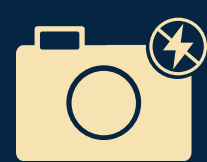


THE WONDROUS COSMOS IN MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS

Awesome cosmic phenomena—such as the lustrous remnant of the Crab Nebula supernova, the trail of what is now called Halley’s Comet, or a spectacular eclipse—inspired works of art and literature throughout the Middle Ages (about 500–1500). The movements across the sky of the moon, sun, stars, and planets were believed to affect physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, and university students of medicine, philosophy, and religion carefully tracked the progress of these heavenly bodies through the twelve signs of the zodiac. In writings about the celestial realm of heaven, theologians discussed the nature of angels, saints, and ultimately God. The works of art in this exhibition, all from the collection of the Getty, invite you to marvel at the wondrous cosmos.



Non-flash photography and video for personal use are welcome in the exhibition.

The pages of manuscripts are made of parchment (specially prepared animal skin), painted with tempera. Because these materials are sensitive to light, this exhibition is presented at low light levels.

This material was published in 2019 to coincide with the J. Paul Getty Museum exhibition *The Wondrous Cosmos in Medieval Manuscripts*, April 30–July 21, 2019, at the Getty Center.

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