



CELESTIAL GLOBE

Gerardus Mercator (maker)
Louvain, Belgium, 1551

This celestial globe, produced by the famous 16th-century mapmaker Gerardus Mercator, shows constellations originating in Mesopotamia and Ancient Greece, most of which are still used today. Those include the Great Bear and the Little Bear.

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COELUM STELLATUM CHRISTIANUM

Julius Schiller (author)
Augsburg: Andreae Apergeri, 1627

In this 17th century atlas, the classic constellations from antiquity are replaced with new constellations based on the Holy Bible. They never gained any footing, but the atlas itself remains a remarkable work of art and science. Shown here is Saint Joseph surrounded by his carpentry tools, in the area of the sky normally associated with the constellation of Orion the Hunter.

Adler library QB65 .S33 1627



CELESTIAL SPHERE

Diya' al-Din Muhammad (maker)
Lahore, Pakistan, 1679-1680

This celestial sphere, unique in its design, was made in Lahore (now in Pakistan) around 1680 during the Mughal Empire, which brought the influence of Persian culture to the Indian subcontinent. The sphere was made at the order of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. It shows the classic constellations from Mesopotamia and Ancient Greece depicted in a Mughal style. The sphere originally contained a terrestrial globe as well.

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STAR FINDER

Henry Whitall (author/publisher)
Philadelphia, 1871

A star finder (or planisphere) shows which constellations are above the horizon for a given time and date, in a certain latitude interval. This example was designed to be used in the United States. Similar star finders are used to this day all over the world.

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MILKY WAY

Frederick J. Brown (artist)
Chicago, 1977

In 1977, the artist Frederick J. Brown made a large painting titled "Milky Way" in collaboration with the Adler Planetarium. This work resonates with a longstanding quest to understand our place in the Universe - a quest where artistic imagination, sensibility, and skill are by no means foreign.

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POCKET GLOBE

Joseph Moxon (maker)
London, United Kingdom, c. 1680

Pocket globes became popular in the 18th century. A clamshell case holds a miniature model of Earth. Inside the case, each half shows the constellations as seen from either the Northern or the Southern Hemisphere.

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