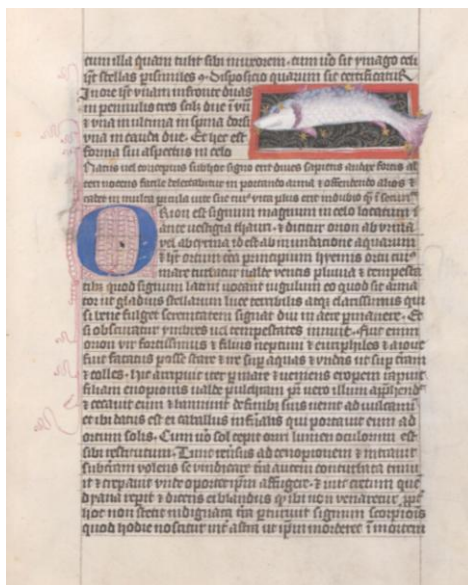
fol. 18r **AQUILA** stands on **SAGITTA**, facing to the right, with its head turned to the back to the left and with its wings outstretched. The arrow is pointed to the right. The frame is light green and the background is blue with a diaper pattern in silver. It has 1 star on the head, 1 on the chest, 1 on each wing and 1 between the feet, or 5 stars in all. **SAGITTA** has 3 stars on the feathers.

fol. 18v **VULTUR CADENS** is depicted as the eagle standing to the right, with its wings raised, bearing a bearded male figure with a pink mantle over his head (Jupiter) on its back. The man holds the eagle's right wing and sticks out his right foot. The eagle stands on **SAGITTA**, with the tip to the right. There is also a knotted white veil at his feet. The figures are framed with a green frame and set against a blue background with silver filigree. The bird has 1 star in the head, 1 in each wing and 1 between his feet, or 4 stars in all. The **SAGITTA** has 1 at the tip and 2 in the feathers, or 3 stars in all.

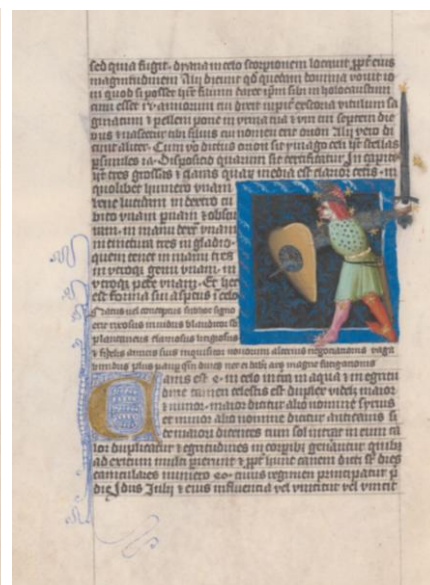
**CETUS** is depicted as a large pinkish-white fish swimming to the left. It is set within a green frame against a blue background with lavender filigree. It has 3 stars on its face, 2 on the top fins, 6 on the body, 4 on the belly and 2 on the tail, or 17 stars in all.



fol. 19r



fol. 19v



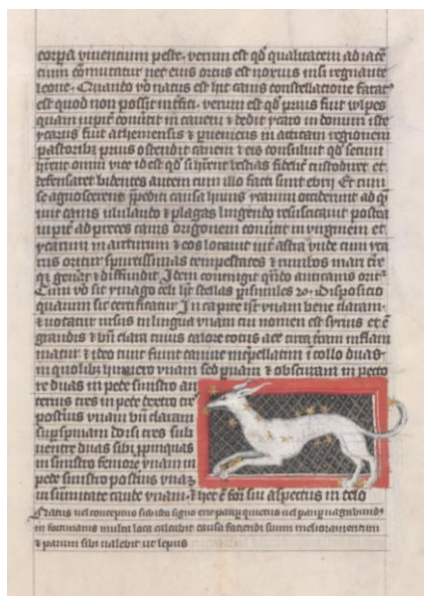
fol. 20r

fol. 19r **ERIDANUS** is depicted as a male youth lying by or swimming in a river. He holds his left arm bent so his hand can support his head, which looks behind him on the left. His right arm is extended out straight behind his back, as if waving. His torso is twisted so that his upper half faces the viewer and his lower half is in profile with his buttocks facing upwards. He is set within a red-orange frame, with a blue background with filigree. He has 7 stars surrounding his head, 5 in the right arm, 1 on each thigh, 1 on each knee, and 1 on the right foot, or 17 stars in all.

'FIGURA SONANTIS CANONUM' is a seated male figure in a long blue robe with a soft blue hat with an ermine brim on his head. He sits on a pink cushion set on a boxy, wooden seat with a stepped base. He plays a multi-stringed zither with both hands. There is a green frame and a black background that looks as though it is decorated with flaming, lower-case 'e' s. He has 2 stars in the hat, 1 on his right shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 1 on his right hand, 3 in the zither and 3 on the pink cushion, or 11 stars in all.

fol. 19v **DELPHINUS** is a long pinkish-white fish swimming to the left. It is set against a red and white frame with a black background covered with silver filigree. It has 1 star on the head, 1 on the back, 3 on the belly and 2 on the tail, or 9 stars in all.

fol. 20rr **ORION** stands in profile to the left, with his back to the viewer. He is dressed in a green tunic, the chest of which is covered with grey dots (cuirass) and the arms are covered with grey armour. There is a white belt at his waist and his leggings are pink and red. He wears a decorated helmet on his head. He holds a large tan, heart-shaped shield in front of him, with a spike in the centre, with his right arm and raises a sword vertically above his head with his left hand. He is set within a blue frame with white leaf motifs and the background is black with blue filigree. He has 3 stars on his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 1 on his right hand, 3 in the sword, 3 in the belt, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 17 stars in all.



fol. 21r



fol. 21v



fol. 22r

fol. 21r **CANIS MAIOR** is a sleek white hound that leaps to the left and has a long curved tail. He is surrounded by a red frame and set against a black background with a silver diaper pattern. He has 1 star on his mouth, 1 on the head, 2 in the neck, 1 on the chest, 2 in the front

shoulder, 3 on the back, 2 on the belly, 1 on the tip of the tail, 3 on the left front paw and 1 in each hind paw, or 18 stars in all.

fol. 21v **LEPUS** is a tan hare and bounces to the left. It has a grey frame and is set against a blue background with lavender filigree. It has 1 star in the left ear, 2 on the face, 1 on the chest, 1 on the back and 1 on each hind leg, or 7 stars in all.

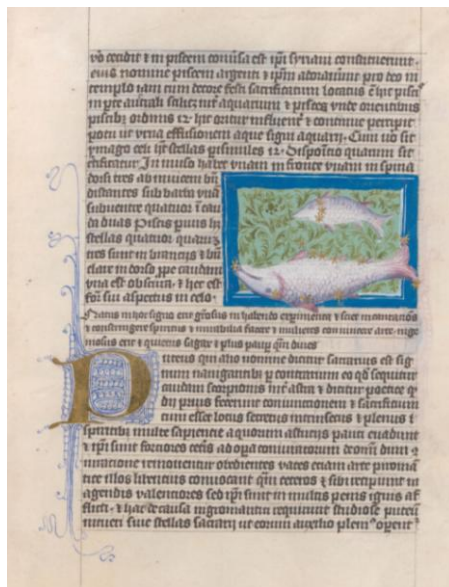
fol. 22r **ARGO** is depicted as half a wooden ship set in water with its cut-off at the right. It has a single mast, with ropes leading towards the stern. There is a small turtle (Testudo) in the water at the cut-off. There two steering oars at the stern and three along the side of the hull. There is a green frame and the background is blue with lavender filigree. It has 3 stars in the mast, 4 in the turtle, 3 along the top, 5 surrounding the *aphlaston*, 10 in the steering oars and 5 in the water beneath the rowing oars or 29 stars in all.

**AUSTRONOTUS** is depicted as a female centaur. She has prominent breasts on her human half, and 4 full dug along her animal body. She holds her hands out to the sides and her hair is unbound. The frame is pink with red filigree and the background is blue with red filigree. She has 11 stars around her head, 1 on her right shoulder, between her human breasts, 1 on her right front hoof, 3 on her haunch, 2 on her left hind foot, and 3 on the tip of the tail, or 22 stars in all.



fol. 22v

fol. 22v **DEMON MERIDIANIS** (*sic*) is depicted as two figures: a female figure to the left, wearing a green mantle over her head, and staring to the left with a melancholic expression, with her right hand lifted to her face as if wiping away a tear; and a female figure wearing a blue toga with a pink reverse, which exposes her breasts, and who seems to fly to the right. She holds a



fol. 23r



fol. 23v

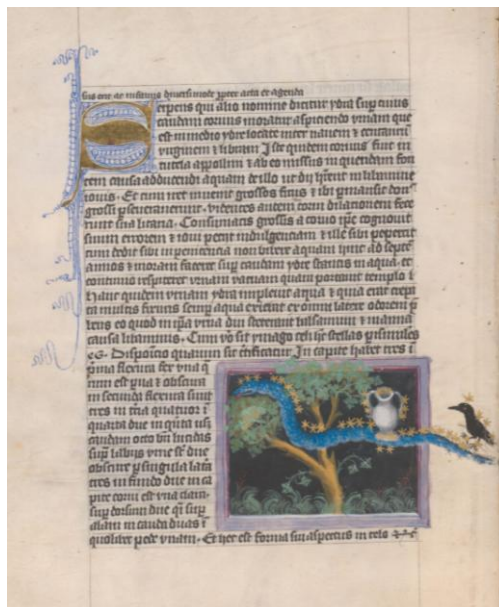
mandorla vertically in her hand and has long blonde hair. The frame is blue and the background is black with blue filigree. The white mandorla is decorated with 1 star at the top and at the bottom and 34 stars within its frame.

fol. 23r **PISCIS AUSTRINUS** is depicted as a large upside-down pinkish-white fish with its head to the left. It has a smaller fish (Piscis parvus), with its back upwards, riding on the larger fish's belly. There is a blue frame and a green background with olive-coloured filigree. The little fish has 3 stars on its gills. The larger one has 11 stars.

fol. 23v **ARA** (Puteus) is a hexagonal, stepped structure built from grey brick with flames coming out of the top. There are 2 demons flanking the flames. It is surrounded by a blue frame and set against a light green background. There are 4 stars surrounding the flames.



fol. 24r



fol. 24v



fol. 25r

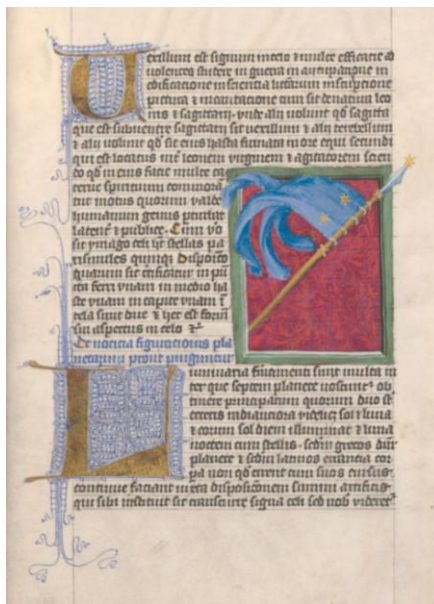
fol. 24r **CENTAURUS** is a centaur that trots to the right. He wears a pink and lavender mantle with a green reverse about his shoulders. His human half is nude and he is beardless. He holds his right (?) hand, palm upwards, extended in front of him. The **LUPUS** (a white dog) rests his back in the palm, with its feet pointing upwards. A censer hangs from the right wrist. He holds a spear in his left hand that rests on his shoulder and there is a rabbit tied by its heels to the end of the stick. He also wears a sword strapped to his left hip. The frame is light green and the background is black. He has 3 stars in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the chest, 1 on the right elbow, 4 on the equine back, 2 at the waist, 1 on the equine chest, 1 on each front foot, 1 on the back of the right front knee, 1 on each hind knee and 1 on each hind foot, 2 in the tail and 3 in the censer or 25 in all. There are 5 stars in the **LUPUS**.

fol. 24v **HYDRA** is depicted as a long blue snake that climbs into the branches of a tree at the left. A, two-handled white **CRATER** is placed on his back and a forward-facing **CORVUS** with on its tail. The frame is lavender and the background is black. Hydra has 24 stars, Crater has 12 and Corvus has 6 stars. Here are indications that the stars have been indicated in black ink before the gold was added (note 2 stars beneath the tail of Hydra that have not been completed).

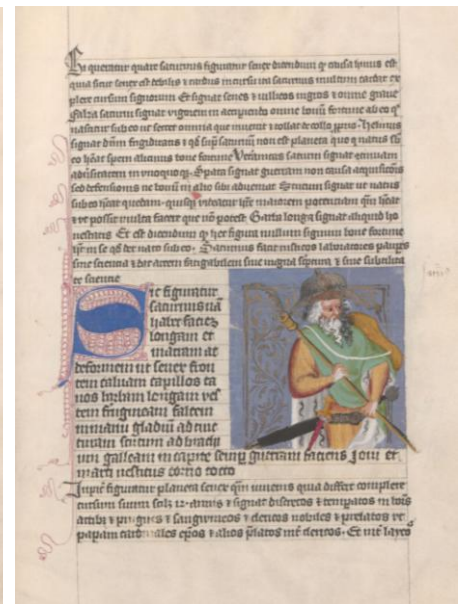
fol. 25r **CANIS MINOR** is a blunt-faced white hound that stands to the left. It has a blue frame and is set against a black background with blue filigree. It has 1 star on the head, 1 large star below the ear, 1 on the chest, 2 on the back, and 1 on each front foot, or 7 stars in all.



fol. 25v



fol. 26r



fol. 27r

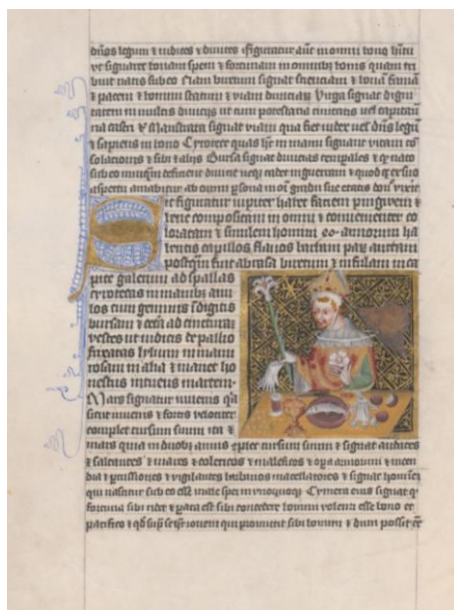
fol. 25v **EQUUS SECUNDUS** is a full grey horse with green wings standing to the left. The frame is pink and the background is red with silver filigree. It has 2 stars on the neck, 1 on the chest, 3 on the wings, 1 on the genitals, 1 on the rump and 1 on the left hind leg, or 9 stars in all.

**TARBELLUM** is an awl with 3 stars in the handle and 2 in the blade. The frame is green and the background is brown with silver filigree.

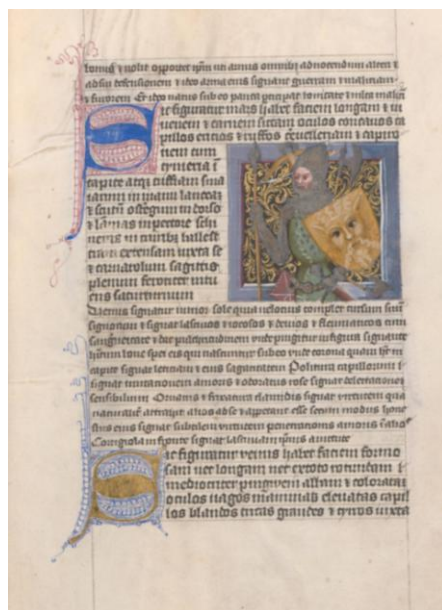
fol. 26r **VEXILLIUM** is a blue flag with 2 stars in the flag and 3 along the spearheaded shaft. The frame is green and the background is red with orange filigree.

fol. 27r **SATURNUS** is depicted as an elderly bearded man, holding a sickle with long pole in his right hand so the pole rests on his right shoulder. He has a short sword on his right hip, a long sword on his left hip (behind him) and has a shield swung on his left shoulder. His mantle is green with an ermine reverse. The background is lavender with silver filigree





fol. 27v



fol. 28r



fol. 28v

fol. 27v **JUPITER** wears a bishop's mitre on his head and holds a long-stemmed lily in his right hand. He also holds a pair of white gloves in his right hand. He is dressed in a green tunic over which he has a gold-and-red brocade mantle with a large white (fur) collar. There is a shield (?) that seems to float behind his back, attached by a white string. He has a large pink flower in his left hand and there is a white purse tied to the left wrist. He stands or sits behind a table laden with food, including a fish, a goblet and 3 pieces of fruit. The background is black, covered with a gold diaper pattern.

fol. 28r **MARS** is dressed as a warrior in chain mail with a green cuirass. He holds a long-handled spear in his right hand, has a crossbow and a halberd on his back, and a hatchet and a sword at his waist. He holds a shield that has a lion's (?) face with his left arm.

fol. 28v **VENUS** is dressed in a *changeant* lavender and silver gown and wears a silver crown. She sniffs at a flower held in her right hand. The frame is green and the background is black with gold filigree.

**MERCURY** also wears a bishop's hat, and a long golden gown over a green shirt. He carries a long stick (palm?) in his right hand and holds a red book close to his chest in his right hand. The frame is red and the background is black with gold filigree.



fol. 29v



fol. 31v

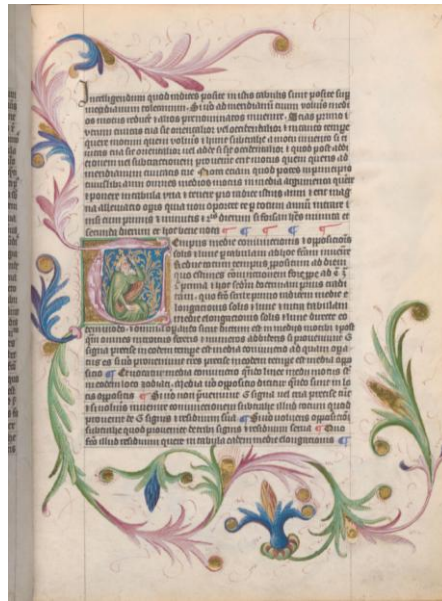


fol. 34r

- fol. 29v SOL/APOLLO stands frontally in a wooden cart-like quadriga, with the horses split into two groups. The horses are the four 'colours of the day'. He is blonde and wears a red tunic with a green mantle with a white reverse. He holds a flaming taper in his raised right hand and a golden, radiant disc of the sun is his left hand. The background is dark blue with golden filigree in the frame and purple filigree behind the figure.
- fol. 31v LUNA stands in a rough wooden cart drawn by two oxen. She turns to look back over her shoulder to the left. She is dressed in pink with a blue and green mantle. She holds two flaming torches in her hands, which are stretched out in front of her. She has a large gold crescent moon on her head. The background is blue and covered with a golden diaper pattern.
- fol. 34r Opening folio of the Commentary on the Alfonsine Tables with various impresse and initials associated with King Wenzel IV set in foliate roundels. Amongst these, there is the knotted veil, the bucket, the 'W' (with a warrior and the motto: 'toho bzde toho') and the 'e'. There is also a female figure, dressed in white, with a golden 'W' on her chest and the wooden bucket in her left hand. The feather on her head identifies her as a muse, presumably Urania. In the opening initial (which has a lion and a salamander worked into it), there is the figure of an astronomer, dressed in blue and green with a twisted white cloth around his forehead. He is seated at a wooden bench, holding a quadrant (with a handle and sights) in his left hand as he writes number on a slate in front of him. The numbers 1000, 300, 9 and 2 appear on the slate, presumably a reference to the date of the manuscript (1392).



fol. 34v



fol. 39r

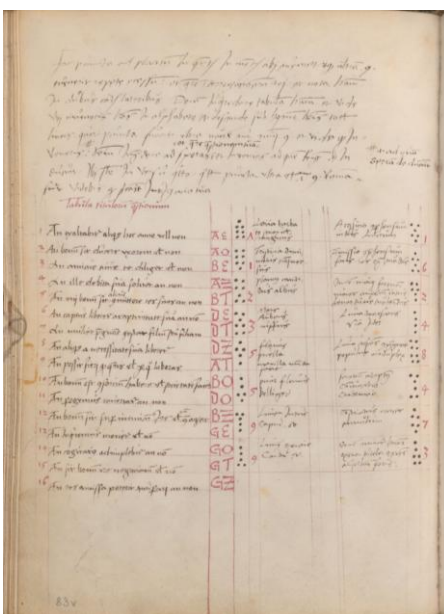


fol. 40r

fol. 34v Example of a decorated page.

fol. 39r Example of a decorated page, with an astronomer/king raising his left hand to his forehead and looking at a star placed inside the initial.

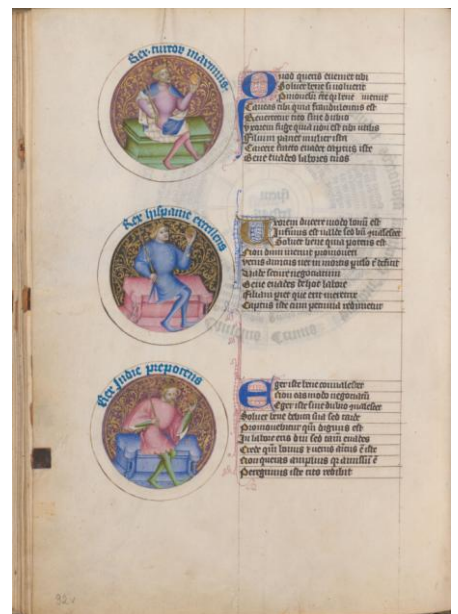
fol. 40r Example of a decorated page with the 'W' badge.



fol. 83v



fol. 86r



fol. 92v

fol. 83v A geomantic table in a later hand (ascribed to the later owner, Wilhelm IV Haller (cf. CERMANN 2014, p. 135, fig. 18), therefore dating to between 1506 and Haller's death in 1534.

fol. 86r Dame Fortune and her wheel.

fol.92v Three roundels illustrating prophets and their prophecies



fol.93r

fol. 93v

fol. 94r

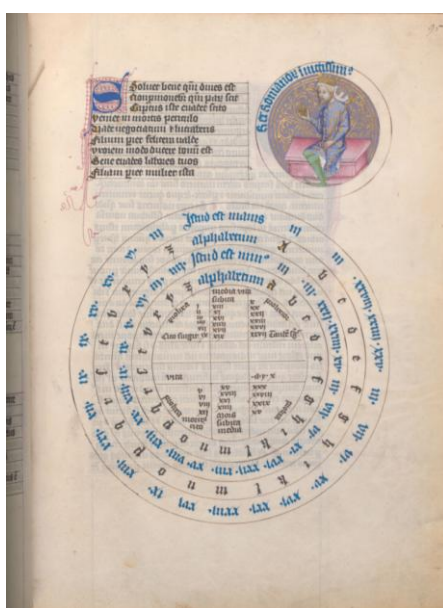
fol.93r Three roundels illustrating prophets and their prophecies

fol. 93v Three roundels illustrating prophets and their prophecies

fol. 94r Three roundels illustrating prophets and their prophecies



fol. 94v



fol. 95r



fol. 99r

- fol. 94v Three roundels illustrating prophets and their prophecies
- fol. 95r A final roundel illustrating prophets and their prophecies
- fol. 99r A zodiacal rota with the planets in layers. Aries and Taurus face the same direction, Taurus is full, The Gemini are 2 babies Cancer is a crayfish, Sagittarius has only two equine legs. The Moon and Sun have faces.

### notes

notes from ÖNB digital catalogue

names	references to King Wenzel (HRE), 1361-1419 and Freidrich III (HRE) 1415-1493
Place	Prague
Date	14th C and references to 1392 and 1393
Dims	103 ff, 295 x 215 mm
Provenance	commissioned by Wenzel IV (d. 1419); refs to Friedrich III; in the Fugger Library in Augsburg in 16thC – 1655
Contents	'unknown', <i>Noticia ordinum stellarum fixarum</i> Alfonso X, Stellar tables 'unknown', <i>Ars vaticinandi ope pectorum</i> 'unknown', <i>Nomina steallrum fixarum</i> 'unknown', <i>Quaedam superstitiosa de portentis</i>

### Bibliography

SCHLOSSER 1893.

MAASS 1898, p. 174, fig. 3 (fol. 1r = astrologer and client).

THIELE 1898, PP. 149F., fig. 65 (fol. 22v = Galaxia).

HERMANN 1900.

BOLL 1903, p. 443.

FUCHS 1909, PP. 39-42.

SAXL 1912, p. 168, fig. 28.

SAXL 1927, pp. 86-90, plate vii, fig. 13 (foll. 15r Cassiopeia and Equus vespertinus).

BAR 1936, fig. 45.

BYVANCK 1949, no. 61.

GUNDEL — GUNDEL 1950, esp. pp. 2147-77.

VERMEIREN 1953.

SHARON, 1955.

UNTERKIRCHER 1957, p. 68.

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KUNITZSCH 1974, pp. 246, 320.

MAZAL 1975, no. 196.

LOTT 1981, p. 157.

BAUER 1983, pp. 8 ff.

AL SAMMAN —MAZAL 1998, pp. 285-87.

*GÖTTER, HEROEN, HERRSCHER* 1990, p. 148, 151 fig. 39l (fol. 16v = Perseus).

ŠNIEŽYNSKA-STOLOT 1994, p. 67.

SHANK 1997, p. 261.

ŠNIEŽYNSKA-STOLOT 1998, pp. 99-100.

BLUME 2000, pp. 54-63, 106 and figs. 52-58.

FINGERNAGEL 2002, pp. 79-84.

BUTCHER 2008.

ACKERMANN 2013, esp. pp. 534-37.

pp. 534-37: dates 1392-93 and locates it in the workshop of Wenzel IV in Prague; note the reference to the Golden Number from 1394 on fol. 98v; lists contents.

p. 537: notes that despite the high quality and courtly context, the text of the manuscript has numerous errors, possibly of transcription and possibly reflecting incomprehension of the text.

Ackermann notes Bauer's presumption that this was the direct model for the images in Vienna 2378, where as a closer textual analysis (chapter 5.3.1) shows that there is a close relationship between both manuscripts, but neither can be the model for the other.

CERMANN 2014, p. 134f. and 141, figs. 17 and 18.

JENNI — THEISSEN 2014, pp. 89-122, cat. no. 2.

BLUME — HAFFNER — METZGER 2016, II, i, pp. 40-45, 215-20 (no. 13); II, iii, pls. 14-16 and figs. 134-156.

pp. 40-45: note the Christianization of the images re: the cross held by Aries in this ms and the St Petersburg one;

pp. 215-20: magnificent manuscript with courtly patronage (King Wenzel IV); iconographically closer to the archetype than to the earliest known ms (Munich 10268); dates to Prague, 1392-93; says the stars are often in the contours rather than in the figures [?]

folio format; the tablet of the astronomer on fol. 1r bears the number '1393'; and the one on fol. 34r has the numbers '1392' indicating dates of relative sections (citing SCHLOSSER 1893); though notes that both halves of the manuscript are identical in format and design, so must have been planned as a whole.

iconographically close to Munich 10268, which may have been based on Bohemian mss of the 14th c [?]; the Prague ms Vienna 2378, which is about two decades older, is very close in many respects to Vienna 2352, though they question Krása's suggestion that it is the model for Vienna 2352 as there are differences in both the texts and the images – so there must have been another model/intermediary; also notes the fact that one incorporates all the material into a single text, while the other puts some in the margins; in Vienna 2352 there is no mention of the planetary houses for each sign, also the introduction ('Philosophi quidam ... to ... in omni parte mundi' etc., in Munich 10268 on fol. 77va-78rb) is not in this ms; in that respect, Vienna 2352 is closer to the St Peterburg ms.

Suggests that there are adjustments to the pictures, perhaps to mirror the text a bit more closely; though Vienna 2352 and Vienna 2378 are certainly part of the same tradition, probably through a shared 14th c model.

The ms shows almost no signs of use in the immediately following centuries, which suggests that it was part of the Royal Library, though the provenance can be traced through the multiple notations by later owners: the year 1506 with the motto 'omnibus adde modum medium tenere beati', the crossed-out name 'Guilhelmus Haller' (the Nuremberg patrician Wilhelm IV Haller (1478-1534), cf CERMANN 2014, pp. 134-35); and was in the library of Philipp Eduard Fugger (Lehmann 1956, I, p. 197, 206-07) before it entered the Vienna court library in 1655.

consulted October 2015

