

Vienna

ÖNB

Vindob 2378

Astronomical / astrological and natural history compendium with:

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

Bohemian

ca. 1400 (1375?)

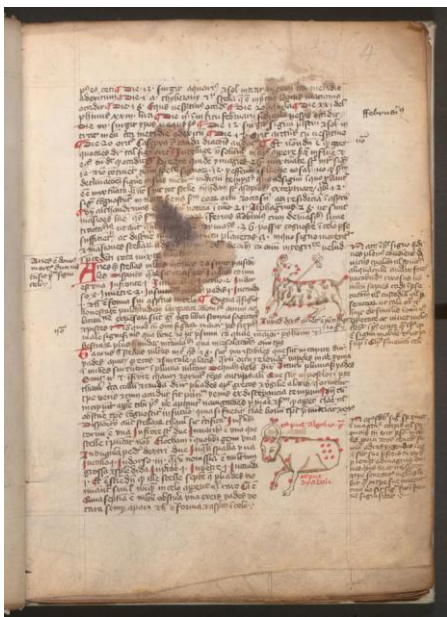
text

- ff. 1r-2v De noticia ordinum stellarum fixarum celi seu ymaginum 48 que a philosophis veraciter dinoscuntur Et hec est. Phylosophi quidam multis experimentis noverint 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. 3r-11r De noticia doctrine qua insinuat quomodo unumquodque signum de numero 12 oritur et occidit ... in omni parte mundi, etc. Omnes ymagines numero 48 totum celum comprehendunt – in capite haste .1., in thela sunt .2. Et hec est forma. (= M. Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi*, ed. ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 130-251.)
- ff. 11r-15r De noticia figuracionis planetarum prout pinguntur. Luminaria firmamenti sunt multa inter que VII planete noscuntur – et aves dirune odiunt nocturnas ut patet in noctecorace. (= M. Scot, *Liber de signis et imaginibus celi*, ed. ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 252-281.)

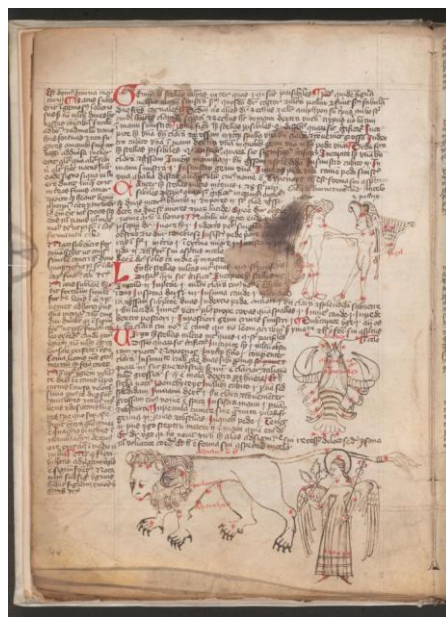
The rest of the manuscript has various astrological texts, including a section on the decans (ff. 32r-v); passages from the *Centiloquium*; Thabit ibn Chora, *De imaginibus* (ff. 41r-43r); Thomas of Cantimpré, *De natura rerum* (ff. 46v, 53r-56v, 47r- 48v); and a section from a *Lapidarium*. See ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 539-42 and BLUME – HAFFNER – METZGER 2016, II, i, pp. 208-14 (no. 12) for a detailed catalogue of the texts.

illustrations

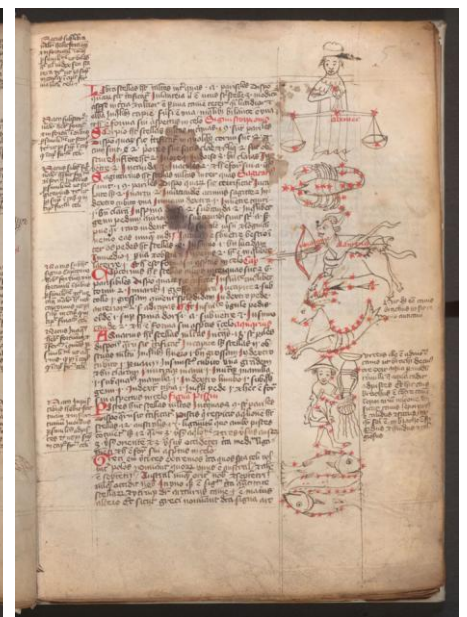
ff. 4r- 11r Pen drawings in sepia ink with light touches of wash. The stars are marked with red dots and some of the stars are labelled in red. Some of the illustrations have indications that the space in which they were to have been drawn is demarcated by double-lined boxes, which form a kind of frame; but none of the drawings respect the boundaries of the 'frames'.



fol. 4r



fol. 4v



fol. 5r

ARIES walks to the left, but turns his head back to the right. He has curled horns 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 has 1 star in each horn, 1 on the forehead, 3 in the face, 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.

Under the figure, there is a label in black: *In pede dextro arietis est pentilago 10°* (see notes for a discussion of these labels).

TAURUS is half a bull and faces to the left. His cut-off is behind his haunch. His right front foot is extended as if taking a step. He has lyre-shaped horns. There is 1 star in each horn, 3 on the face, 1 on the neck, 3 along the back, 1 on the chest, 1 on the right upper foreleg, 1 on each knee, 2 in the right front hoof, 4 along the rump and 6 on the haunch, or 24 stars in all.

The red label above the figure reads: 'caput algol .10.gr'; below the figure in red is: caput dyaboli.

fol. 4v **GEMINI** are depicted as 2 male nudes with very large wings. 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 right hand and the right Twin holds an elaborate harp at waist height in his left hand. They have short hair. The left Twin has 1 star on his head and 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 1 on his right hand, 1 on each knee, 1 on each foot, or 9 stars in all. The right Twin star on 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. The Right Twin is labelled '1. Castor' above his head, and there is a red label near the stick: alge[n]ze. The left Twin is labelled: 2. Pollux' above his head and the label on the harp is: rigil.

CANCER is a crayfish, 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 has 1 star on each antenna, 3 on the nose, 8 on the smaller legs, and 3 in the tail, or 16 stars in all. The stars in the antennae are labelled: alabor; in the back: algomeic (?) 10 gr'; and 'algiozides (?)

LEO stands to the left with his head dipped and his tail held horizontally behind him. He has red marking on his eyes and his mouth. His claws are pronounced and he has a very curly mane. He has 2 stars on his forehead and 1 on the mouth, 2 on the neck, 1 on the right front foot, 2 on the left front knee, 3 on the belly, 1 in the left hind knee and 1 on the right hind foot, 1 in the middle of the tail and 1 at the tip, or 15 stars in all. The label along his back reads: 'albiclus (?) 6 gr'. The star in his chest is labelled: alzarchus (?); and the star near his belly reads: 'cor leonis'.

VIRGO stands facing the viewer towards the left, with long wings. She has a long, close-fitting dress, with a dropped neck, tight sleeves and 3 stripes along the hem. Her hair is loose and her head is encircled by a halo. She holds a branch with 3 leafy twigs upraised in her right hand and a caduceus vertically in her left hand, which is placed by her waist. She has 1 on her head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the each elbow, 1 on each 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. 5r **LIBRA** is depicted as a male figure wearing a long robe with a scalloped fur collar. He has a cylindrical hat with a soft top. He holds the Scales at his waist with his left hand. He has 1 star at the ring of the balance, 1 at the middle of the beam and 1 at each end, and 1 in each pan, or 6 stars in all. The star in the middle of the balance is labelled: alrauec (?)

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 on each side. The tail is striped and ends in a pod. He has 2 stars in front of his nose, 1 on each eye, 1 in each large claw, 3 on his back, 2 on the bottom side behind the bottom legs, 5 in the tail and two in the sting, or 18 stars in all.

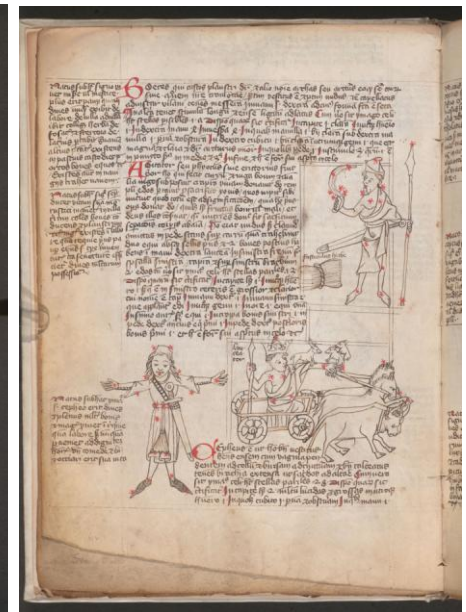
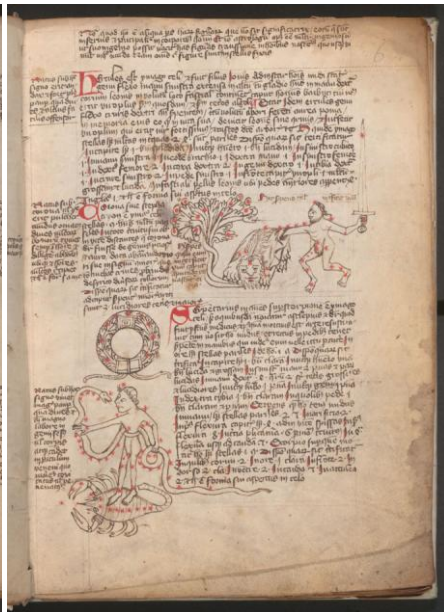
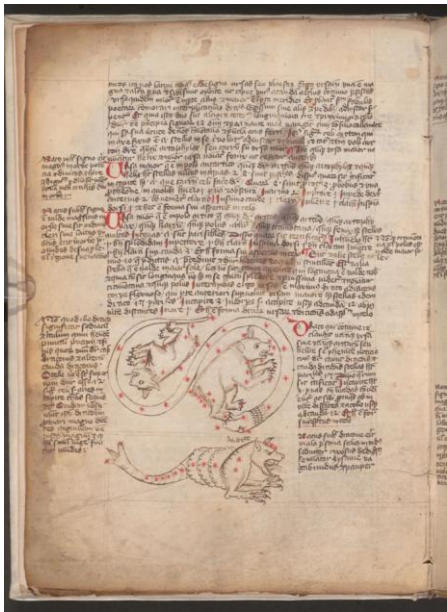
SAGITTARIUS is a centaur that leaps to the left. There are lyre-shaped horns on his head, he is bearded and he wears a long lion-skin cape (with feet and tail visible) flowing from his shoulders. His human half wears a shirt and he holds the bow with his left hand. The **SAGITTA** lies beneath his feet and points to the left. He has 2 stars in the horns, 1 in the left elbow, 2 in the tip of the arrow, 1 in each knee, 1 between his front hooves, 2 along the back and 1 in the belly, or 11 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.

The star in the elbow is marked: razalange; in the back: alanrens (?).

CAPRICORN has long curved and segmented horns and faces to the left. The hind section is fish-like. It has 1 star on the nose and 1 on the chin, 2 in the forehead, 2 on the right horn and 1 on the left, 2 in the right front foot, 7 along the top of the body, 5 along the belly, 1 near the end of the tail and 2 at the end of the tail, or 24 stars in all.

AQUARIUS is dressed in a short tunic with scalloped sleeves. He wears a triangular hat. He walks to the right and holds a large urn vertically in front of him, from which water pours downwards. He has 2 stars in the hat, 1 on his left cheek, 3 in his right elbow, 1 in his left hand, 2 near the mouth of the urn, 1 in the right hip, 1 in the right thigh, 1 in each knee and 1 in each foot, or 15 stars in all.

PISCES swim in opposite direction, belly-to-belly, with their mouths connected by a line. There are 13 stars in the top fish, approximately 8 dots in the line and 14 stars in the bottom fish.



fol. 5v

fol. 6r

fol. 6v

fol. 5v

DRACO inter arctos is set horizontally on the page, with Draco as a snake and shaped like a horizontal 'S', with his head to the right. The smaller Bear near the tail at the left and the larger Bear to the right near the head of Draco. They are placed back-to-back.

URSA MINOR is a small bear shown leaping into the last bend in Draco's body. It has pointed ears, a short tail and its tongue sticking out. It has pronounced claws. It has 4 stars in the body and 3 in the tail, or 7 stars in all.

URSA MAIOR is placed within the first bend of Draco's body and faces to the right. It is larger, with round ears and pronounced claws. It has 4 stars in the face, 1 on the head, 2 on the chest, 1 on the back, 1 on the right front leg, 1 star in the left front paw and 1 dot on the left front paw, 1 dot on the belly, 1 star on each hind foot, 2 in the right rear leg and 5 after the hind quarters, or 21 stars in all.

DRACO is an 'S'-shaped snake, with its wormlike head in profile, biting Ursa Maior's right hind foot. It has 4 stars in the head, and 12 in the body or 16 stars in all. There is a small label between the heads of the two depictions of Draco that reads: 'in ari[e]te' (?), perhaps referring to the description of the stars in Aries and Taurus, (see ACKERMANN 2013, p. 174 [19].) **or is this 'Marte' ???**

DRACO² is depicted as a fierce dragon facing to the right, with 2 front legs with pronounced claws on birdlike feet and a scaly body that has a triple twist. The tip of the tail is divided into three. It has a dragon's face, with pointed ears and long pointed teeth, with an open mouth from which it breathes flames. It has 3 stars on the head, 5 in the body and 8 in the tail, or 16 stars in all.

fol. 6r **HERCULES** is depicted in the Garden of Hesperides with a fire-breathing snake climbing a tree to the left. He is nude and crouches to the left, facing the viewer. He holds the lion's skin (with human (?) face and 4 paws visible) over his extended right forearm and holds a straight sword vertically behind him in his left hand. He is bearded. He has 1 star in the head, 1 in each shoulder, 4 along the top of his right arm, 1 dot in his left elbow, 1 star in his left hand, 1 at the tip of the sword, 1 in his belly, 1 in his genitals, 1 dots on his right thigh, 1 star on his left hip, 1 star in each knee, 1 in each shin, 1 in each foot and 5 in the lion's skin, or 26 stars in all. The underdrawing shows that his right leg was originally extended straight in front of him. (The figure of Hercules is flanked by two small labels explaining the mythological identity of the serpent: 'Hic serpens ... at (?)' and 'interfecit unum'.)

CORONA BOREALIS is a leafy wreath with a set of concentric squares at the top (a jewel) and a set of squares and two fluttering ribbons at the bottom. There are 9 dots marked.

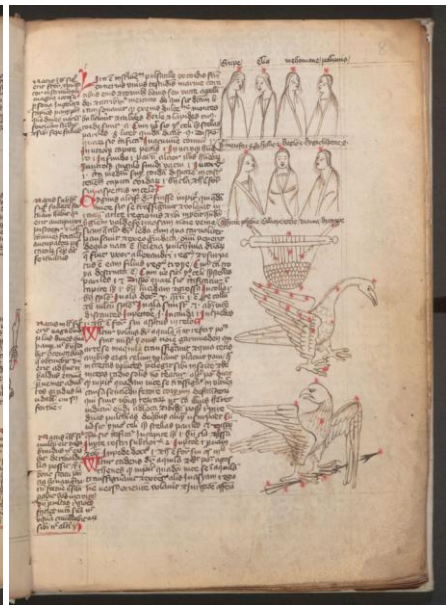
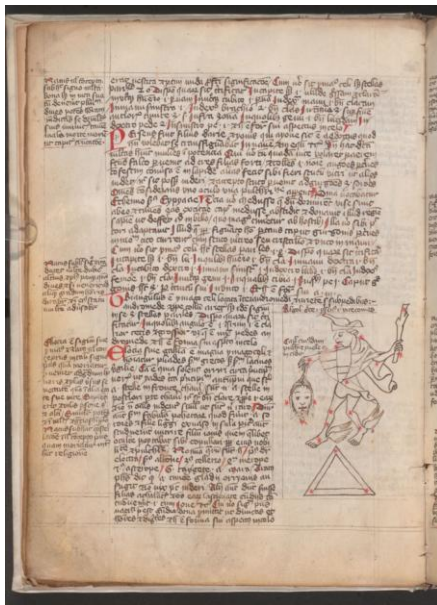
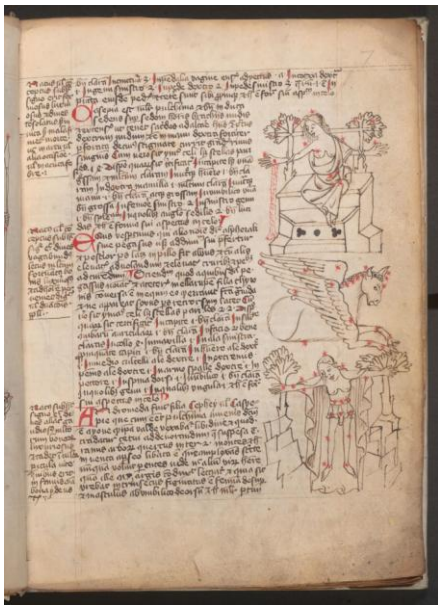
OPHIUCHUS is a nude male, standing slightly to the left, facing the viewer. He has short curled hair and is clean-shaven. He holds very long SERPENS by the neck in his right hand to the left, and its head turns round to face the man. The body of the snake is knotted around the man's waist and then makes a loop in his left hand before falling downwards and trailing off to the right. Ophiuchus stands on the back on SCORPIO², which faces to the left and is similar in shape to the SCORPIO¹. The man has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the breast, 2 under the left arm, 1 in the right hand, 1 in the left hand, 3 dots on the genitals, 1 star on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 14 stars in all. The Snake has 2 stars in the head and 27 along the body. Scorpio has 1 star in front of the nose, 1 dot on the tip of the nose, 1 star on each eye, 1 behind each eye, 2 on the right claw, 1 on the left claw, and 7 along the body, or 16 stars in all.

fol. 6v **BOOTES** stands facing the viewer and looks to the left. He is dressed in a large *tunica exomis*, which reveals his right shoulder. He has a peaked cap on his head. He holds a sickle aloft in his right hand and holds a long spear vertically in his left hand. There is a long sword hanging horizontally behind him from his left hip. He is barefoot and there is a bundle of wheat tied with a rope by his feet, to the left, which is labelled in black: 'fasciculus herbe'. He has 1 star in the cap, 1 star in each shoulder, 1 star in each nipple, 1 star on the right hip, 1 star in the left knee, 1 star in each foot, 6 stars in the sickle and 3 stars on the spear, or 18 stars in all.

AURIGA stands facing the viewer in an open-slatted wooden cart that is drawn to the right by two horses, set alongside 2 oxen. He is dressed in a toga that exposes his right arm and shoulder and has a crown on his head. He holds a spear vertically in his right hand, the tip of which is labelled: 'lanceator'. He extends his left hand forward to hold the reins. On his left

shoulder, there is a small goat facing to the right. On his left hand, there are two additional goats standing towards the left. He has 1 star in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 dot on the right hand, 2 stars in the left hand, 1 on each hip, 1 on the head of the uppermost horse and 2 on the front hooves of the other horse, or 11 stars in all.

CEPHEUS stands facing the viewer, dressed in a knee-length tunic that is belted and has bell sleeves. Tighter sleeves with buttons on the forearms are visible beneath. He has long 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 slightly tipped forward. He has pointed shoes that are decorated like chain mail. There is a triangular purse hanging from long strings attached to his belt. 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. 7r

fol. 7v

fol. 8r

fol. 7r **CASSIOPEIA** is seated on a stepped throne, the back of which has cross beams made from leafy trees and her hands have been tied to the trunks (a pictorial contamination from Andromeda). The bottom of the throne is pierced with 2 trefoils and 1 circular hole. She looks to the left, has long unbound hair and is dressed in a mantle that exposes her right shoulder and both breasts. There is red blood issuing from her right hand. She has 1 star in her head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on her right breast, 4 in her lap, 1 on each hand and 1 large red dot on her right hand, with 4 stars in the branches of the trees, or 15 stars in all.

PEGASUS is half a winged horse that flies to the right with large wings held aloft. It opens its mouth and holds its forelegs in front of its body. The cut-off ends at the curve of the haunch.

He has 2 stars in the face, 1 on each ear, 4 on the neck, 2 on the left wing and 4 on the right wing, 1 in each front knee, 1 in each front hoof and 1 on the belly, or 19 stars in all.

ANDROMEDA is nearly nude, with a very short skirt at her waist and a long mantle hanging from her shoulders behind her. Her breasts and male genitalia are visible and her feet are bare. She stands with both arms outstretched horizontally, but they are not actually tied to the trees that grow from the rocks flanking her on each side. Her hair is long and unbound and her head lolls slightly to the left. 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.

fol. 7v **PERSEUS** is nude. His orientation towards the viewer is confusing: note the ω -shaped line of his buttocks suggests he is facing away, but the orientation of his hand near the gutter of the page suggests he is facing the viewer. His top half is covered with a heavy cloak that flows out behind him to the right and he has a peaked cap on his head. There are wings on his ankles. In the leading hand, he holds the decapitated head of a bearded man by the hair. Above it is the legend: 'Caput cuiusdam pulchre puellae qu[am] incidit'. In his following hand, he holds a branched stick held vertically. There is a shield covering his leading shoulder. He has 1 dot 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 leading shin, 1 on each foot and 3 in the decapitated head, or 16 stars in all. Above the head is written: Algol grece est perseus id est vicecomes (?).

TRIANGULUM is an equilateral triangle with 1 star in each angle.

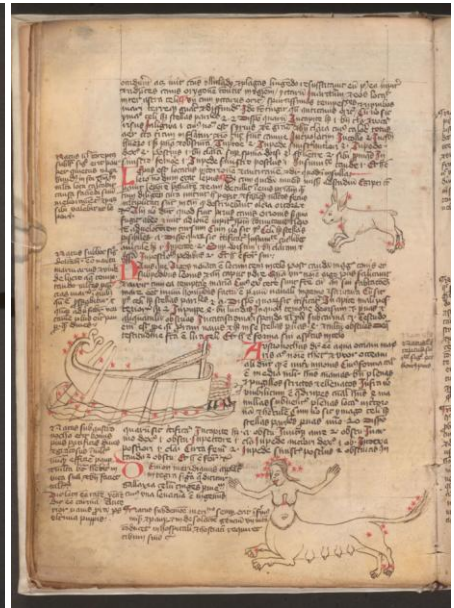
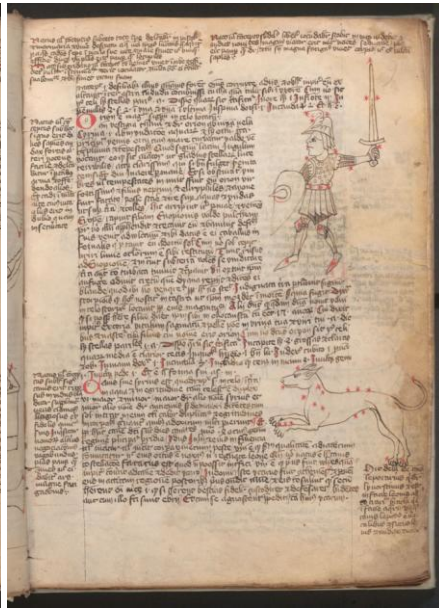
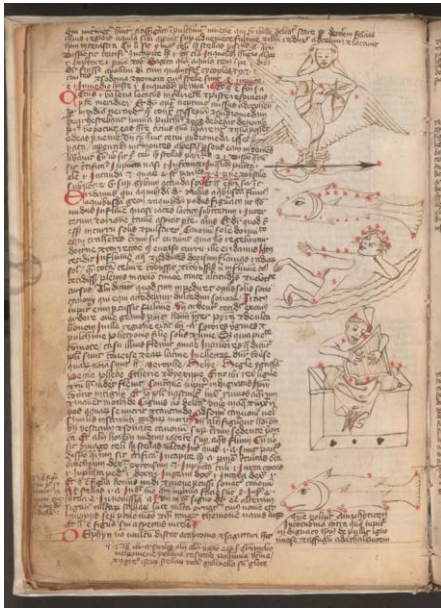
fol. 8r The **PLEIADES** are depicted as 7 women with unbound hair, wearing heavy mantles, set in two rows (4 and 3) and each has a star in her head. They are labelled.

LYRA is a 'U'-shaped lyre with feathers along the 'horns' and scales set within the bottom of the 'U'. There is a horizontal bar at the top and 9 strings. There is 1 star at the top, 1 on each horn tip, 4 in the body and two below the lyre or 9 stars in all.

CYGNUS walks to the right, with an angry expression on its face and its wings are raised and set back. It has 1 star on the head, 1 on the neck, 1 dot on the breast, 4 stars in the left wing, 5 in the right wing and 1 on the right foot, or 13 stars in all.

AQUILA stands on **SAGITTA**, facing to the right, with its head turned backwards to the left, with its left wing held down and the right wing extended backwards. It has 1 star on the

head, 1 on the chest and 1 on each foot and 1 on each wing, or 6 stars in all. Sagitta has 1 star at the tip and 2 at the end.



fol. 8v

fol. 9r

fol. 9v

VULTUR CADENS is depicted as the eagle with bearded male figure (Jupiter) on his back. The man's head is covered by a mantle and he holds the eagle's right wing with his right hand and he appears to stick the index finger of his left hand in the eagle's mouth. The eagle stands on **SAGITTA**, with the tip to the right. There is also a knotted veil at the eagle's feet. The bird has 1 star in the head and 1 in each wing, or 3 stars in all. The Sagitta has 1 star at the tip, 1 in the shaft and 2 in the feathers, or 4 stars in all.

CETUS is depicted as a large fish swimming to the left. It has 3 dots on its face, 8 stars on the back, 4 dots on the belly and 2 stars on the tail, or 17 stars in all.

ERIDANUS is depicted as a male youth lying by or swimming in a river. He holds his left arm with the elbow bent so his left hand supports his head. He looks upwards. His right arm is extended out straight behind his back with the palm open. 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 has 7 stars surrounding his head, 5 in the right arm, (1 erased star on the buttock), 1 on each thigh, 1 on the right knee and 1 on the right foot, or 16 stars in all.

'FIGURA SONANTIS CANONUM' does not have its own red rubric to denote a new description, unlike all the others. He is a seated male figure in a long robe with a soft hat on his head. He sits on a boxy seat with a perforated bottom section and a cushion as a seat. He plays a multi-stringed lyre with both hands. He has 2 stars in the hat, 1 on each shoulder, 2 in the waist and 3 on the seat, or 9 stars in all.

Vienna text: Figura sonantis canonem que vocatur alio nomine fidicula habet stellas 17. in hoc modo quoniam in prima facie sunt quattuor, in secunda tres, in tertia tres, in novissima 7 unde in hoc signo dicitur esse alterum signum multarum stellarum luce multa ornatum cuius nomen est Canopus seu ptolomeon et quasi tangit temonem navis argo.

DELPHINUS is a long fish swimming to the left. It has 1 star on the mouth, 2 on the head, 1 on the back, 3 on the belly and 2 on the tail, or 9 stars in all.

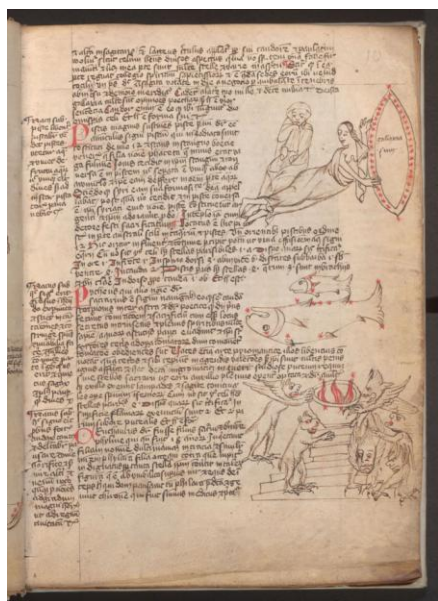
fol. 9r **ORION** stands facing the viewer and walking to the left. He is dressed in armour, with a skirt, and wears a decorated helmet on his head. With his right arm he holds a large ogive shield with a spike in the centre in front of him. He raises a sword vertically with his left hand. He has 3 stars on his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his left elbow, 1 on his left hand, 3 in the sword, 3 in the belt, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 17 stars in all.

CANIS MAIOR is a sleek hound that leaps to the left and has a long tail. He has 1 star on his mouth, 1 on the head, 2 in the neck, 1 in 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. 9v **LEPUS** bounces to the left and has 1 star in the left ear, 2 on the face, 1 on the chest and 1 on each hind leg, or 6 stars in all.

ARGO is depicted as half a ship set in water with its cut-off at the right. It has a single mast, with ropes leading to 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. It has 3 stars in the mast, 4 in the turtle, 3 along the top, 5 surrounding the *aphlaston*, 9 in the steering oars and 5 in the water beneath the rowing oars or 28 stars in all.

AUSTRONOTUS is depicted as a female figure that is half-human and half-lion (note: feet with toes). She has prominent breasts on her human half, and 4 full dugs along her animal body. She holds her hands out to the sides and her hair is unbound. She has 11 stars around her head, 1 between her human breasts, 1 on her right front foot, 3 on her haunch, 2 on her left hind foot, and 3 on the tip of the tail, or 21 stars in all.



fol. 10r

fol. 10r **DEMON MERIDIANIS** (*sic*) is depicted as two figures: a female (?) figure to the left, wearing a mantle over her head, and staring to the left with a melancholic expression; and a female figure wearing a toga, which exposes her breasts, and who seems to fly to the right. She holds a mandorla vertically in her hands. The mandorla is decorated with 1 star at the top, 1 at the bottom and 37 stars within its frame. The mandorla is labelled: 'gallaxia sum'.

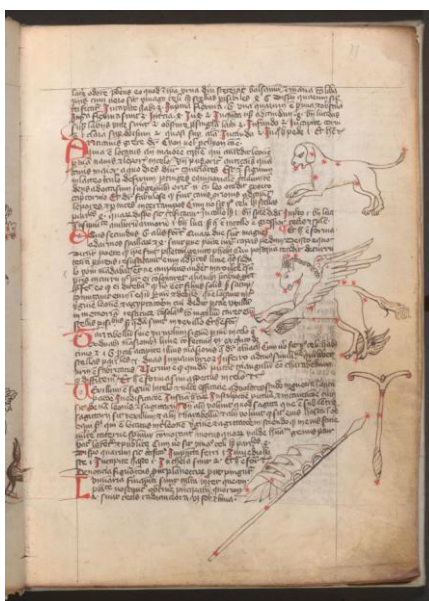


fol. 10v

PISCIS AUSTRINUS is depicted as a large upside-down 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. The little fish has 3 stars on its gills. The larger one has 11 stars.

ARA is a cup-shaped altar with red flames coming out of the top and standing on 6 or 7 steps. There are 5 demons standing and flying around it. There are 4 stars in the rim of the cup.

fol. 10v **CENTAURUS** is a centaur with cloven feet that trots to the right. He wears a mantle about his shoulders and waist that streams out behind him. His human half is nude and he is beardless. He holds his right hand, palm upwards, extended in front of him. The **LUPUS** (a dog) rests on its back in the palm, with its feet pointing upwards. A censer hangs from the centaur's right wrist. He holds a spear in his left hand so that its 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. He has 3 stars in the head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on the chest, 1 on the right elbow, 2 on the animal-back, 2 on the right animal-shoulder, 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, 3 on the tail and 3 in the censer, or 24 in all. There are 3 stars in the head of **LUPUS**, 2 in the tail and 1 dot on the left hind foot, or 6 stars in all.



fol. 11r

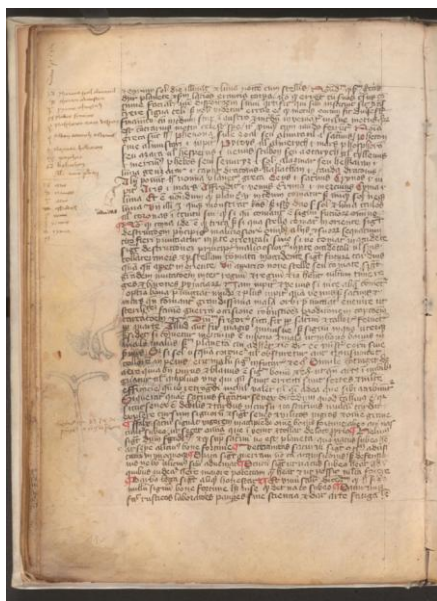
HYDRA is depicted as a long snake that climbs into the braches of a tree at the left. A two-handed **CRATER** is placed on his back and a forward-facing **CORVUS** with its mouth open on its tail. Hydra has 16 stars, Crater has 8 and Corvus has 5 stars.

fol. 11r **CANIS MINOR** is a blunt-faced hound that leaps to the left. It has 1 star on the mouth, 1 in the ear, 1 on the chest, 2 on the back, 1 on the genitals and 1 on the tip of the tail, or 7 stars in all.

EQUUS SECUNDUS is a full winged horse with wings on each of its 4 feet, running to the left. It has 3 stars on the face, 2 on the head, 1 dot on each wing, 1 star on the chest, 2 on the haunch, 1 near the anus, 1 on each front hoof, 1 dot in the belly, 1 star on the genitals and 1 on each hind hoof, or 17 stars in all.

TARBELLUM is an awl with 2 stars in the handle and 3 in the drill.

VEXILLIUM is a flag with 2 stars in the flag and 3 along the spearheaded shaft.



fol. 11v



fol. 12v



fol. 13r

fol. 12v **SATURN** 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 and has a shield swung on his left shoulder. There is a scabbard just visible behind his back.

JUPITER wears a bishop's mitre on his head and holds a sceptre topped by a fleur-de-lis in his right hand. He holds a pair of gloves in his left hand and stands behind a table laden with food. There is some sort of extension from his collar that looks like a hook holding a cap (!).

MARS is dressed as a warrior with a long-handled spear in his right hand, a crossbow hung on his back, a short sword on his right hip, a mace on his left hip and a scabbard peeking out from behind his right hip. In front of him, he holds a shield that has a lion's (?) face on it. The arquebus to the left is a later addition.

VENUS wears a crown and sniffs at a flower (note tht Venus's flower seems to have small feet coming from it!).

fol. 13r MERCURY also wears a bishop's hat and carries a long stick in his right hand and holds a book close to his chest in his right hand.

SOL/APOLLO stands frontally in a quadriga, with the horses spilt into two groups, He has red rays coming from his head (labelled: calor solis), holds a red torch in his right hand (labelled: splendour solis) and a sphere in his left hand (labelled: corpus tocius terre). The horses to the left are labelled: 'rubeus .i. oriens', and the ones to the right are labelled: 'phylogenus.i.occidens'.



fol. 15r **LUNA** stands in a rough wooden cart drawn by two oxen. She turns to look back over her shoulder to the left. The cart appears to be travelling on clouds or water. She holds two flaming torches vertically in her hands, which are stretched out in front of her. She has a large red crescent moon on her head.

notes

Cod. 2378 - notes from ÖNB website:

Title: Astronomical and natural science compilation

Origin: Prague

Date: second half 14th C, c. 1375

Description: manuscript, I + 63 + i* pages; parchment; coloured brush drawings; 285 x 200 mm

Provenance: Nicolaus, a Canon from Prague, 14th-15th C
 Contents: Anonymous, *Noticia ordinum stellarum fixarum*
 Anonymous, *Glossarum chemicum*
 Tābit ibn Qurra, *De imaginibus*
 Thomas de Cantiprato, *De naturis rerum vel De natura rerum* (Red. III)
 Thomas Aquinas, *De naturalibus*

Re: provenance, see fol. 1r: liber iste Nicolai canonic[i] ecclesie pragensis.

In a personal correspondence (November 2016), Prof Paul Kunitzsch discussed the readings and possible significance of the references to stars with Latinised Arabic names in the labels near some of the zodiacal constellations. He noted that several of the labels alongside the zodiac constellations appeared to be paranatellonta of the signs ('whose longitude (or meditation) values fall into the zodiac sign'). Several, however, remain unidentifiable.

Aries	in pede dextro est pentilago 10° (But I don't know and cannot find out what "pentilago" could be.)		
Taurus	caput algol 10°	caput dyaboli	= β Per
Gemini	1. Castor	alge[n]ze	= α Ori
	2. Pollux	rigil	= β Ori
Cancer	alabor		= α CMa (Sirius)
	algomeic (?)		= α CMi (Procyon)
	agiozides (?)		= ?
Leo	albiclus (?) 6°		= ?
	cor leonis		= α Leo
	alzarchas (?)		= β Leo (al-şarfa) ?
Libra	alrauec (?)		= α Boo (alramech) ?
Sagittarius	razalange		= α Oph
	alanrens (?)		= ?

The labels found on the non-zodiacal constellations refer to details connected to the figure's mythological identity (as described by Scot) and are not astronomical, with the exception of the reference to 'Algol' alongside the constellation of Perseus.

bibliography

ZINNER 1925, no. 9466.

SAXL 1927, pp. 99-101.

UNTERKIRCHER 1, p. 69.

KRCHŇÁK 1963, p. 119, 126.

FISCHER 1970, p. 346.

KRÁSA 1971, p. 276.

BAUER 1983, pp. 8, 11, 33f, 41, 44, 48f, 51f, 67, 77, 79, notes 89, 92, 290.

GÖTTERN, HEROEN, HERRSCHEN 1990, pp. 148-89, fig. 39d.

ŚNIEŻYNSKA-STOLOT 1998, p. 99;

ROLAND 1999, pp. 76-77, fig. vi.

BUTCHER 2008;

ACKERMANN 2013, pp. 539-42.

dates to 1375; part of the 'Bohemian' group of Scot mss, notes the provenance reference to the Prague Canon 'Nikolaus' on fol. 1r; agrees with the dating to c. 1375 by Roland 1999, pp. 76-77; interesting to note that this ms and the luxury ms, Vienna ÖNB 2352, dated 1392-93, show two such different levels of quality for the same place and generally same period.

JENNI – THEISEN, 2014, pp. 69-89 (no. 1).

BLUME—HAFFNER – METZGER 2016, II, i, pp. 42-45, 47, 50, 209-24 (no. 12), II, iii, figs 118-33.

pp. 40-45: one of two copies of *Liber de signis* from Prague dating to the 14th C (along with Vienna 2352); all the mss from this period show an incorporation of contemporary elements in the dress and attributes

p. 50: sees a connection between the Vienna ONB 2378 planetary gods and those in Bernkastel-Kues, showing a path of transmission in the Czech-German area

pp. 209-14: Bohemian, probably Prague, c. 1375; contents mostly medico-astrological with a bit of alchemy; the canon identified as 'Nikolaus' has not yet been identified

notes that Krása (1971, p. 276) says this ms is the direct model for the Wenceslaus ms (Vienna ONB 2352), but it is unlikely that it was the only model as the latter does not have

the small descriptions of the constellation in the margins (Draco, Hercules, etc.); believes instead that there was a common model, dating to about 1130 from which shared elements of costume, etc were taken; notes also that the astrological sections ('natus sub') stand in separate paragraphs, similar to Munich 10268 and is probably the original format (and the mss in which the paragraphs are integrated may be later).

colour digital images = ÖNB-HANNA-Katalogue (<http://aleph.onb.ac.at/>)

consulted – Oct 2015