This two-day symposium hosted at the University of California, Los Angeles and the J. Paul Getty Museum brings together scholars working on the aspects of image, text, knowledge, and culture that surround the bestiary tradition in the medieval world. Speakers will focus on how the development of encyclopedic texts and new structures of knowledge emerged on the manuscript page in and alongside bestiaries.

Organized by Matthew Fisher (Associate Professor of English, UCLA) and Elizabeth Morrison (Senior Curator of Manuscripts, J. Paul Getty Museum).

Generous support is provided by the Endowment for the UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies and Brian and Katherine Stokes.

Registration Information

March 3 at UCLA: advance registration is not required; no fee. Limited seating on a first-come, first-served basis. Self-pay parking in lots 2, 3, 4, and 5. Parking information at https://main.transportation.ucla.edu/campus-parking/visitors.

For additional information: cmrs@humnet.ucla.edu | 310-825-1880 | cmrs.ucla.edu

March 4 at the Getty Center: advance registration is required. To register, visit http://bit.ly/ GettyArk or call 310-440-7300. Parking is $15 per car and can be paid using the self-service pay stations.
The Ark After Noah: Beasts, Books, and Bodies of Knowledge

Friday, March 3, 2017
UCLA Royce Hall Room 314

9:00 Registration, coffee, pastries
9:30 Welcoming Remarks
Massimo Ciavolella (CMRS Director, UCLA)
Elizabeth Morrison (The J. Paul Getty Museum)

Session I - Chair: Bryan Keene (The J. Paul Getty Museum)

9:45 Susan Crane (Columbia University)
“Spiritual Materiality in Bestiary MS Bodley 764”

10:30 Break

Session II - Chair: Bronwen Wilson (UCLA)

10:45 Alexandra Paddock (University of Oxford)
“Wisdom in the belly of the whale: ‘Patience’ and the MS Arundel 292 bestiary”

11:00 Welcoming Remarks
Richard Rand (Associate Director of Collections, The J. Paul Getty Museum)
Matthew Fisher (UCLA)

Session III - Chair: Matthew Fisher (UCLA)

1:45 Rémy Cordonnier (Bibliothèque de l’Agglomération du Pays de Saint-Omer)
“Bestiaries and Exegesis: Between Encyclopedia and Hermeneutic”

2:15 Rebecca Hill (University of California, Los Angeles)
“From Spider to Elephant: The Scale of Knowledge in the Arabic Bestiary Tradition”

3:15 Break

Session IV - Chair: Jennifer Jahner (Caltech)

3:30 Emily Steiner (University of Pennsylvania)

4:00 Emma Campbell (University of Warwick)
“Bodies of Knowledge in French Verse Bestiaries”

Saturday, March 4, 2017
The Getty Museum Lecture Hall

11:00 Welcoming Remarks
Richard Rand (Associate Director of Collections, The J. Paul Getty Museum)
Matthew Fisher (UCLA)

Session V - Chair: Rebecca McNamara (UCLA)

11:15 Chet Van Duzer (The Lazarus Project, University of Rochester)
“From Mappamundi to Manuscript: The Incursion of the Monstrous Peoples into Two Bestiaries of the B-Is Family”

11:45 Debra Strickland (University of Glasgow)
“The Bestiary and the Hereford World Map: Exoticism, Exclusion, and England”

12:45 Lunch Break

Session VI - Chair: Larisa Grollemond (The J. Paul Getty Museum)

2:00 Meradith McMunn (Rhode Island College)
“Beasts in the Rose Garden: Anthology Manuscripts with Beast Literature and the Roman de la Rose”

2:30 Julie Orlemanski (University of Chicago)
“Art, Species, and Phoenician Ontology”

3:30 Break

Session VII - Chair: Elizabeth Morrison (The J. Paul Getty Museum)

3:45 Jane Geddes (King’s College, Aberdeen University)
“The Case for Bridlington Priory: A Center for Bestiary Production?”

4:30 Reception

Cover image: An Elephant from the Northumberland Bestiary, English, about 1250 – 1260. J. Paul Getty Museum, Ms. 100 fol. 17v (detail); pen-and-ink drawing tinted with body color and translucent washes on parchment.