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Spencer Ms 28

*Hyginus, De astronomia*

Padua

c. 1465-70,

text

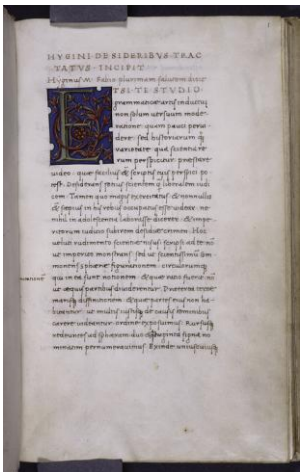
- ff. 1r-76v      Hyginus, *De astronomia*, Books I- IV (Book III illustrated)
- ff. 1r -2v      (in red) HÿGINI. DE. SIDERIBUS. TRACTATUS. INCIPIT: Hÿginus. M.  
Fabio plurimam salutem dicit. ETSI. TE. STUDIO. (in black) grammaticæ artis  
inductum non solum versuum moderatione: – & initium rerum demonstrabimus.  
(= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, I, preface; cf. Viré 1992, p. 4)
- ff. 2v-6v      (in red) De Mundo. (3r; in black) MUndus appellatur is: qui constat ex sole & luna  
– in simili causa posse constitui suspicamuR. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, I, 1-9;  
cf. Viré 1992, pp. 5-13)
- ff. 6v- 39v      (red first initial and then black) SEd quoniam quæ nobis de terrae positione  
dicenda (7r) fuerint – Nos autem omnium    corporum deformationem dicere  
instituiamus. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, II, preface-43, cf. Viré 1992, pp. 14- 94)
- ff. 39v-59r      (in red) Incipiunt figura triones siderum & primum De Arcto maiore. (first initial  
blue and then black) Igitur incipiens á polo boreo protinus dicere quo utreque  
arctos nixæ vehuntur – autem cum piscibus: Sed est stellarum omnino duodecim  
( = Hyginus, *De astronomia*, III, 1-40; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 95-124)
- ff. 59v-74v      (first initial blue and then black) QUae ad figurationem siderum pertinent ad hunc  
finem nobis erunt dicta: Reliqua protinus dicemus. (= Hyginus III, 40 ; cf. Viré  
1992, p. 124) running into:

Quoniam in initio sphæræ circuli quinque quomodo efficerentur – Annum volverunt esse cum Sol ab æstivo circulo redit. (= Hyginus, *De astronomia*, IV, 1-19; cf. Viré 1992, pp. 125-57.)

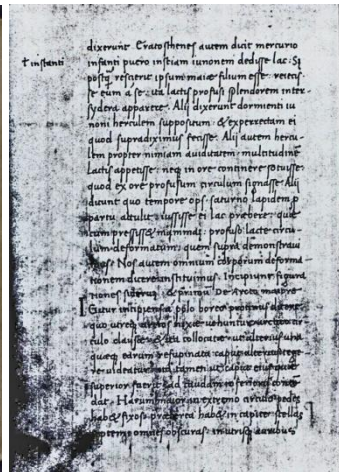
ff. 74v - 76v

(first letter blue and then black) DUo sunt extremi vertices mundi: quos appellant polos – quæ videri post signorum effusionem urnæ aquarij. quia ad ipsum usque decurrit accipies. (= *Excerptum de astrologi Arati*, cf. Maass 1898, pp. 309-12)

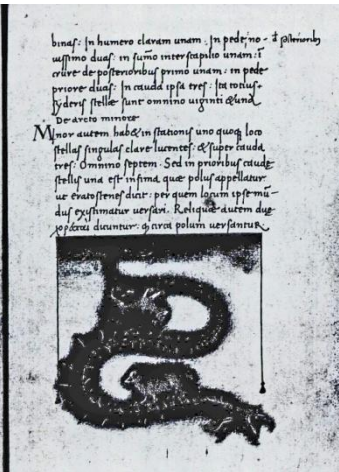
illustrations



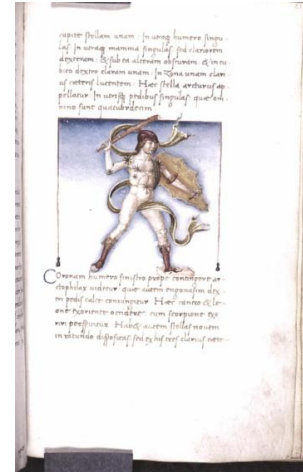
fol. 1r



fol. 39v



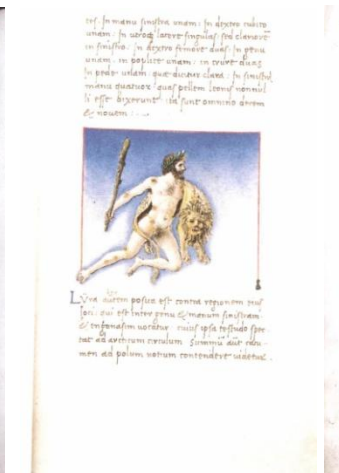
fol. 40r



fol. 41r



fol. 41v



fol. 42r



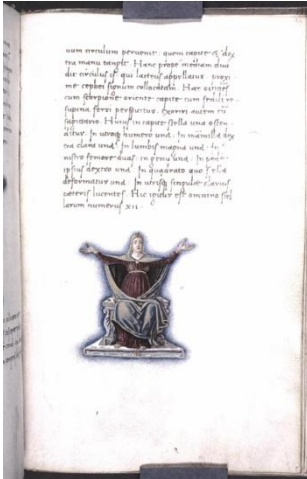
fol. 42v



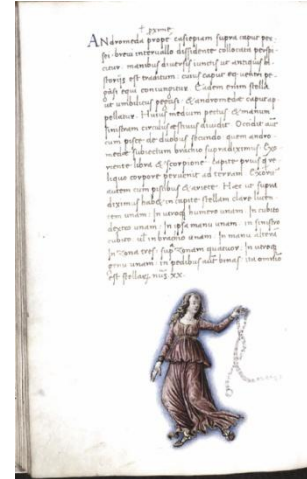
fol. 43r



fol. 43v



fol. 44r



fol. 44v



fol. 45v



fol. 46r



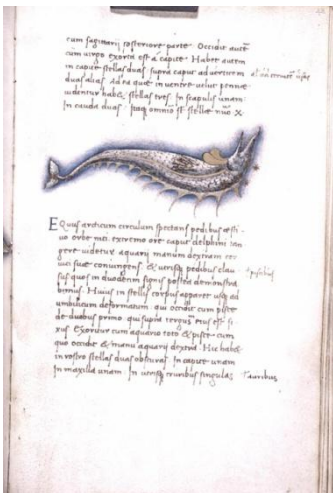
fol. 46r



fol. 47r



fol. 47v



fol. 48r



fol. 48v

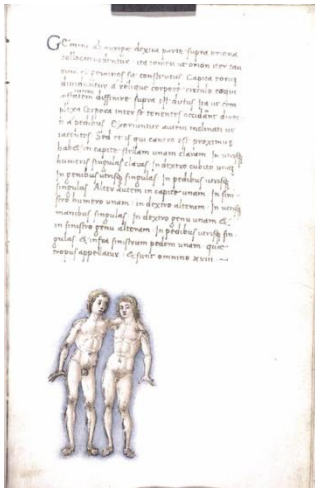


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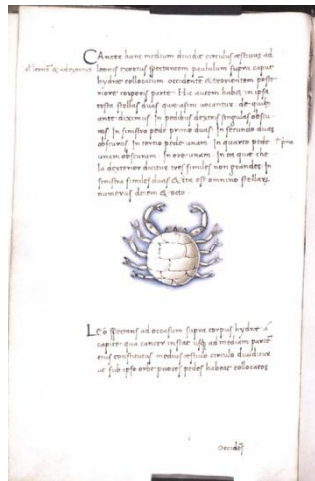


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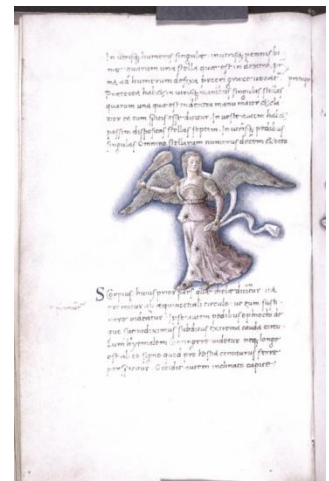
fol. 50r



fol. 50v



fol. 51r



fol. 51v



fol. 52r



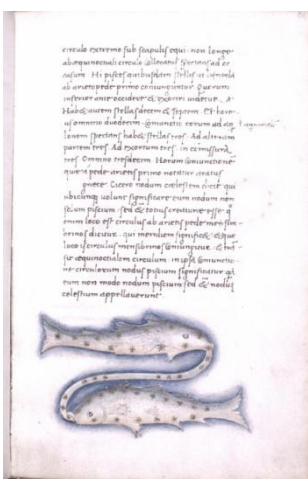
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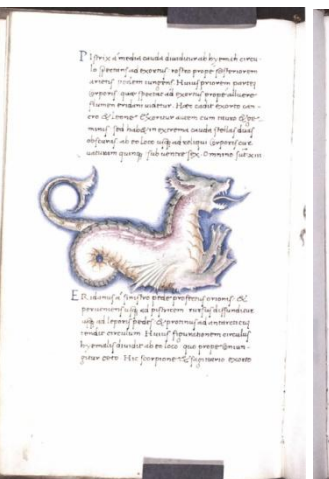
fol. 53r



fol. 54r



fol. 54v



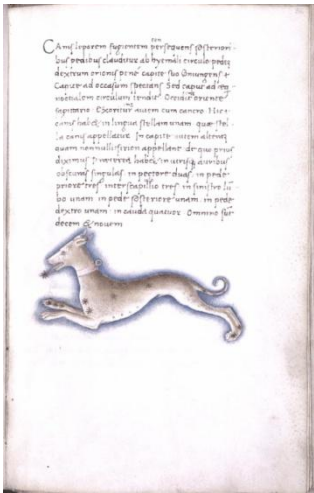
fol. 55r



fol. 55v



fol. 55v



fol. 56r



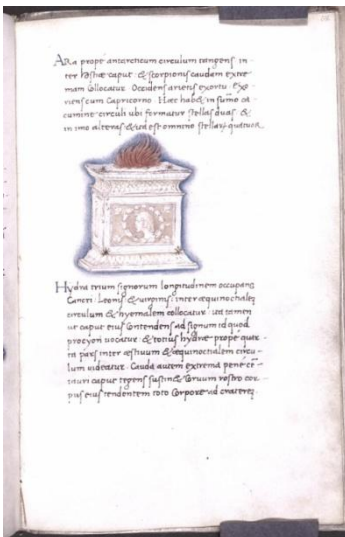
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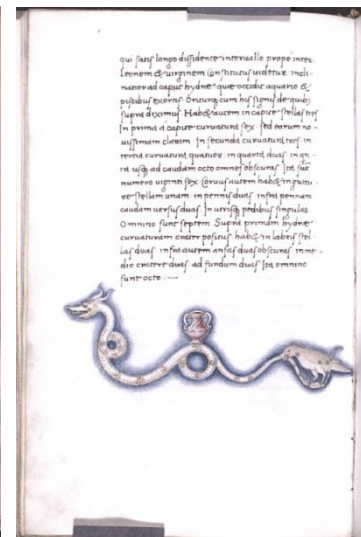
fol. 57r



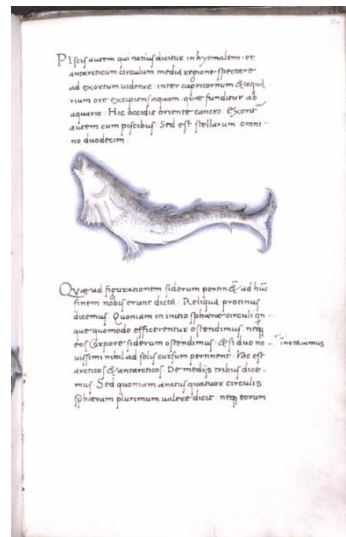
fol. 57v



fol. 58r



fol. 58v



fol. 59r

ff. 40r-59r

Delicately and illusionistically-coloured illustrations of 48 constellations with stars marked by gold star-shapes. Many of the constellations are set either against a blue background, giving the illusion of being framed by a red rope that ends in blue tassels, or they are surrounded by a blue aureole. For a discussion of the style of these illustrations, see comments below.

fol. 40r

**DRACO INTER ARCTOS** with DRACO depicted as a dragon-headed snake with 3 big bends in his green, blue-green and yellow body and a smaller bend at the end of his tail. His head is placed towards the bottom of the page, faces to the left and

has a pointed and curled snout, a beard, sharp teeth, a red tongue and long, pointed yellow and green ears. DRACO has 4 stars on his head (with possibly another star that has flaked off beneath his ear), 1 on his chin, and 10 stars in his body, or 15 or 16 stars in all. The bears are light brown and are set back-to-back and face into the curves. Both have short tails and their mouths are open. **URSA MINOR** has 1 star in each of its feet and 3 on its tail, or 7 stars in all. There is also a gold dot just below the end of his tail. **URSA MAIOR** has 7 dots on its head and 1 in each ear, 2 on its neck, 2 on its right forefoot, 2 in its left his foot and 1 in its right hind foot and 3 on its tail, or 19 stars in all. The three figures are set against a blue sky framed by a red-tasseled rope.

fol. 41r **BOOTES** faces the viewer and is standing to the right and is nude, save a red helmet, shin-length, red open-toed sandals that have a lion's head decorating the right one and crossed lion's paws on the left and a greenish swath of drapery that runs from above his body in front of his head, around his club, over his left shoulder, behind his hips, through his legs and crosses in front of his left thigh before ending in a flourish at the right. He holds a straight club above his head with his right hand and has an elaborate shield strapped to his left arm that is held in front of him. The shield is turned so the viewer can see the red straps. He rests his left foot on a low pink box. He has 1 star near his club above his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in his right elbow, 1 in each nipple, 1 below the right nipple, 1 at his waist, 4 on his left hand and 1 in each foot, or 14 stars in all. He is set in front of a blue sky framed by a red-tasseled rope.

fol. 41v **CORONA BOREALIS** is a golden crown with red and jewel inlaid around the headband and acanthus motifs along the top. It has 9 stars and is set against a blue sky framed by a red-tasseled rope.

fol. 42r **HERCULES** faces the viewer and is nude. His posture is a kneeling one, but as he does not rest on a ground line, he appears to be floating to the right with his legs bent at the knees. He is bearded and wears a laurel crown on his head. He wears the tan lion's skin draped over his left shoulder so it covers his left arm completely. The body of the skin wraps round his back, with the tail running round him right hip, through his legs and behind his left calf. Three feet and the face of the lion are visible. The hero holds a knobby club vertically behind his body in his right hand. He has a laurel crown on his head. He has 1 star in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 21 on each side of his waist, 3 to the right of his groin, 2 in his right knee, 2 in his right shin, and the remains of a

star on his right foot, or at least 15 stars. There is also a large star on the back of the lion's skin and 5 in its face. Together, there are 21 stars in all. He is set against a blue sky framed by a red-tasseled rope.

- fol. 42v **LYRA** is an oval wooden harp with 2 C-shaped sounding holes on either side of the 9 strings and decorative spirals at the top. There are 0 stars and it is set against a blue sky.
- fol. 43r **CYGNUS** is white with a black beak and feet and stands facing to the left with wings outspread. It has 1 star in its head, 1 in its neck, 2 in its right wing and 3 in its left wing and 1 on its tail, or 8 stars in all. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 43v **CEPHEUS** stands facing the viewer with his arms and legs extended so his body makes the shape of an 'X'. He wears a blue and gold crown and tiara on his head and is bearded. His dress is crimson and his shoulder mantle and sleeves and tall boots are blue with gold highlights. His belt is gold. He has 2 stars on his crown, 1 on each shoulder, 1 in his right elbow, 1 in each hand, 1 at his right side, 3 at his waist, 2 on his left knee, and 3 on each foot, or 19 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 44r **CASSIOPEIA** sits on a carved grey-white marble throne with a low back with a step for her to rest her feet on. She is dressed in a long red gown with a gold belt and has a blue mantle over her shoulders that comes together at her lap and covers her legs. Her blonde hair is exposed. She holds her arms out to either side. She has 1 star in her head, 1 in each shoulder, 1 on each breast, 2 in her lap and 1 on her left knee, 1 on her right foot, and 3 on her throne (1 to either side of her hips and 1 between her feet), or 12 stars in all. She is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 44v **ANDROMEDA** faces the viewer and walks to the left. She is dressed in a long red *peplos*-like dress that is caught under the breast with a gold cord and is gathered at her hips. Her right hand is held down by her side and her left arm is held out horizontally behind her, holding a length of white chain that ends in two rings. Her blonde hair is exposed. She has 1 star on her head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on each elbow, 1 in each hand, 4 across her breast and 3 at her waist, 4 above the waist, 1 on each knee and 2 on each foot, or 20 stars in all. She is surrounded by a blue aureole.

- fol. 45v **PERSEUS** is seen from the rear and is wearing a breastplate of silver armour with gold dots and with a tan leather skirt, but without a helmet on his head, which is covered with blonde curls. He is standing turned to the left. He wears red knee-length sandals with decorative gold tops and golden wings at the heels. He holds the Medusa's head by its hair in his left hand in front of him (the Medusa has two golden snakes and golden bat wings coming from the top of her head) and he holds a long curved sword upraised in his right hand so the blade runs horizontally above his head. He has 1 star on each shoulder, 1 on his back, 2 on his left hip, 1 in each hand, 1 in each knee, 2 on his left shin and 1 on his right shin, 1 on his right foot, with 4 in the Medusa's head, or 17 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 46r **AURIGA** stands facing the viewer in long red *peplos* with blue and gold tight-fitting sleeves underneath. The costume, face and the proportions of the body suggests that this figure is female, though the blonde hair is short as is tied with a white athlete's band. She stands with legs wide apart with her long skirt cut so that each leg is visible from thigh to bare toe. She holds a lasso upraised in the right hand and two small goats are clutched by their heels in her left hand. There is a third goat rearing on its hind legs on her left forearm. She has 1 star on her head, 1 on the right shoulder, 1 on each elbow, 2 in the faces of the goats and 1 on Capra, or 7 stars in all. She is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 47r **OPHIUCHUS** is a nude male with short blonde hair that walks to the right facing the viewer, and holds the green **SERPENS** so that it wraps once around his hips and turns to face him, sticking its tongue out. He has 1 star on his head, 1 star in each shoulder, 2 on his back, 4 in his right hand, 3 on his left hand, 1 on each knee, 1 on the right shin and 1 on each foot, or 14 stars in all. The **SERPENS** has 3 dots and 2 stars on its head and 17 along its body. Both figures are surrounded by a blue aureole. **SAGITTA** points to the right and has 2 stars on the tip, 1 in the shaft and 1 at the notched end, or 4 stars in all. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 47v **AQUILA** is greyish-brown stands to the right and has both his wings outstretched on either side. His golden beak is open. He has 1 star in his head, 1 on each wing and 1 in his tail, or 4 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 48r **DELPHINUS** is bluish-green placed up-side down, on his back, and with his head to the right. He has a pointed beak with sharp golden teeth and a golden waddle



beneath his chin and a golden line down his body. He has 2 stars above his head, 2 in his head, 1 in his neck, 3 on his body and 2 on his tail, or 10 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.

- fol. 48v **PEGASUS** is depicted as half a winged horse, with parti-coloured wings in pink, green, orange and blue. His body is yellow. He faces to the right. He has 2 stars on his nose, 2 on his head, 4 on his neck, 1 on his back, 1 in his chest, 1 on his right shoulder, 1 on his belly, 2 on each knee and 1 on each shin, or 18 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 49r **ARIES** is walking to left with his head turned back to the right. He is depicted *intra Triangulum* ('ex oriens intra triangulum', but here 'intra' is corrected in the text to 'infra') and bites the right edge of the triangle. He raises his right forefoot and has golden horns. He has 1 star in his head, 3 in his neck, 5 on his shoulder, 1 in his right forefoot and 1 in his left hind foot, or 11 stars in all. The TRIANGULUM is white and has 1 star in each corner, or 3 stars in all. Both figures are jointly surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 49v **TAURUS** is depicted as half a bull facing to the left. His body is cut off by a series of curved lines that are coloured blue, green and pink. He has golden horns and hoofs. He has 1 star in each horn, 1 at the base of each horn, 1 above his eyes, 1 in his chest, 3 on the shoulder, 1 on each knee and 1 on his left forefoot, or 14 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 50r **GEMINI** are both nude and stand facing the viewer with their inner arms over each other's shoulder. Their outer arms are held down by their sides. Both have short blonde hair. The left Twin has 1 star in his head, 1 on his left shoulder, 1 on his right elbow, 1 in each hand, 1 on each knee, 1 in his right foot and 2 in his left foot, or 10 stars in all. The right Twin has 1 star in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 above his right elbow (juts above the left shoulder of the left Twin), 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 8 stars in all. They are surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 50v **CANCER** is a round-bodied tan crab with a segmented shell that faces towards the top of the page. He has two large claws and 8 legs. He has 3 stars on his nose, 4 stars in each claw, 4 stars in his left legs and 1 star in his right legs, or 16 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.

fol. 51r **LEO** is white and walks to the left, raising his right forepaw. His tail curls through his hind legs and his mouth is pink. He has 3 stars in his head, 2 in his neck, 1 in his chest, 2 below the chest, 3 on his back, 2 on his right forepaw, 1 on the middle of the belly, 1 below the belly, 1 on the haunch, 1 on his left rear foot and 1 in the middle of his tail and 1 at the end of it, or 19 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.

fol. 51v **VIRGO** is winged and walks to the left while looking back over her shoulder to the right. She wears a pink *peplos* and her upper torso is covered with a green and pink cuirass or fitted bodice. She has a piece of white drapery that seems to emanate from her waistband, wrap around her shoulder and come back to her body to be held by her right hand before fluttering out behind her. She holds a sheaf of wheat in her upraised right hand. Her blonde hair is exposed. She has 1 star in her head, 1 in each shoulder, 2 on her right wing and 2 on her left, 1 on each hand, 2 in her hips, 2 at her knees and 3 along her hem and 1 on each foot, or 18 stars in all. She is surrounded by a blue aureole.

fol. 52r **SCORPIO** is white and light grey and faces to the left and has two large claws and 6 legs on either side. His tail is segmented and ends in a sting. He holds the white **SCALES** in his right claw. He has 3 stars in his head and 3 in his body, 2 in each claw, 2 just below his body between his left legs, 5 in his segmented tail and 1 star on the sting, or 18 stars in all. The **SCALES** have no stars. Both are jointly surrounded by a blue aureole.

fol. 52v **SAGITTARIUS** is depicted as a centaur leaping to the left with his back facing the viewer. His human half is nude, he wears a white ribbon in his blonde hair, is bearded and has a pink quiver full of arrows at the juncture where his human half meets his equine half. He holds the bow in his left hand and pulls the string with his right. He has 2 stars on his head, 2 in his back, 1 in his right elbow, 1 on his left hand, 1 on his human hip (and the traces of 2 further stars on his horse's chest), 1 on his right foreknee, 2 on his left foreknee, and the traces of 1 star on his right front hoof. There are 2 on his bow, 1 on his arrow and 1 on his tail, or at least 17 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.

**CORONA AUSTRINUS** appears as a white crown with blue stones beneath the feet of Sagittarius and has 7 stars. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.

- fol. 53r      **CAPRICORN** faces to the left and has two curved golden horns and a very thick mane on his neck. He has a twist in his tail and the tail ends in a fan-shape. His goat half is pinkish-white and his fish half is pink, blue and green. He has 1 star on his nose, 1 on his neck, 6 on his back, 2 on his chest, 7 on his belly, 2 in his front right hoof and 2 on the end of the tail, or 21 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 54v      **AQUARIUS** is nude and nearly kneels to the right. He has an elaborate light blue drape that runs in a circle from his waist over his back, through his legs and then falls in a series of curves by his feet. He holds an elaborate gold and white urn on his left shoulders, wrapping both arms around it and holding the handle with his left hand. It pours a stream into a splash-form. He has 2 stars on his head, 1 on the right should, 1 in each nipple, 1 on his right hand, 1 on his back, 1 on each knee, 1 on the right shin and 1 on each foot, or 12 stars in all. In addition, there are 2 stars in or close to the right side of the urn and 16 stars in the water, of which the first and the last are drawn larger (brighter). Together, there are 30 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 54      **PISCES** are blue-green on their back and orange-pinkish-white on their bellies and swim in opposite directions and have both their back facing upwards. Their mouths are connected by a thick cord. The top fish has 12 stars, the stream has 12 stars and the bottom fish has 17 stars, or 41 stars in all. They are jointly surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 54v      **CETUS** is a sea-dragon facing to the right and has a highly-coloured body of bright green, pink and tawny colours. He has fins instead of wings and lizard-like forefeet. His ears are spiky, his teeth are sharp and he has a long pointed tongue. He has a curl in his tail and it ends in a fan-shape. He has 6 stars in his belly, 5 stars in his tail and 2 on the end of his tail, or 13 stars in all. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 55r:      **ERIDANUS** is depicted as elderly merman facing to the left. He has reeds woven around his head. He has a long, forked white beard and his human half wears a tan shirt. His fish part is blue-green and pink-orange and scaly with fins and a single curl in the tail and ends in a fan-shape. He holds the pink and gold urn out in front of him with both hands and blue water gushes out. He has 13 stars in the water. (The under-drawing here suggests that the urn was originally seen foreshortened). He is surrounded by a blue aureole.

**LEPUS** runs to the left. It has 1 star on each ear, 1 on its belly, 1 on each fore paw and 1 on its haunch, or 6 stars in all. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.

- fol. 55v **ORION** rushes to the left, while facing the viewer. He wears a golden cuirass and a short green skirt and a crimson cape that flutters out behind him. He has sandals on his feet and his knees are protected by armour. He is bearded and holds a gold-headed mace raised above his head in his right hand and he holds his left hand on the handle of his red-bladed sword, which is carried within its scabbard on his left hip from a strap that hangs on his right shoulder. He has 3 stars in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 3 in his scabbard with the sword, 3 along the strap that holds his sword, 1 on his right elbow, 1 in his right hand, 1 on each knee and 1 on each foot, or 17 stars in all. He also has 8 gold dots indicating the rivets holding his armour together down his left side. These are not stars. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 56r **CANIS MAIOR** is a sleek brown hound that bounds to the left with his tongue sticking out. It has a thick pink collar with a golden ring. It has 1 star on its tongue, 1 on its forehead, 1 on each ear, 4 on its back, 2 on its chest, 3 on its right fore paw, 1 on each hind foot and 4 in its tail, or 19 stars in all. There are also 4 gold dots along its belly, but these are not stars. He is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 56v **CANIS MINOR** is a snub-nosed hound that leaps to the left. It has 1 star in its head, 1 on its shoulder and 1 on its haunch, or 3 stars in all. It is surrounded by a blue aureole. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 57r **NAVIS** is half a ship with a mast with a crow's nest, rigging, a raised and decorated poop deck and two steering oars. It sails through the water to the right. It has 4 stars in the mast, 5 stars along the stern, 5 along the keel and 9 on the steering oars, or 23 stars in all.
- fol. 57v **CENTAURUS** is a centaur that leaps to the right. His human half is nude and he holds **LUPUS** (a rabbit) upside-down by its heels in his right hand. He holds an oversized arrow in his left hand and rests the pointed end over his left shoulder. He has short white hair that is bound by a white fillet and a short white beard. He has 3 stars in his head, 1 on each shoulder, 1 on his left elbow and 1 on his left hand, 1 in the horse's chest, 5 on the back, 2 on the belly, 2 in each hind knee



and 3 on his tail, or 22 stars in all. LUPUS has 2 stars in its hind feet, 2 in its tail, 1 on its back, 1 on each front paw and 1 on each ear (which are placed behind the Centaur's front knees, so the stars overlap a bit), or 9 stars in all. Together, they have 31 stars in all. Both are jointly surrounded by a blue aureole.

- fol. 58r: **ARA** is depicted as a square classical altar in pink and white marble with a portrait in profile set within a wreath depicted on the front side and red flames coming from the top. It is marked by 4 stars on the body of the altar. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 58v **HYDRA** is depicted as a long, thin snake with a dragon's head facing to the left. It has 2 curls in its body, a pointed nose and sharp teeth and long, pointed ears and a beard. His mouth is open. It is green along the back and orange-pick along the belly. The pink two-handled **CRATER** rests on the second curl and the **CORVUS** stands facing towards the front on the last bend in the body, pecking at the body of the Snake. HYDRA has 3 stars in its head, 6 at the first coil, 3 after the first coil, 4 on the second coil, 2 after that coil and at least 7 in the tail, or at least 25 stars in all. CRATER has 2 stars on the rim, 2 in the centre of the bowl, 2 below the handles, and 2 on the base, or 8 stars in all. CORVUS has 1 star in the neck, 2 on its wings, 2 below the wings towards the tail and 1 in each foot, or 7 stars in all. They are jointly surrounded by a blue aureole.
- fol. 59r **PISCIS AUSTRINUS** is a long-bodied, blue-green and orange-pink fish that swims to the left and lifts its head. Its mouth is open and it has orange gills. There are 12 stars. It is surrounded by a blue aureole.

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### notes

i (paper) +80 parchment +i (paper); parchment; outer dimensions = 235 x 152; 26 long lines, ruled in drypoint, catchwords visible; Humanistic script with rustic capital in opening rubric; 1 scribe (identified as Francesco Buzzacarini by A.C. de la Mare); 38 miniatures; attributed to Giovanni Vendramin, Douce master, *et. al.* ;

On inside cover has: 'W.M.S. 114 IIII A. Chester Beatty' and '6972 Ph' in pencil and 'Phillips 6972' in ink; opening initial has a blue background with dark crimson vine decoration on to and a green 'E'; generally in very dark brown ink verging on black with occasional corrections overwriting the script in black. Catchwords (in red) and some corrections to both the Latin and the Greek texts in black in

the margins. Handsome, clear humanistic vertical script.

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**bibliography**

DE RICCI 1935-40, II, no. 1341.

EXHIB BALTIMORE 1949, no 192, pl. LXIX.

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15th century, Italian, ff. 1-76, Books I-IV

MARIANI CANOVA 1993, pp. 132-33.

*THE PAINTED PAGE* 1995, pp. 120-21, no. 51 (by G.M.C.).

80 ff, 234 x 150 mm, on parchment; written and illuminated in Padua, c. 1465-70. Paduan because of its script and the 'littera matiniiana' at the beginning of the text. Says the stars 'almost invariably' correspond to similar ones in the copy of Hyginis made in Florence by Coluccio Salutati in the late 14th century (Vat lat 3110), but the style presupposes Paduan classicism 'and also probably a familiarity with other Hyginus illustrations much closer to the Classical tradition' (p. 120).

Figures are painted by diverse artists from the same studio. The first master is Arctophylax to Cygnus; the second master is Cepheus to Delphinus (less classical, and brighter colours, with an expressionism reminiscent of Squarcione); third master is Ophiuchus to Gemini; fourth master Cancer to Orion and the fifth master is Centaurus to Piscis. Thinks that may have come from the workshop of Squarcione, who died in 1468.

Provenance dates only back to c. 1800 to the Duke of Naples; sold to Thorpe; Sit Thomas Philipps (c. 1830-35) who sold it privately to Sir Alfred Chester Beatty; his sale in London, 9 May 1933, lot 60, passed to Quaritch and then to Spencer in 9 June 1933.

*LA MINIATURA A PADOVA* 1999, pp. 283-84.

**From Digital Scriptorium (Columbia University) website (3/12):**

Acknowledgments	We thank Prof. Giordana Mariani Canova for her extensive work towards the present description of this manuscript.
Description	ff. i + 80 + i 18th century Italian vellum. Naples, Duke of Cassano Serra (ca.1800); sold to Thorpe (1828); Sir Thomas Phillipps, his ms 6972; Sir Alfred Chester Beatty collection, his sale 1933; acquired by Quaritch for Spencer, 1933.
Bibliography	De Ricci, 1341. J.J.G. Alexander, ed., <i>The Painted Page</i> , (London and New York, 1994), 120-1.  G. Mariani Canova, ed., <i>La miniatura a Padova dal medioevo al settecento</i> (Modena 1999) 283-4.  Jonathan J. G. Alexander, James H. Marrow and Lucy Freeman Sandler, <i>The Splendor of the Word: Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at the New York Public Library</i> (London / Turnhout: The New York Public Library / Harvey Miller Publishers, 2005) n.76.
<b>Part 1</b>	ff. 1-80v
Description	Parchment 235 x 152 26 long lines per page, ruled in drypoint. Catchwords visible. Collation: eight quinternions.
Origin	Italy - Padua
Date	s. XV <sup>4/4</sup> (1475-80)
Number of Scribes	1
Scribe	Francesco Buzzacarini (attr by A.C. de la Mare)
Alphabet	Latin
Script	Bastarda all'antica; rustic capitals
Artist	Giovanni Vendramin; Douce Master; et al.
Figurative	38 miniatures of constellations
Other Decoration	7-line green initial on elaborate blue/red field on f. 1. Throughout, 1-line blue initials
Illustration notes	The first 5 miniatures in the book are presented against a blue sky ground, delimited on three sides by a red tasselled rope Miniatures of Cepheus, Cassiopeia and Auriga attributable to the Douce Master.

Author	Hyginus
Title	<i>De astronomia</i>
Rubric	Hygini De Sideribus Tractatus Incipit. Hyginus M. Fabio plurimam salutem dicit.
Incipit	Etsi te studio grammaticae artis inductus non solum versuum moderatione quam pauci pervidere
Explicit	quae videri post signorum effusionem urnae aquarii quia ad ipsum usque decurrit accipies.