Beastly Imagery in the Medieval World

Sunday, May 19, 2019
A Symposium Organized by The UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies and The J. Paul Getty Museum
SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019 | UCLA, DODD HALL ROOM 248

9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30 Welcoming Remarks
Meredith Cohen (UCLA)
Elizabeth Morrison (The J. Paul Getty Museum)

Session 1 – Chair: Meredith Cohen (UCLA)

9:45 Xavier Dectot (National Museums Scotland)
"Beyond the Bestiary: The Unicorn in 13th-century Natural History"

10:10 Madeline Caviness (Tufts University)
"Beasts on the Farm and in the Forest in Medieval Saxony: Legal Possession, Control, and Compensation for Loss"

10:35 Questions

11:00 Break

Session 2 – Chair: Larisa Grollemond (The J. Paul Getty Museum)

11:30 Kirk Ambrose (University of Colorado, Boulder)
"A Camel on the Fjord: The Capitals of Urnes"

11:55 Christian Heck (Université de Lille)
"A Bestiary for Lay People: The Animal in the Miniatures of the Ci nous dit of Chantilly (c. 1340)"

12:20 Xenia Muratova (Emerita Université Rennes 2)
"La parole et la peinture: Story of the Miniature Cycle of Richard de Fournival’s Bestiary of Love"

12:45 Questions

1:15 Lunch break and travel to the Getty Museum (on your own) to view Book of Beasts: The Bestiary in the Medieval World

GETTY MUSEUM, HAROLD M. WILLIAMS AUDITORIUM

4:00 Christopher de Hamel (Emeritus Corpus Christi College, Cambridge)
"Medieval Bestiaries and their Original Purpose"
Free admission with required reservation — reserve your ticket online at www.getty.edu/visit/cal/events/ev_2571.html

This symposium (held in conjunction with the special exhibition Book of Beasts: The Bestiary in the Medieval World at the J. Paul Getty Museum May 14-August 18, 2019) showcases new research on animals in medieval visual culture. The focus of the exhibition is the bestiary, perhaps the most important source of information about animals in the period. The animal stories and images contained within the bestiary served as inspiration for public sermons, daily reading for the religious, and entertainment by the nobility, thereby exerting a powerful influence over the understanding and interpretation of animals in the medieval world.

This symposium complements and expands this focus by exploring the influential role of animal imagery in a wide variety of media. Speakers will address how bestiary iconography was mobilized for usage in other media, the specific social and cultural contexts in which animal imagery was produced/viewed, and human relationships to the animal world.

Cover image: Whale in a bestiary, ca. 1270, France/Flanders.
J. Paul Getty Museum, Ms. Ludwig XV 3, fol. 89v.

Sponsored by
The UCLA Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies and
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