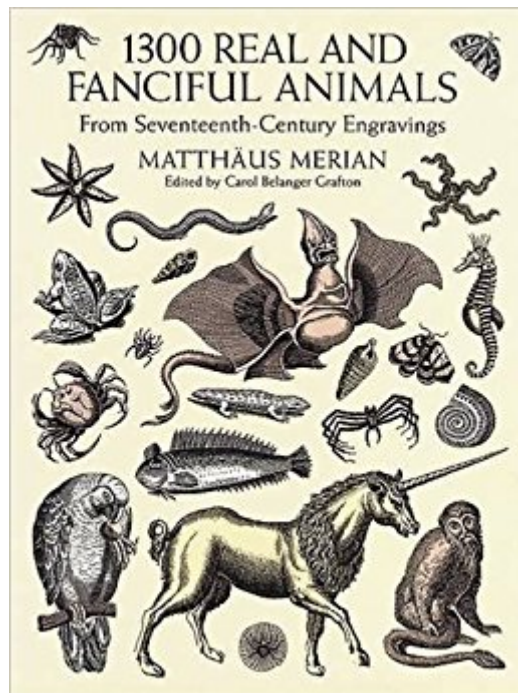


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# 1300 Real And Fanciful Animals From Seventeenth-Century Engravings (Dover Pictorial Archive)



## Synopsis

A painter whose father was an engraver and publisher of the same name, Matthäus Merian (1621–1687) published this remarkable group of unusual and highly imaginative animal illustrations. This copyright-free collection includes a large and fascinating selection of engravings that illustrate scientific specimens and legendary creatures – all meticulously reproduced from an extremely rare eighteenth-century edition. Carefully arranged into six major divisions (quadrupeds, snakes, mollusks and crustaceans, fish, birds, and insects), approximately 1,300 copyright-free images include realistic and fanciful portrayals of a varied array of real animals, in addition to such imaginary creatures as unicorns, dragons, basilisks, harpies, griffins, and other mythical beasts. Identifying captions in Latin accompany many of the illustrations. Commercial artists, illustrators, and craftspeople will find a host of uses for these lovingly detailed engravings: as book and magazine illustrations and as attention-getting graphics ideal for enhancing flyers, brochures, newsletters, and any number of other print projects. Art lovers and antiquarians – anyone with an interest in the art and ideas of an earlier era – will enjoy browsing through these wonderful antique images.

## Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; Reprint edition (January 23, 1998)

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.3 x 11.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (27 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a collection of images and engravings of mythological animals. For the artist who is in search of period imagery, I highly recommend this book; the engravings are beautiful and weird--enough to stimulate anyone's imagination! For one who wants content and description of these creatures, this book isn't for you--there is not much text. Overall, a great resource book for

artists.

This is a nicely done book of woodcuts and pen and ink illustrations for anyone looking for a different style of illustration. There is little clean-up involved on these nice clean illustrations if you decide to scan them. They also convert nicely to vector with the Live-Trace feature in Adobe Illustrator CS3.

I will admit that my expectations of creatures that might be contained were firmly in my head when I ordered this, and some creatures I longed and hoped for were not included. There were a number of delightful pictures that I doubt I will ever use despite the excellent illustrations, but there are also some incredible ones that will be used over and over in my art journal projects and ATC experiments for sure. There is plenty in this book for the collage or transfer artist to toy with, all with excellent detail that should enhance any project quite well. Am happy to have it on my shelf!

worth every penny! the illustrations are a joy to pore over. if you like this book, you should check out David Attenborough's book, *Amazing Rare Things: The Art of Natural History in the Age of Discovery*.

I got this gift for my 10 year old niece. While I was wrapping it I flipped through it and I was tempted to keep them for myself! it has a beautiful illustration of real and fantasy animals. This would make an excellent gift for an adult or child that would like to improve their drawings of animals. Or for just someone who has a vivid imagination!

Lots of fantasy creatures (sometimes really funny!), but also a good selection of detailed butterflies, bugs, birds and shellfish, most of them in acceptable size. Rating would be a 5 if cd had been included.

I was drunk when I bought this so I have to give it a high mark. I saw the unicorn and my inner idiot thought it was a good idea to buy it. It was a real shock when it showed up. I had to look at my credit card bill to see when I bought it and then backtracked to figure out that was a night when I was smashed. New rule...hide the credit card before you get drunk. Old rule was to hide it in one of those Chinese puzzle boxes because I thought I couldn't get in to it drunk. Apparently you go cave-man when you get drunk and smash things and that spiffy puzzle box was no challenge to The Hulk

(that's the drunk version of me) and a hammer (Thor?). I started hiding things from The Hulk. I think he's too dumb to remember what sober me does.

My grandson's liked the prints very much. They like drawing fantasy creatures and this had some very interesting drawings. Price was good for this book.

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