



# 1300 Real and Fanciful Animals from Seventeenth-Century Engravings (Dover Pictorial Archive)

By Matthäus Merian (the Younger)

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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.

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