



## Little Beasts: Art, Wonder, and the Natural World

*Alexandra Libby, Brooks Rich, and Stacey Sell*

Thursday, June 12, 2025 - 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. ET

Learn more about the National Gallery of Art's exhibition Little Beasts: Art, Wonder, and the Natural World:

Exhibition page: <https://www.nga.gov/exhibitions/little-beasts-art-wonder-and-natural-world>

Exhibition publication: <https://www.nga.gov/research/publications/little-beasts>

### **Upcoming Events**

Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

- *Summer Solstice Festival* in the NGA's Sculpture Garden, co-hosted with our partners at the National Museum of Natural History: <https://www.nga.gov/calendar/summer-solstice-festival>

Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> (NGA's East Building Auditorium with livestream video)

- *Conservation is a Logic of Love* – conversation between artist Dario Robleto and NGA conservators and imaging scientists about empathy and ethics involved in preserving materials and memories: <https://www.nga.gov/calendar/conservation-logic-love>

Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> (NGA's East Building Auditorium)

- Screening of Dario Robleto's film *Ancient Beacons Long for Notice* followed by a conversation with Ann Druyan : <https://www.nga.gov/calendar/land-sea-and-lens-creatures-film/ancient-beacons-long-notice?evd=202509071800>



# 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)*



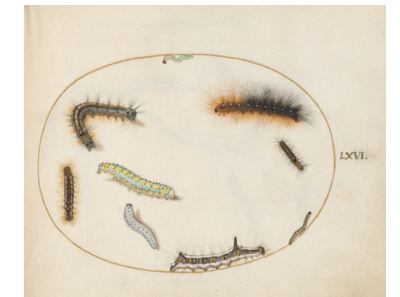
*Old World Porcupine (Hystrix)  
and Wild Pig*  
(plate 17)



*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)