

The Four Elements

Joris Hoefnagel's *The Four Elements*, c. 1575/1590s, is one of the treasures of the National Gallery's drawing collection. All four volumes will be on view throughout *Little Beasts: Art, Wonder, and the Natural World*. Their pages will be turned three times during the show, allowing 16 total works to be on view.

Rotation 1:
May 18–June 29, 2025



Ignis (Fire)



Southern Hawker Dragonfly
(plate 53)

Rotation 2:
June 30–August 10, 2025



*Musk Beetle, Oil Beetle, Tansy Beetle(?),
Cockroach, Leaf-Footed Bug,
and Other Insects* (plate 43)

Rotation 3:
August 11–September 21, 2025



Hairy Dragonfly and Two Darters
(plate 54)

Rotation 4:
September 22–November 2, 2025



*Blue Underwing Moth and
Spurge Hawk Moth*
(plate 25)



Terra (Earth)



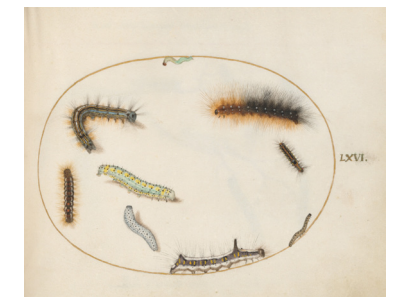
*Old World Porcupine (Hystrix)
and Wild Pig*
(plate 17)



*Two Sand Lizards, a Common Parsley
Frog (?), and a Caterpillar*
(plate 51)



*Guinea Pig and Hedgehogs
with Melon and Cobnuts*
(plate 48)



*Lackey Moth Caterpillar, Figure of Eight
Caterpillar, Grey Dagger Caterpillar,
and Other Caterpillars* (plate 66)



Aqua (Water)



*Flying Swallow Gurnard,
Male Lumpsucker, Longspine Snipefish,
and Other Fish* (plate 24)



*Sperm Whale, Sturgeon,
Shark, and Other Fish*
(plate 2)



Squid, Gurnard, Pike, and Other Fish
(plate 39)



Two Crabs with Seashells
(plate 46)



Aier (Air)



*A Brandt's Cormorant with
a Juvenile Crowned Night Heron*
(plate 23)



Curlew and Crow with Horse Skull
(plate 59)



*Bats, Quail, and Oystercatcher (?)
by the Water*
(plate 46)



*A Tawny Owl, an Eagle Owl,
and Two other Owls*
(plate 55)