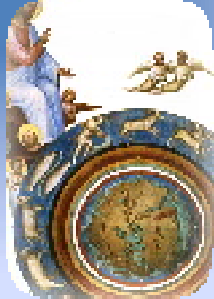


Imagining Astrology:
Painted Schemes and Threads of the Soul
10th-11th July, 2010

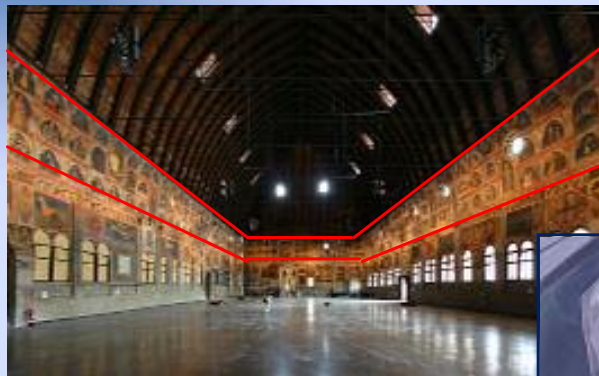


The Language of Giotto's Sky: medieval frescoes as astrological documents

Darrellyn Gunzburg

Mlit/PhD candidate
History of Art, The University of Bristol

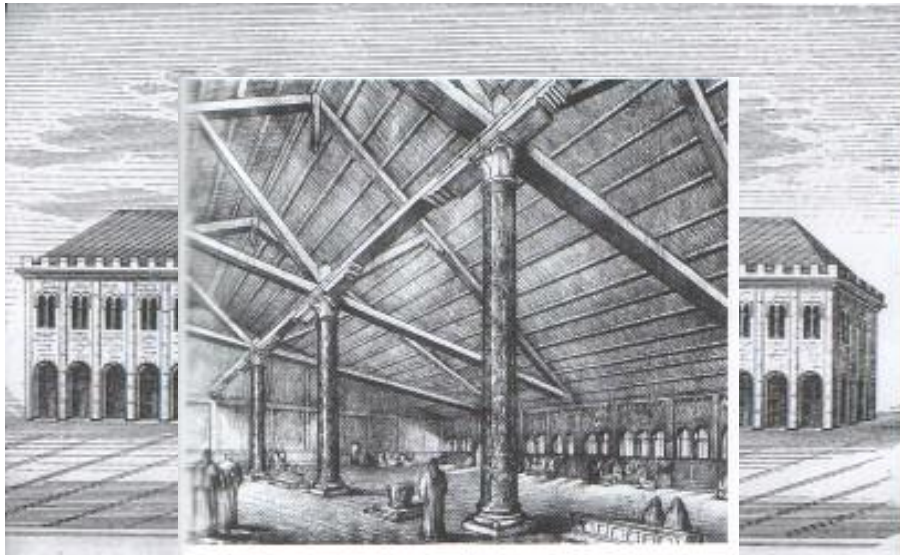
**The first floor Salone of the Palazzo della
Ragione, Padua, Italy,
c.1309**



Etic versus Emic

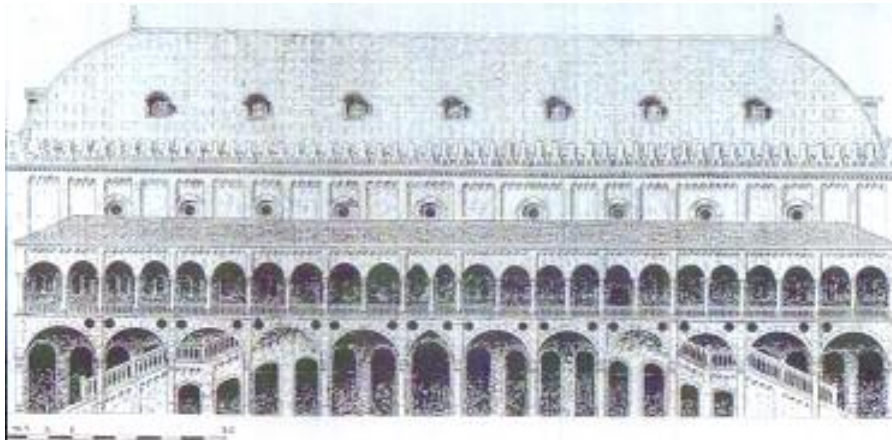
'He will be guilty of all manner of distortion; his emphasis will be constantly askew. He will find interesting what the natives take for granted as a casual kind of behavior (sic) worthy of no particular comment, and he will utterly fail to observe the crucial turning points in the course of action that give formal significance to the whole in the minds of those who do possess the key to its understanding.'

Kenneth Pike, 'Etic and Emic Standpoints for the Description of Behaviour,' in *Language and Thought: An Enduring Problem in Psychology*, ed. Donald C. Hildum (Princeton, NJ: D. Van Norstrand Company, 1967), p.30.



Original Il Palazzo della Ragione
according to Andrea Gloria

Fabris, Giovanni i. *Cronache E Cronisti Padovani*. Cittadella Rebellato Editore, 1977, p.86.



Il Palazzo della Ragione 1318 - 1420
according to Andrea Moschetti

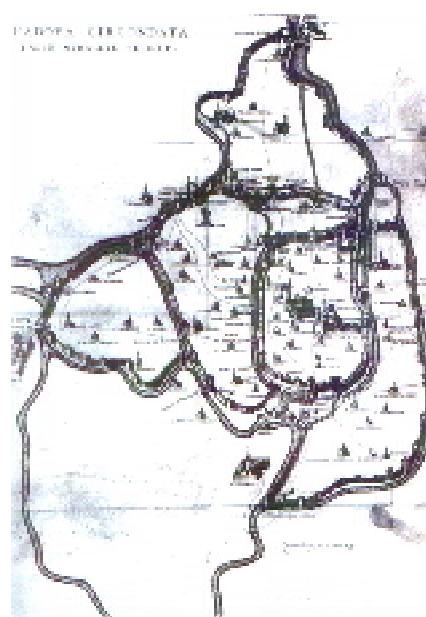
Fabris, Giovanni i. *Cronache E Cronisti Padovani*. Cittadella Rebello Editore, 1977.

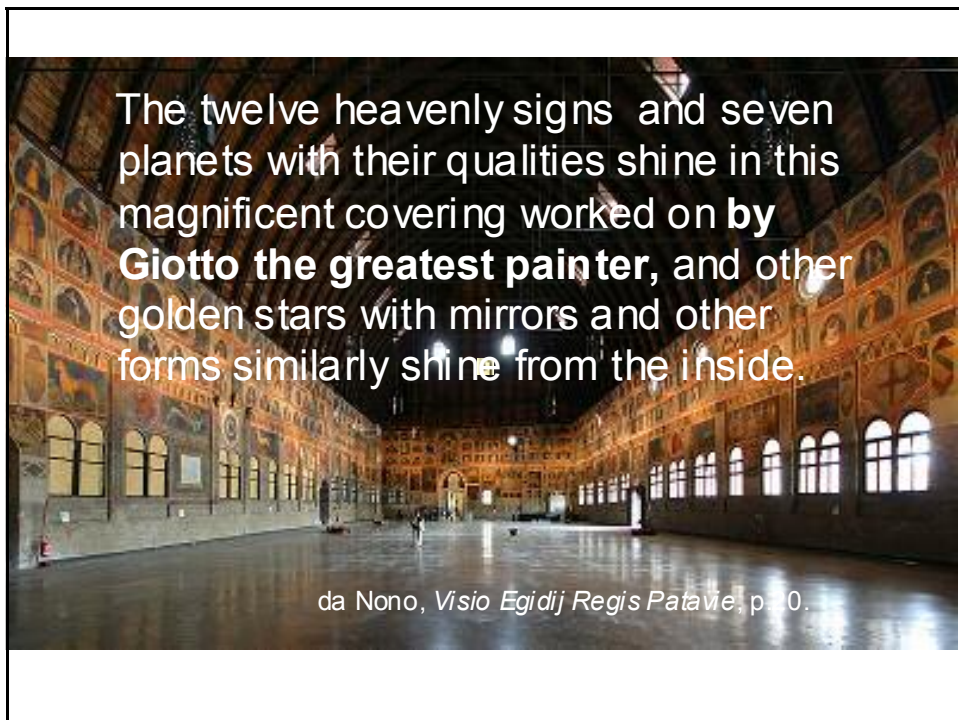
‘After the angel had showed me the outline of the city, I said to him ‘Lord, show me also what public buildings will be built by the Paduans.’ And he told me: ‘Fourteen public palaces will be built, some before the lordship of Ezzelino, some after. And of these some will be destroyed, and others will be altered. First will be **the royal or communal palace**, with a red tower, and in this great palace the Paduans will administer justice to all...’

Giovanni da Nono, ‘Visio Egidi regis Patavie’, *Bollettino del Museo Civico di Padova* N.S. X-XI [XXVII-XXVIII] and XIII-XVII (1934-39), p. 11. (Translation Dean).

‘Another ten palaces will be built around the Lawcourt (**Palazzo della Ragione**) under which many kinds of things will be sold: under the two northern palaces, silk belts, gloves and things made with silk thread; under two others, to the west and north, salt pork, edible oil, Apulian and Paduan cheese.’

Giovanni da Nono, ‘Visio Egidi regis Patavie’, Bollettino del Museo Civico di Padova N.S. X-XI [XXVII-XXVIII] and XIII-XVII (1934-39), p. 12. (Translation Dean).





Fra Giovanni degli Eremitani



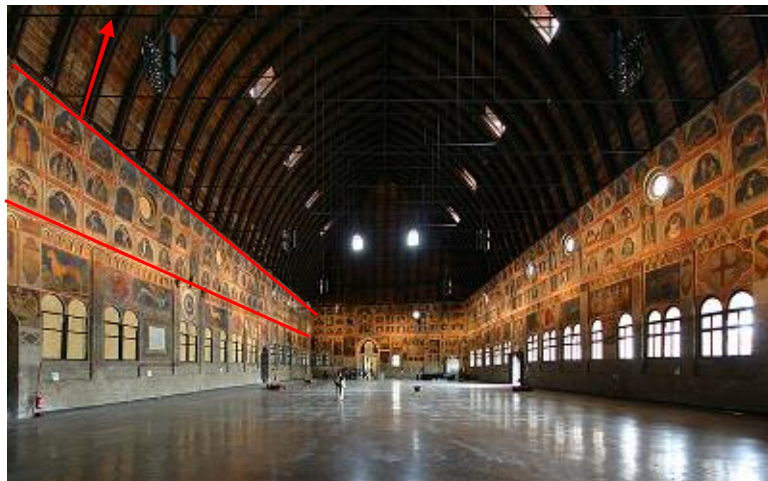
Pietro d'Abano

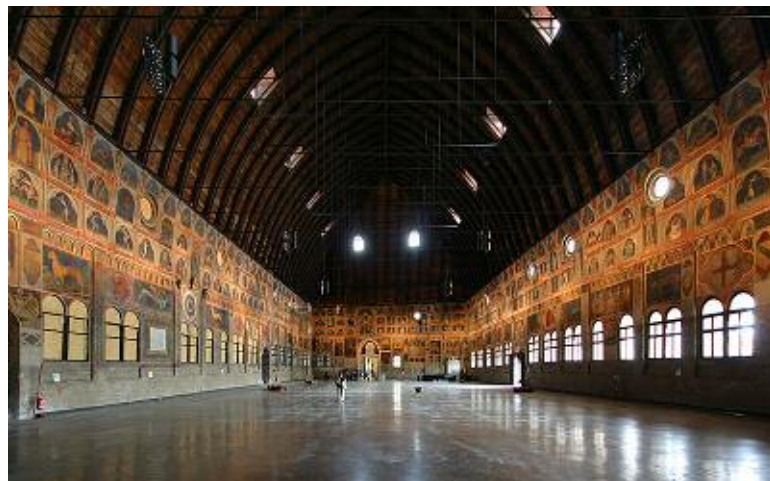
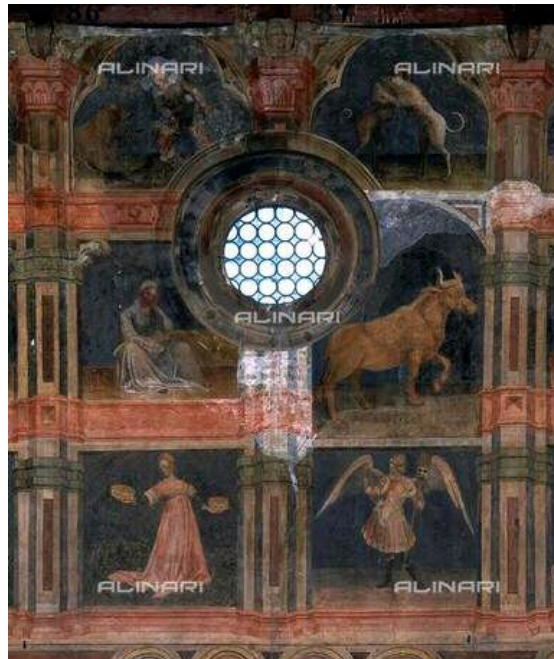


Giotto di Bondone, *Adoration of the Magi* (c.1304-1306)
Arena Chapel, Padova.



Pietro d'Abano
Artis medicine
philosophie et
astrologie professor





Astrolabium Planum written by Johannes Engel, published in Augsburg, 1488, by Erhard Ratdolt.

Astrolabium planum in tabulis Ascendens
Plane astrolabe in Tables (or a list)
continens qualibet hora atque minuto. Equa -
Containing the Ascendant in each hour and minute, the
tiones domorum celi. Moram nati in utero
calculated positions for the houses of heaven; the length of
time of the native in the mother's womb
matris cum quodam tractatu nativitatum utili
along with certain useful and splendid treatises on nativities;
ac ornato. Necnon horas inaequales pro quo
And also the unequal hours for each
libet climate mundi
clime of the world.

Venice, 1488; and (Luc' Antonio de Giunta)

Astrolabium Planum written by Johannes Engel, published in Augsburg, 1488, by Erhard Ratdolt.

Astrolabium Planum :

Part One is a table of houses

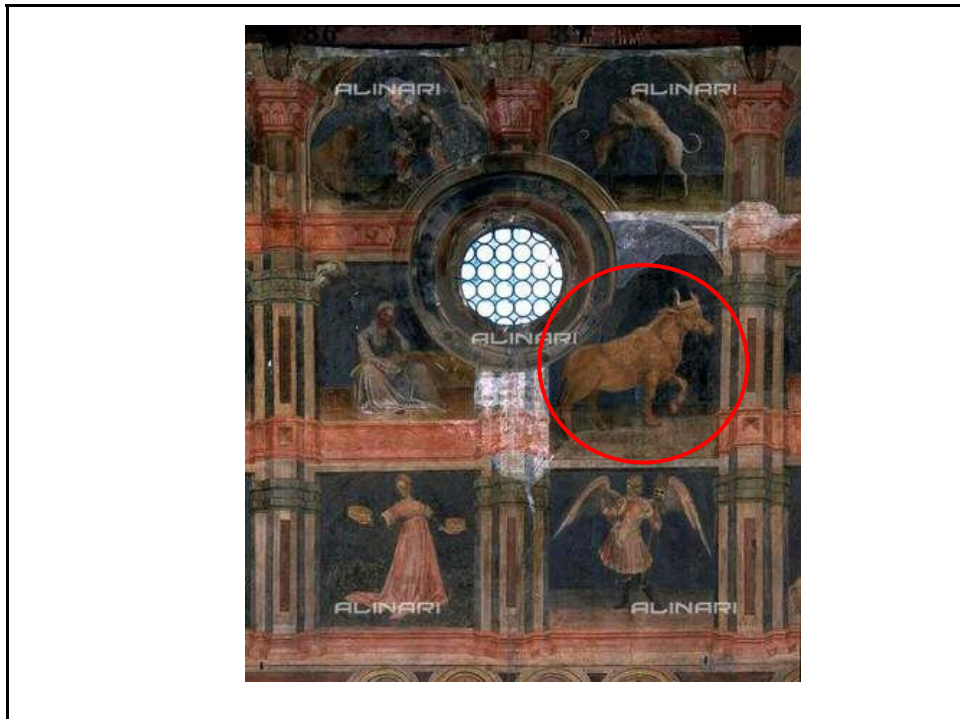
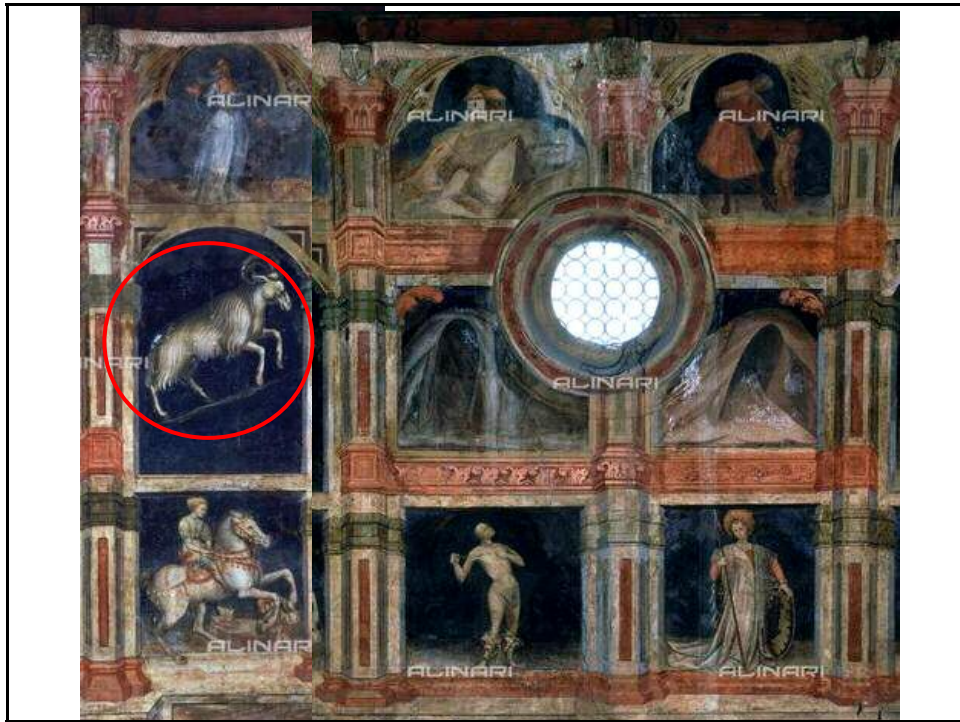
Part Two contains pictures of faces and degrees.

Part Three is devoted to the astrological delineation of the horoscope.

Part Four includes a table defining the length of an hour depending on the season and *clima* (band of latitude).

A man sits with purse in his right hand
and a golden bowl in his left hand.
This man will be a rich merchant.







North wall, Salone, Palazzo della Ragione, columns 73 and 74. The sign of Scorpio is 73B (centre middle left). Image: Alinari.

A man sits with pence in his right hand and a golden bowl in his left hand. This man will be a rich merchant.



A big master stands. This person shall be a soldier.



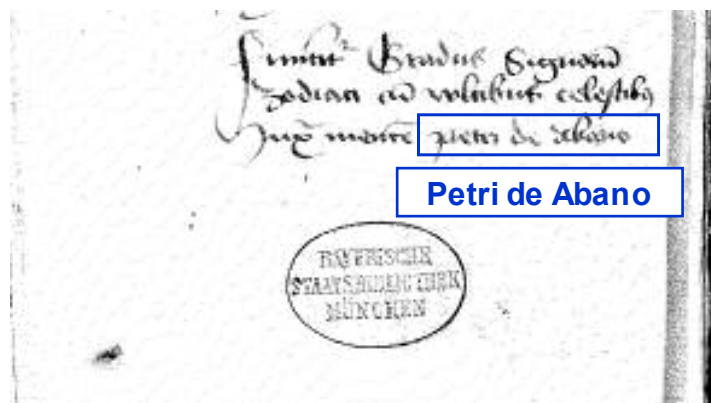
A boy sits in a tub. This person will make little wares.



A very twisted face. This man will have marvellous opinions.



Four of thirty different images associated with the degrees of the zodiac that are rising whilst the Sun is in the sign of Scorpio. From *The Astrolabium Planum* by Johannes Engel. Translated from Latin by Anton Grigoryev, Nizhn'y Novgorod, 2006.



De signis celestibus eorumque significatione et potestate,
cum multis tabulis astronomicis.

*The heavenly signs or images which have significance and power /
potential, with many astronomical tables.*

CLM 22048

Tabula quondam continens in columnis sex gradus
et minutis, ad horam quondam, et gradum

Gradi	Minutis	Secundis	Terciis	Quartis	Quintis
1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	0
1	2	0	0	0	0
1	3	0	0	0	0
1	4	0	0	0	0
1	5	0	0	0	0
1	6	0	0	0	0
1	7	0	0	0	0
1	8	0	0	0	0
1	9	0	0	0	0
1	10	0	0	0	0
1	11	0	0	0	0
1	12	0	0	0	0
1	13	0	0	0	0
1	14	0	0	0	0
1	15	0	0	0	0
1	16	0	0	0	0
1	17	0	0	0	0
1	18	0	0	0	0
1	19	0	0	0	0
1	20	0	0	0	0
1	21	0	0	0	0
1	22	0	0	0	0
1	23	0	0	0	0
1	24	0	0	0	0
1	25	0	0	0	0
1	26	0	0	0	0
1	27	0	0	0	0
1	28	0	0	0	0
1	29	0	0	0	0
1	30	0	0	0	0
1	31	0	0	0	0
1	32	0	0	0	0
1	33	0	0	0	0
1	34	0	0	0	0
1	35	0	0	0	0
1	36	0	0	0	0
1	37	0	0	0	0
1	38	0	0	0	0
1	39	0	0	0	0
1	40	0	0	0	0
1	41	0	0	0	0
1	42	0	0	0	0
1	43	0	0	0	0
1	44	0	0	0	0
1	45	0	0	0	0
1	46	0	0	0	0
1	47	0	0	0	0
1	48	0	0	0	0
1	49	0	0	0	0
1	50	0	0	0	0
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1	59	0	0	0	0
1	60	0	0	0	0
1	61	0	0	0	0
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1	63	0	0	0	0
1	64	0	0	0	0
1	65	0	0	0	0
1	66	0	0	0	0
1	67	0	0	0	0
1	68	0	0	0	0
1	69	0	0	0	0
1	70	0	0	0	0
1	71	0	0	0	0
1	72	0	0	0	0
1	73	0	0	0	0
1	74	0	0	0	0
1	75	0	0	0	0
1	76	0	0	0	0
1	77	0	0	0	0
1	78	0	0	0	0
1	79	0	0	0	0
1	80	0	0	0	0
1	81	0	0	0	0
1	82	0	0	0	0
1	83	0	0	0	0
1	84	0	0	0	0
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1	87	0	0	0	0
1	88	0	0	0	0
1	89	0	0	0	0
1	90	0	0	0	0
1	91	0	0	0	0
1	92	0	0	0	0
1	93	0	0	0	0
1	94	0	0	0	0
1	95	0	0	0	0
1	96	0	0	0	0
1	97	0	0	0	0
1	98	0	0	0	0
1	99	0	0	0	0
1	100	0	0	0	0

93 2 98 2 99 2

Canon Tabule de moris infantum

Canon Tabule de moris infantum
(*infantum* deviant invariant of *infantium* = gen.pl. of 'infant')

Rule of the table of the period of infants

Pro correctione tabule de moris infantum

P[rae]fatio intellect[um] tabulae de moris infantum

Preface to the understanding of the table of the period of infants

Et hinc est quod habita aliqua nativitate sine

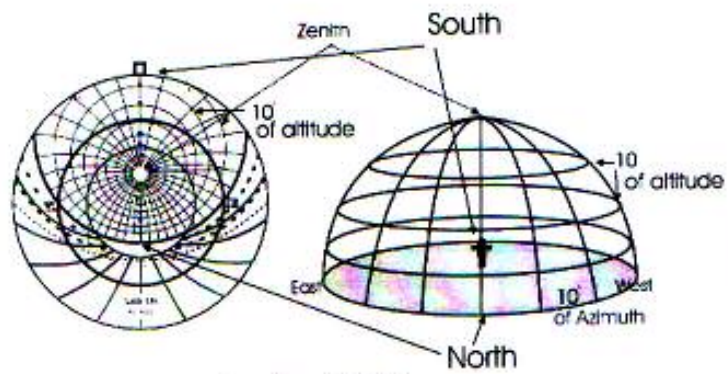
es(?) tiendum(?) quod habita aliqua nat[ivi]tatesive

... the fact that you consider any nativity, whether



Bronze astrolabe made in Iraq in 927-28 - the earliest known example of a dated astrolabe.

From *Islamic Art and Patronage – Treasures from Kuwait* exhibition catalogue.



You are standing INSIDE
the astrolabe facing south

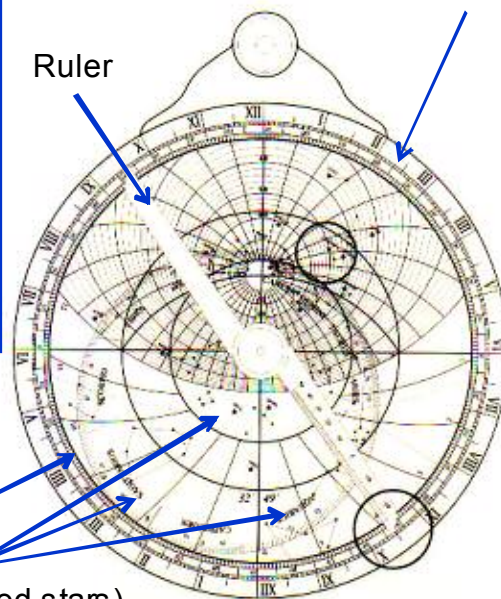


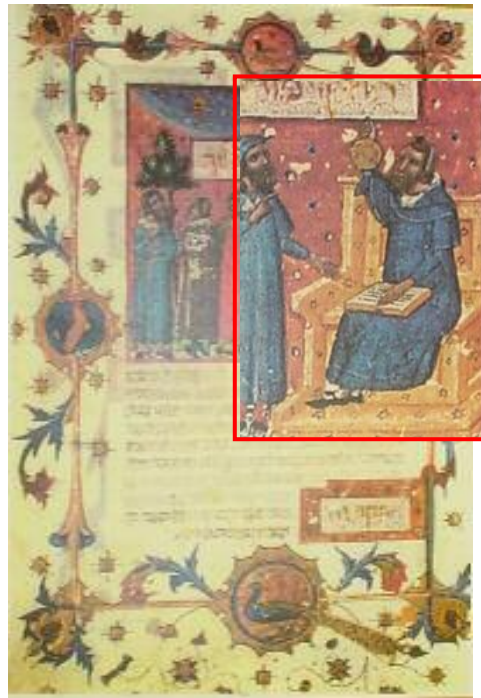
Meter divided into 24 hours

Ruler

Latitude plates

Rete
(zodiac belt and the fixed stars)





Facsimile of a page from Maimonides' great philosophical work *Moreh Nevukhim* (*Guide of the Perplexed*) written originally in Arabic and here in the Hebrew translation of Samuel ibn Tibbon (ca. 1160-1230) copied and illuminated in Barcelona, 1348.

The seated figure is holding an astrolabe.

Royal Library, Copenhagen, Cod. Hebr. XXXVII, fol. 114r [Ex. No. 70] Judaica Collection, Sterling Memorial Library

