

**Publication/Creation**

17 March 1941

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/x555pkuu>

**License and attribution**

Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



MANTICHORA : BEAST FOND OF HUMAN FLESH : HEREFORDSHIRE

unicorn is more interesting still. In the Bestiaries he has the body of a horse, but an elephant's feet, a stag's tail and a long sharp horn. A unicorn could be captured by stratagem alone. A chaste virgin, decked with beautiful ornaments, is put in a solitary place in the forest which the animal frequents, and when the unicorn sees her he lays his head in her lap and goes to sleep. The huntsmen then carry the captive to the king's palace, and receive much treasure. The unicorn is said to represent Jesus Christ, who raised up a horn of salvation for His people. The mighty men of the world sought to lay hold of Him, but it was through the blessed Virgin Mary that He became Man.



PANTHER : FROM HARLEIAN MS. 4751 : THE BRITISH MUSEUM

A number of other comparisons of Bestiary subjects with Norman details could be made, but enough has been shown to prove the sources of many of the animal carvings of the period. Many other animals carved are certainly derived from sources other than the Bestiaries, but the possibility of finding parallels makes a most interesting study.

For the photographs of the MS. miniatures, the writer is indebted to his friend, Mr. G. C. Druce, and to the Royal Archaeological Institute for the loan of the block of Mr. Druce's photograph of the caladrius drawing. Such help, so freely given, is a great pleasure to receive and acknowledge.



WOLF : A TWELFTH-CENTURY WOOD CARVING : FROM A STALL AT FAVERSHAM, KENT