



EMORY

MICHAEL C.
CARLOS
MUSEUM

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**CARLOS MUSEUM'S SPRING 2011 EXHIBITION EXPLORES
MONSTERS, DEMONS, AND WINGED BEASTS**

ATLANTA, GA (December 9, 2010)—Michael C. Carlos Museum presents “Monsters, Demons, and Winged Beasts: Composite Creatures of the Ancient World” on view from February 5 to June 19, 2011.

The ancient world gave birth to a vast array of monsters that inhabited a rich world of myth, legend, and high adventure. This exhibition, with over 150 objects that explore an array of fascinating and mysterious creatures from the Greek perspective, focuses on the ways in which the Greeks borrowed imagery from ancient Egypt and the Near East and developed a vast repertoire of richly imagined creatures that proliferated throughout the Greco-Roman world. Profoundly inspiring Greece in their artistic production, these images were quickly assimilated and became purely Hellenic.

“Monsters, Demons, and Winged Beasts” illustrates the ways in which these creatures have appeared through millennia, and how their significance changed over time. From the siren--the human-headed bird whose call is fatal--to the cannibal Cyclops Polyphemus, to the winged horse Pegasus and the Chimera--the fire-snorting lion with a serpent's tail--this exhibition traces the development and dissemination of “monstrous” imagery through works in gold, silver, precious and semi-precious stone, terracotta, and papyrus. The objects include cylinder seals, Greek vases, decorated armor, and more.

Jasper Gaunt, curator of Greek and Roman Art, explained, “The oldest object in ‘Monsters, Demons, and Winged Beasts’ dates from 4000 BCE, while the most recent is approximately 1400 years old. More than a dozen independent civilizations are represented, in a geographical area stretching from Spain to Northwest China, from Egypt to France. We are delighted to share this unique exhibition, which is sure to entertain and educate visitors of all ages.”

Online Resource: Carlos Conversations Podcast on a black-figure krater depicting Odysseus escaping from the cave of the Cyclops Polyphemus begins this lively discussion of monsters in the Greek world.

<http://www.carlos.emory.edu/files/Monsters.m4a>

Press photos available at <http://ow.ly/3okAs>

About the Michael C. Carlos Museum

The Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University collects, preserves, exhibits, and interprets art and artifacts from antiquity to the present in order to provide unique opportunities for education and enrichment in the community, and to promote interdisciplinary teaching and research at Emory University. The Carlos Museum has grown to become one of the Southeast's premier museums with collections of ancient art from Greece, Rome, Egypt, Near East, Nubia, the Americas, Africa, and Asia, as well as a collection of works on paper from the Renaissance to the present.

Location: 571 South Kilgo Circle, Atlanta, Georgia 30322, U.S.A. **Telephone:** 404-727-4282 **Fax:** 404-727-4292 **Hours:** Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday 12 noon - 4 p.m. (Closed on Mondays and university holidays)

Admission: \$8. Free for Carlos Museum members and Emory University faculty, students, and staff. Students, seniors, and children ages 6—17: \$6 (Children ages 5 and under: Free). **Public Tours:** Advanced booking required for weekday or weekend groups of ten or more. For reservations call 404-727-0519. Docent-led tours of the Museum depart from the Rotunda on Level One every Sunday at 2:30 p.m. during the Emory academic year (call 404-727-4282 to confirm).

www.carlos.emory.edu

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