

## Göttweig

## Benediktinerstift, Stiftsbibliothek

Ms 146 red/190 black (*olim* Ms 7)

\* *Revised Aratus latinus (Aratus latinus recensio interpolata)*  
Cicero, *Aratea* with Hyginus *scholia*

North Italian (Lombard? Emilian?)  
second half 15th century

text

ff. 1r-16v		<i>Revised Aratus latinus</i>
ff. 1r-2v	I.	ARATI EA QUE VIDENTUR OSTEN/sionem quoque de quibus uidentur oportet fieri — quorum ab eo dicta sunt.
ff. 2v-3r	IIa & b.	erat osthenis ( <i>sic</i> ) de circha exornationem stellarum et thimologiam de quibus videntur — (through Hipparchus, <i>De magnitudine et positione errantium stellarum</i> ) — aries. taurus. gemini.
ff. 2v-3r	IIIa.	quibus arati videntur — <span style="background-color: yellow;">CHECK expl</span>
fol. 3v	IIIb.	ALIA DESCRIPTIO PREFATIONIS. Subtus terram — pedes navis pupis. (ends imperfectly).
fol. 4r	V.	ARATI GENUS. ARATUS PATRIS QUIDEM EST ATHI/nodori filius matris autem — autem illum et super.
fol. 4v	VI.	DE CAELI POSITIONE. CAELUM CIRCULUS QUINQUE DISTINGUITUR quorum duo — ante posita his deformia.
ff. 4v-5v	VII.	De stellis fixis et stantibus. Stellarum alie circum — aut visus est.

ff. 5v-6r VIII – IX. Involutio spherie (*sic*). HIC EST STELLARUM ORDO UTRORUM rum (*sic*) que circularum — Jovis. mars. sol. venus. mercurius. luna.

ff. 6v-16r X – XI. VERTICES EXTREMOS CIRCA QVOS SPHE/ra celi uoluitur — ad capiendos lepores sive in omni studio vendi exercitatus. et titent. Habet quidem stellas.

**note:** The current foliation disguises the fact that there are two sections of missing text (and their illustrations). The first is a missing page between ff. 9v and 10r with the depictions of the constellations of GEMINI, CANCER, LEO and AURIGA. The second is several missing pages between the present ff. 14v and 15r that would have contained SAGITTARIUS, AQUILA, DELPHINUS, ORION, CANIS MAIOR, LEPUS, NAVIS and ERIDANUS

ff.16r-16v XII. Cum sole et luna septima astra numerantur — (ending imperfectly) et sapientiam percipere arbitrabantur (cf. Maass 1898, pp. 272-75).

**note:** The imperfect ending means that the sections on the Milky Way, the Zodiac, the Moon, Sun and the Presepe/Asini are also missing.

ff. 17r-31v Cicero, *Aratea* with Hyginus *scholia* (see Cicero section for a full description).

**illustrations**



fol. 6r



fol.6v



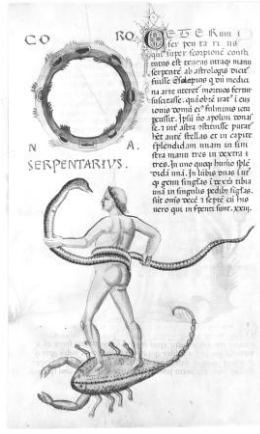
fol. 7r



fol.7v



fol. 8r



fol. 8v



fol. 9r



fol. 9v



fol. 10r



fol. 10v



fol. 11r



fol. 11v



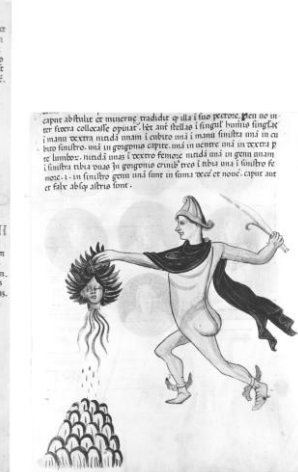
fol. 12r



fol. 12v



fol. 12v



fol. 13r



fol. 13v



fol.14r



fol. 14v



fol.15r



fol. 15v



fol. 16r

fol. 6r A celestial globe showing 9 constellations. PERSEUS, AURIGA and URSA MAIOR (here presented as a rabbit) are above the zodiacal band; ARIES, TAURUS and GEMINI in the zodiacal band and ERIDANUS, the hind legs of CANIS MAIOR and ARGO are below the band. The stand consists of 6 columns supporting the horizon ring and of one central support for the meridian ring. The columns and the central support are decorated.

ff. 6v-16v An incomplete set of full colour drawings of 28 constellation groupings with no stars marked. Most of the constellation drawings are bounded by labels in capital letters. There are no pictures of the following: Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Sagittarius, Aquila, Delphinus, Orion, Canis Maior, Lepus, Navis, Cetus and Eridanus.

fol. 6v **URSA MAIOR** (labelled: ARCTURUS MAIOR) faces to the left with its mouth open. It has a hump and a short tail.

fol. 7r **URSA MINOR** (labelled: ARCTURUS MINOR) runs to the left with its with nose in the air. It has a short tail and its mouth is closed.

fol. 7v **DRACO INTER ARCTOS** (labelled: SERPENS ARCTURUS INTER AMBAS) with **DRACO** as a snake with 3 bends, facing to the right with flames coming out of its mouth. The Bears face in opposite directions and into the body of the Snake and

are placed back-to-back. They appear between the second and third bends, and both have short tails. The upper one is smaller.

fol. 8r **HERCULES** (labelled: HERCULES) is in the Garden of the Hesperides with the snake and the tree to the left. He is nude and kneels on his left knee towards the left with his back to the viewer. He holds the lion's skin (which looks like a furry cape with a face on it) so that it covers his extended left arm. He holds a short knife upraised in his left hand behind his head. There are also plants behind the hero.

fol. 8v **CORONA BOREALIS** (labelled: CORONA) is a circlet with 7 oval jewels and 1 square one at the bottom.

**OPHIUCHUS** (labelled: SERPENTARIUS) stands with his back facing the viewer and is nude. He holds **SERPENS** so that it wraps twice around his waist and the snake turns to face the man. Ophiuchus stands with both feet on the back of **SCORPIO**, which has 2 claws to the left and 8 legs and a segmented tail with a hook on the end.

fol. 9r **SCORPIO**<sup>2</sup> (labelled: SCORPIUS) appears separately and is identical to the first, facing to the left, with 2 claws, 8 legs and a segmented tail with a hook on the end.

**BOOTES** (labelled: BOOTES) stands facing away from the viewer towards the left, wearing a short skirt, with a bare torso and bare feet. He has an animal skin covering his extended left arm and a curved stick raised in his right behind his head.

fol. 9v **VIRGO** stands facing the viewer dressed in a long tunic with decorative bands at the neck, the hem and down the front of her dress, with a looser mantle draped over it. She has no wings and holds both her arms outstretched to the sides. With her right hand, she holds a palm frond and points her index finger. In her left hand, she holds the Scales on her index finger.

fol. 10r **AURIGA** (labelled: AGITATOR) faces the viewer and kneels to the right. He wears a short tunic with decorative banding over leggings and has a drape that loops over his left shoulder that then flows out behind him. He holds a stick with a single flail upraised in his right hand and two small goats, facing each other, stand on his outstretched left arm. He seems to have a halo around his head. There is a large goat standing and facing him.

**TAURUS** (labelled: TAURUS) is depicted as half a bull, facing to the right, with its left foot forward and its right hoof tucked under its body.

- fol. 10v **CEPHEUS** (labelled: CEPHEUS EURIPIDES) stands facing the viewer, wearing a short tunic with decorative horizontal banding around the chest, waist and hem and on the sleeves. He has a longer cloak hanging from his shoulders with bits forming V-shaped swags at his shoulders. He wears a mitre and has a halo around his head. His arms are outstretched to the sides, but he has no other attributes.
- fol. 11r **CASSIOPEIA** (labelled: CASSIOPEIA) is seated on a square, boxy throne with a high back with turned supports and a cushion on its seat. She is dressed in a tight tunic and has a drape over her legs. She has a tall domed hat and a halo around her head. She holds her hands out to the sides.
- fol. 11v **ANDROMEDA** stands facing the viewer, dressed in a long, semi-transparent gown with tubular sleeves hanging from her elbows. She has stylized water behind her (like a baptism) and stands resting her hands on two large plants and she has stylised plants around her feet. Her hair is exposed, and she has a halo around her head.
- fol. 12r **PEGASUS** (labelled: EQUUS) is depicted as half a winged horse, facing to the right, with its feet placed in front of it.
- ARIES** (labelled: ARIES) prances to the left with his head turned backwards towards the right. He wears a disc around his middle and has small, curled horns. His male genitalia are visible.
- fol. 12v **TRIANGULUM** is an equilateral triangle with a highly-decorated surface.
- PISCES** swim in opposite directions, with both their backs facing upwards and connected with a line at their mouths.
- fol. 13r **PERSEUS** lunges to the left with his back towards the viewer. He is nude with a cloak that covers his left shoulder and then flows out behind him. He wears an odd Phrygian cap and winged booties. He holds a flame-haired Medusa's head in his outstretched left hand and the *harpe* behind him in his right hand. The Medusa bleeds on to a pile of rocks.
- fol. 13v The 7 **PLEIADES** are depicted as veiled women with dots around their heads and are set in roundels.
- fol. 14r **LYRA** (labelled: LIRA) is a square instrument with straight vertical supports on either side, as well as curved oxen horns. There are 9 strings held by pegs running between the crossbar and the base.
- CYGNUS** (labelled: CYCNUS) is a goose-like bird standing to the right with its right foot up and its wings outstretched to the sides.

fol. 14v **AQUARIUS** (labelled: AQUARIUS) stands facing to the right. His torso is nude, but he has leggings and a long flowing cloak. He wears a mitre on his head and has a halo. He holds the upside-down urn in both hands to the right in front of him, from which water pours.

**CAPRICORN** (labelled: CAPRICORNUS) faces to the left and has short, curved horns, a beard and a curl in its tail.

fol. 15r **PISCIS** (labelled: PISCIS) swims to the left and is lying upside-down on its back with a gaping mouth.

**ARA** (labelled: SACRARIUM) is a square tower made from bricks and standing on small rectangular supports. It has a cylindrical uppermost storey, numerous small windows and flames coming from the top.

fol. 15v **CENTAURUS** (labelled: CENTAURUS) walks to the right with his left front foot raised. He is bearded and holds **LUPUS** (a rabbit) by its heels in his right hand in front of him. He also has a rabbit hanging by its heels from the end of spear resting on left shoulder. There is some unidentifiable shape that covers his left arm from the elbow to the hand and sits behind his back (a cloak).

fol. 16r **HYDRA** (labelled: YDRA) as snake that moves to the right with a cup-shaped **CRATER** on the middle of its back and **CORVUS** facing towards snake's head.

**CANIS MINOR** rushes to the left with its head raised and its tongue sticking out.

fol. 30r Sol-Apollo standing on a surfboard-like plank with two wheels that is drawn to the right by horses of four different colours. He has a flaming head with a flail and a fan (?) in his right hand. He holds the reins in his left. There is also a depiction of Luna standing on a similar cart drawn to the left by 2 oxen. She is dressed in a long robe, has a crescent Moon on her head and is holding a torch in each of her outstretched hands.

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### notes

As mentioned above, the pages between the present ff. 9v and 10r are missing from the *Revised Aratus latinus* section, along with the depictions of the constellations of GEMINI, CANCER and LEO. Also, the pages between the present ff. 14v and 15r containing the constellations of SAGITTARIUS, AQUILA, DELPHINUS, ORION, CANIS MAIOR, LEPUS, NAVIS, CETUS and ERIDANUS are missing. Since

the ms ends imperfectly, the sections of text on the Milky Way, the Zodiac, the Moon, Sun and the Presepe/Asini are also missing

The illustrations fall within the **RAL Ib** group, the defining features of which are discussed in the Commentary.

There is a very close connection – possibly the same Lombard scriptorium – between the drawings in this manuscript (the labels, the halos and the constellations that are missing) and those in the other **RAL Ib** manuscript, Siena L. IV 25.

BLUME/HAFFNER/METZGER 2016 note that in 1422 Ciriaco d’Ancona discovered a ‘very ancient manuscript of Aratus’ in Vercelli, from which he copied a few passages. The passages are largely from the Cicero transl. of the *Phaenomena* (see OLIVIERUS 1763 and SOUBIRN ed. 1972, pp. 167 and 169.) The passage on Delphinus, however, appears to come from the *Recensio interpolata*, suggesting that Ciraco’s text must have contained both texts. It is likely that the Göttweig ms is a direct copy of the now-lost Vercelli ms, which was probably created in the 10th century in FLEURY (see BLUME/HAFFNER/METZGER 2013, I, pp. 89ff). See also REEVE 1980. They also note that the large-scale format of the Göttweig ms, as well as the style in which the illuminations have been painted roughly correspond to a Carolingian original, with some of the stylistic elements suggested a model stemming from the monastery of Corbie.

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### **bibliography**

OLIVIERUS 1763.

WERL 1843, p. 394,

TIETZE 1907, pp. 498–500, figs. 388 (Aquarius), 389 (Sol et Luna).

HAUBER 1916, p. 17, No. 1.

SEZNEC 1940, fig. 57 (Centaurus).

BYVANCK 1949, pp. 221-23.

for list of *Aratus latinus* mss

McGURK IV 1966, p. xiv.

one of only 2 Renaissance RAL mss.

REEVE 1980, pp. 509-11.

REEVE 1983, p. 22.

re: Cicero, says 2/2 14th or first ½ 15th c; shows in stemma.

KERSCHER 1988, pp. 1-76, esp. pp. 34-36.

says provenance might be N. Italian (Lombard, possibly Milan), or Emilian (Bologna, Modena, Padua, Ferrara) and sees connections with the style of Pisanello (!); dates 2/2 15th c; Kerschler's description of the contents (p. 34) describes the text on ff. 1r-16v as containing sections from the Latin translation of Aratus by Germanicus and as the text edited by Maass, p. 180 ff. (*i.e.*: the *Recensio interpolata*). The *Revised Aratus latinus* with additions is followed by the Cicero translation with decorative *scholia* taken from Hyginus (ff. 17r-31v). Provides a catalogue of the contents of the manuscript on pp. 34-36, suggestions on the manuscript stemmata of the different texts on pp. 38-45 and descriptions of the illustrations on pp. 45-49.

*Götter, Heroen, Herrscher in Lykien* 1990, pp. 148 and 151, fig.39k.

Stift Göttweig, exhibition catalog 1996, pp. 130–132, illustrations of fol. 9v/10r, fol. 19v/20r.

HAFFNER 1997, p. 174.

15th c (?) with Cicero and *Recensio interpolata*.

BLUME/HAFFNER/METZGER 2016, I, 1, pp. 107-09; II, 2, pp. 725-31 (no. 39); II, 3 = pls. 101-05 and figs. 907-29.

368 x 256 mm, parchment; Italian *rotunda* script;

HADRAVAVÁ 2019, esp. p. 365.

notes that the scribe appears not to have understood the text and it is therefore, 'contains a large number of errors and gibberish'.

**With thanks for corrections by Volker Matthäus – 10 Dec 2013.**