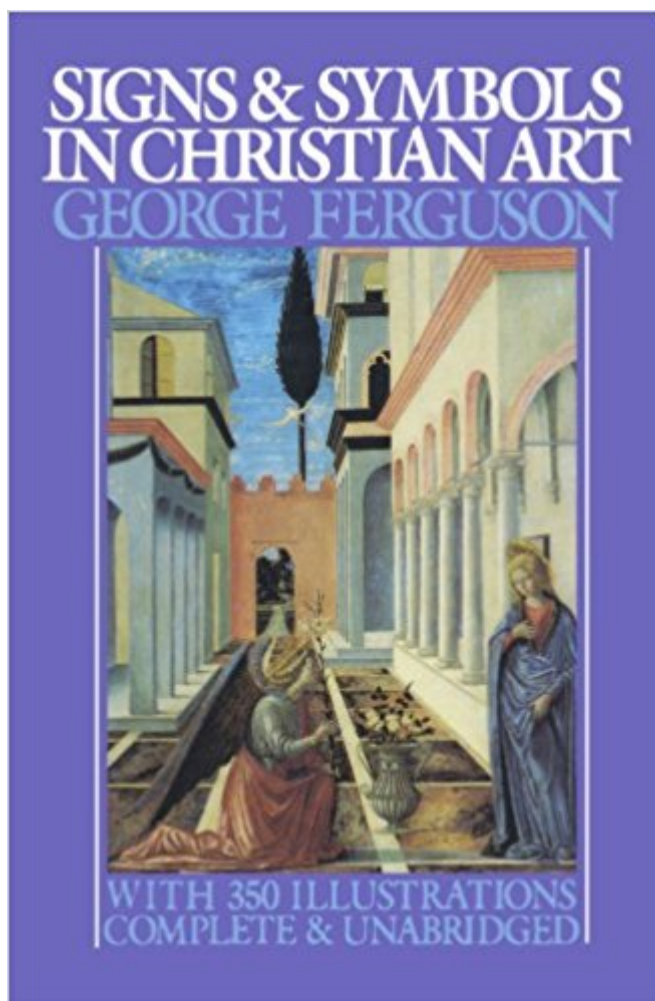


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# Signs And Symbols In Christian Art



## Synopsis

First published in 1954 and having gone through several editions, this comprehensive book remains the authoritative source in the study of symbols in Christian art. This paperback edition includes all of the three hundred fifty illustrations from the original edition, as well as the complete and unabridged text, revealing the symbolism inherent in representations of religious personages, the Earth and Sky, animals, birds, insects, and flowers. In addition to a discussion of objects treated symbolically in Christian art, George Ferguson explores Old Testament characters and events and their symbolic representation in art. In addition to a discussion of objects treated symbolically in Christian art, George Ferguson explores Old Testament characters and events and their symbolic representation in art.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A tremendous help to so many students who haven't been raised with the exposure to Christian iconography. Thanks!"-- Nancy Noonan-Morrissey, Front Range Community College  
"Excellent reference book--well-organized and highly informative--also, moderately priced!"--Marie Canaves, Cape Cod Community College  
"Ferguson has brought a dead language back to life. He writes simply and clearly."--The Chicago Tribune  
"[A] superb volume."--The Christian Century  
"An extraordinarily beautiful and useful book....For clergymen, both Protestant and Catholic, who are interested in liturgies and symbolism, for architects and artists, and for all devotees of art this is an unusually valuable volume."--Kirkus Reviews  
"A good book of reference for the general reader."--The

Nation" The publication of this book is an important event. There is no comparable guide in English to the profoundly beautiful symbolism of Christian art."--John Walker, Director Emeritus of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. "Whether as a reference work or as an invitation to fascinating browsing, the book is a treasure."--Journal of Bible and Religion "An excellent resource with its nicely organized and easy-to-find explanations of persons, symbols, events/beliefs depicted in Christian art. My students found it to be a useful tool as they worked on their interpretations of paintings and other artistic renderings of NT texts. I hope this book will stay in print."--Professor Benjamin Fiore, Canisius College

First published in 1954 and having gone through several editions, this comprehensive book remains the authoritative source in the field. This paperback edition includes all of the 350 illustrations from the original edition, as well as the complete and unabridged text. Divided into fourteen chapters, text and illustrations reveal the symbolism inherent in representations of religious personages, the Earth and Sky, animals, birds, insects, and flowers. In addition to a discussion of objects treated symbolically in Christian art, George Ferguson explores Old Testament characters and events and their symbolic representation in art.

An excellent reference.

This is a wonderful guide to Christian iconography and saints' stories. Good item to take into the European museums laden with Christian art. It has an old and new testament section as well as the main stories of the life of Mary mother and of Christ. There is also a section devoted to the meanings of symbols and plants and animals.

Although not encyclopaedic, this book, first published in 1954, is indispensable to the art history, religious art, iconographic, and religious lives student. The essays are of significant depth without excessive volume, and the illustrations, although of a limited period (Medieval through Renaissance), are pungent enough from which to learn. Two limitations I will remark: There are no representations from Eastern- or Byzantine- iconography. The illustrations are all black and white.

I love this book, very helpful!

Bought this book for a class and am pretty happy with it overall. Could use some more illustrations

and it would be nice if the size of the book was a little larger than standard. Art History books are usually best when they have large pages.

As a volunteer docent in an art museum, I often come up against symbols, gods and saints that are unfamiliar. This handy guide is a quick reference that unlocks Renaissance understanding for the modern mind.

Just what I expected to get and right on time, will be using it for a lot of my school papers and personal interests.

Arrived two days AHEAD of schedule, was packaged neatly and securely. Although it was used, it had very little wear and tear on it. I got this for a art history report on the Byzantine mosaics (Christian) and a lot of the symbols in the art work have been defined in this book. Overall well worth the price and just plain interesting.

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