

The Forms of Time

2024/04/12 - 2024/07/13



The NSZL's temporary exhibition presents an innovative and family-friendly approach to time in ancient and Christian culture: in addition to calendars, chronicles, postcards and photographs, visitors can try out tangible and digital curiosities for children, too.



[1]

The NSZL's temporary exhibition presents **an innovative and family-friendly approach to time in ancient and Christian culture:** in addition to calendars, chronicles, postcards and photographs, visitors can try out tangible and digital curiosities for children, too, who, among other treasures, can also get acquainted with the unique Pannonhalma Book of Hours and Ferenc Liszt's pocket calendar.

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Published on Országos Széchényi Könyvtár (<https://oszk.hu>)

The exhibition runs **from 12 April to 13 July 2024,**
Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm
(last entry: Tuesday–Thursday 5 pm, Friday–Saturday 6 pm).

Visitors with a valid reader pass can visit the exhibition free of charge.
For visitors without a reader pass, the following ticket prices apply:

Full price ticket: 1200 HUF

Concession ticket (students, pensioners): 600 HUF

Family ticket for 4 persons: 3000 HUF

Family ticket for 3 persons: 2500 Ft

Guided tour (on request): 3000 HUF/group

Guided tour for school groups is free of charge.

Registration (at least two weeks before the planned visit): csoportvezetes@oszk.hu [2]

This unique exhibition aims to showcase our holidays, our most important days of remembrance, and the significance of celebrating them year by year. It gives us a glimpse into the way the ancients envisioned time and how our ancestors pondered the future, how they thought about everyday life and holidays.



[3]

Astronomicum Casareum

Petrus Apianus asztronómus és Michael Ostendorfer rézmetszet műve, az Astronomicum Casareum is az urebéliósi évetőltek megismerésére segít. A táblázatokkal és korongokkal követhető az égitestek mozgása, amelyekből következtetni lehet a fejedelemi élet nagy kérdéseire. Ez az a koronggal a földcsopátok napi helyzetét lehet meghatározni.

Apianus úgy találta, a világgeocentrikus kétféle pontjában a Föld áll, az ismeretlen égitestek pedig körpályákon keringenek többé kevésbé körpályákon. Ahol a Föld pályája és a Nap pályája, az égitestek mozgásának egyenlő, ott vannak a földcsopátok. A Hold a felső és alsó földcsopátokon emelkedik az ekliptika fölé (Sárkányfej) és a leszálló földcsopátokon süllyed alá (Sárkányfarok). Az európai asztronómusoknak ezeknek a pontoknak a napról napra változó helyzetéből a horoszkópok légtérrel követhetőek voltak le. Például ha a Sárkányfej az északi égitest szorodásának a házába mutat, az időjárásromlását várhatjuk előre.

Hungary Mátyás király legelőször jellemből, 1445. február 24-én születésnapján a királművész horoszkópjának Rák (Capricornus) asztronómus van, vajon kettőt tartania arról, hogy létező megromlik? Ez a korong segít választ adni a kérdésre.

1. Keressek meg az 1400-as évet a táblázat időszámításának szerinti oszlopában (Radices post Christum). Itt találjuk a csillagszám (S), a fok (G) és a szögperc (M) értékeket, ezek közül az első kettőre lesz szükségünk.

2. Forgassuk el a Sárkányfejet (CAPVT) a csillagszámok legközelebb, 12 részre osztott gyűrűjének bármelyik jelölt kezdőpontjához (S) az S érték szerinti osztással, vagyis csillagszámokkal az óramutató járatával ellentétes irányba!

3. Ezután a fokok egyet betűkkel, harmonikusval számokkal gyűrűje szerint G fokkal forgassuk tovább a Sárkányfejet, 1400. január 1-én ezen a ponton volt a Sárkányfej.

4. Az 1443-as év kezdéséhez megtalálhatjuk a horoszkóp meg a sárkányfej korong legközelebb, négy gyűrűjén a 42-es számot. Adhatjuk meg a zsinórral az a helyet, majd fordítsuk ide a sárkányfejet, 1443. december 31-én ezen a ponton volt a Sárkányfej.

5. Végül keressek meg a Sárkányfej melletti kis napóraon Mátyás születésnapját, jelöljük meg a zsinórral, majd fordítsuk ide a Sárkányfejet. A Sárkányfarok (CAVDA) helyzetét a horoszkóp pontján olvashatjuk le.

7. Find the year 1400 in the AD column of the table (Radices post Christum). Here you will see the zodiac sign (S), the degree (G) and the minute (M), of which you will need the first two numbers.

2. Rotate the Dragon's Head (CAPVT) counterclockwise from the starting point marked with a cross (S) on the outermost band of the 12 zodiac signs to the horoscope sign marked by the value of S.

3. Then rotate the Dragon's Head by the value of G on the next band towards the centre, each section of it numbered from 1 to 30, this is the point where it was on 1 January 1400.

4. To find the beginning of the year 1443, locate the number 42 on the outermost yellow band of the disc with the dragon. Mark this spot with the thread and then turn the dragon's head here, on 31 December 1442 the Dragon's Head was on this spot.

5. Finally, on the little calendar next to the Dragon's Head, find Matthias' birthday, mark it with the thread, and then turn the Dragon's Head here. Find the position of the Dragon's Tail (CAVDA) on the opposite side of the circle.

The astronomer Peter Apian and the copper engraver Michael Ostendorfer's Astronomicum Casareum also helps to predict the future of rulers. Tables and discs track the movements of the celestial bodies, which can be used to deduce the major questions of princely life. The present disc can be used to determine the daily position of the lunar nodes. Apian believed in the geocentric model of the universe, namely that the known celestial bodies rotated around the Earth in more or less divergent orbits. Where the Moon's orbit and the Sun's orbit, the ecliptic, intersect, there are the lunar nodes. The Moon rises above the ecliptic at the ascending lunar node (Dragon's Head) and descends at the descending lunar node (Dragon's Tail).

European astrologers have drawn conclusions from the position of these points, which vary from day to day, in order to complement the horoscope. For example, if the Dragon's Tail points at the house of the newborn's ascendant, this can predict vision problems. Based on King Matthias' most commonly known date of birth, 24 February 1443, his horoscope's ascendant is Capricorn (Capricornus). Did he have to worry about slight problems? This disc helps answer the question.



TABULA VERI MOTVS SARCAE DRACO	
Die	Mo
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
14	14
15	15
16	16
17	17
18	18
19	19
20	20
21	21
22	22
23	23
24	24
25	25
26	26
27	27
28	28
29	29
30	30

Tartomány Mátyás király
 születésnapján
 az életkor horoszkópja alapján?

Igen Nem

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[6]

The family-friendly exhibition explores **three aspects of time**, giving us a glimpse into how we think about time. In the first, *linear* space, there are chronological works: chronicles, old calendars, diaries of famous people. In the second space, which shows *cyclical* time, the circle of the year and the day is presented. In this space, you can see the service books relating to the ecclesiastical year and the succession of our significant days. The third room places the visitor in the *passing moment*. Through a kind of spiritual guidance, special objects and quotations help us to understand the importance of each moment, its potential and value.

Since antiquity depicts time with two figures, **Chronos** and **Kairos**, these two figures accompany the visitor in the exhibition space. Chronos is the embodiment of endlessly flowing time, while the young Kairos represents the precious instant of time.

The exhibition presents the rush, the cycle and the festive moments, with documents and objects ranging from a puppetry to a celestial globe, from a divination book to a pocket calendar of Franz Liszt, including also maps, photos, clocks, posters, motion picture and audio recordings.



[7]

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[8]



[9]



[10]

The Pannonhalma Book of Hours, dating from around 1500, which is one of the highlights of *The Forms of Time*, arrived in Budapest especially for the occasion. The most gifted will have the opportunity to gain an insight into the workshop secrets of European astronomy using a 16th century astronomical instrument, while those interested in their own future can use the virtual “marriage” of modern technology and the **Fortuna fortune-telling book** to make instant predictions about whether they will live long, have good luck, become rich or whether their next journey will be auspicious.

Visitors will also be able to take a closer look at the exhibited objects, also through interactive elements; they will be able to rotate a digital version of the **celestial globe** on loan from [the Cistercian Historical Library in Zirc](#) [11], which features 1250 stars arranged in 64 constellations. Children can wheel up the solar disc to the highest point in the sky on Midsummer's Day, symbolically jump across the fire, or flip through beautiful facsimile prayer books.

Visitors can take a close look at the **twelve signs of the zodiac** without binoculars. They can also send them as postcards from the exhibition's photo point or stamp them in their diaries using the stamp station.



[12]



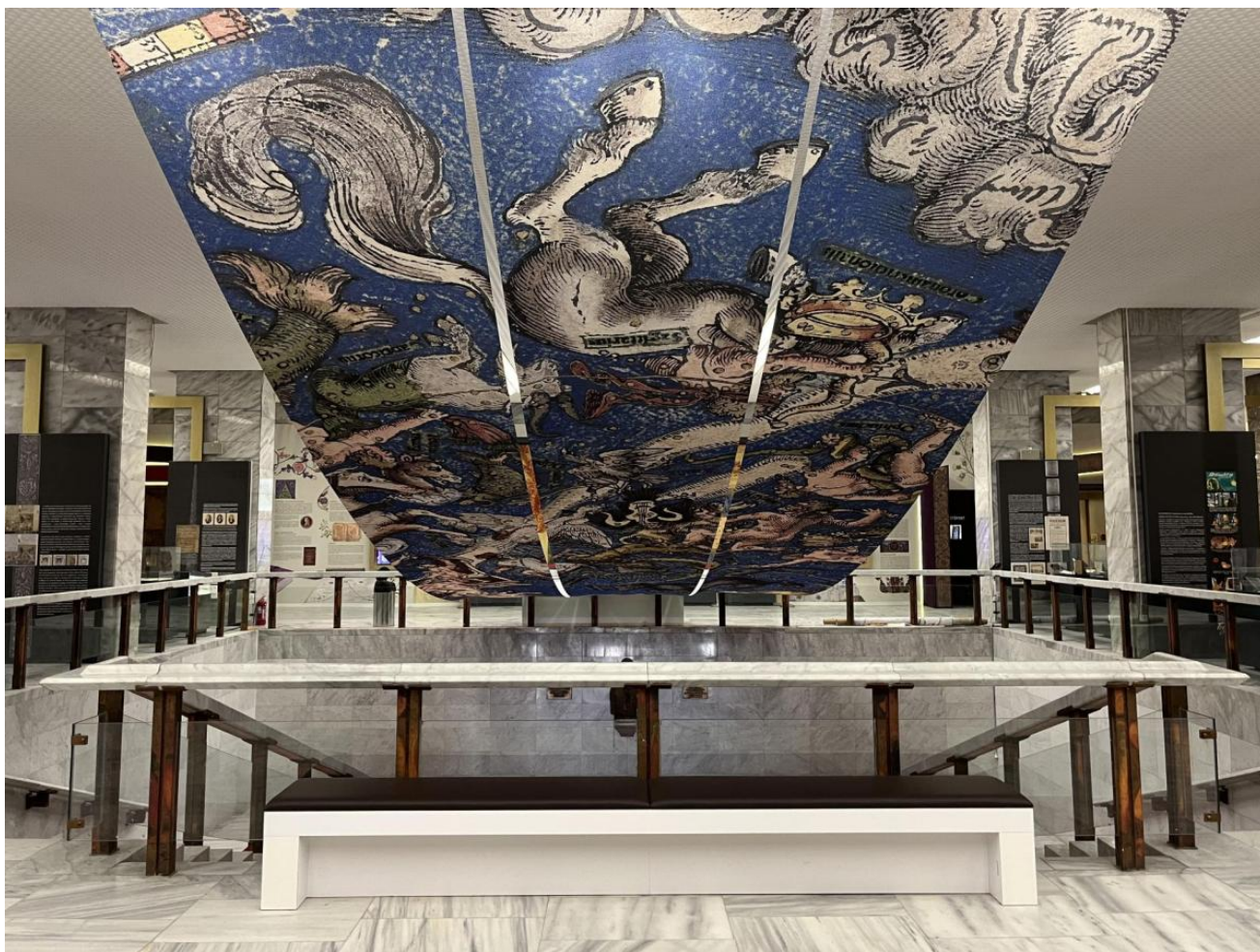
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[14]



[15]

Curators of the exhibition:

Klaudia Túri, Bernadett Varga and Márton Szovák,
staff members of the Early Printed Books Collection of the NSZL.

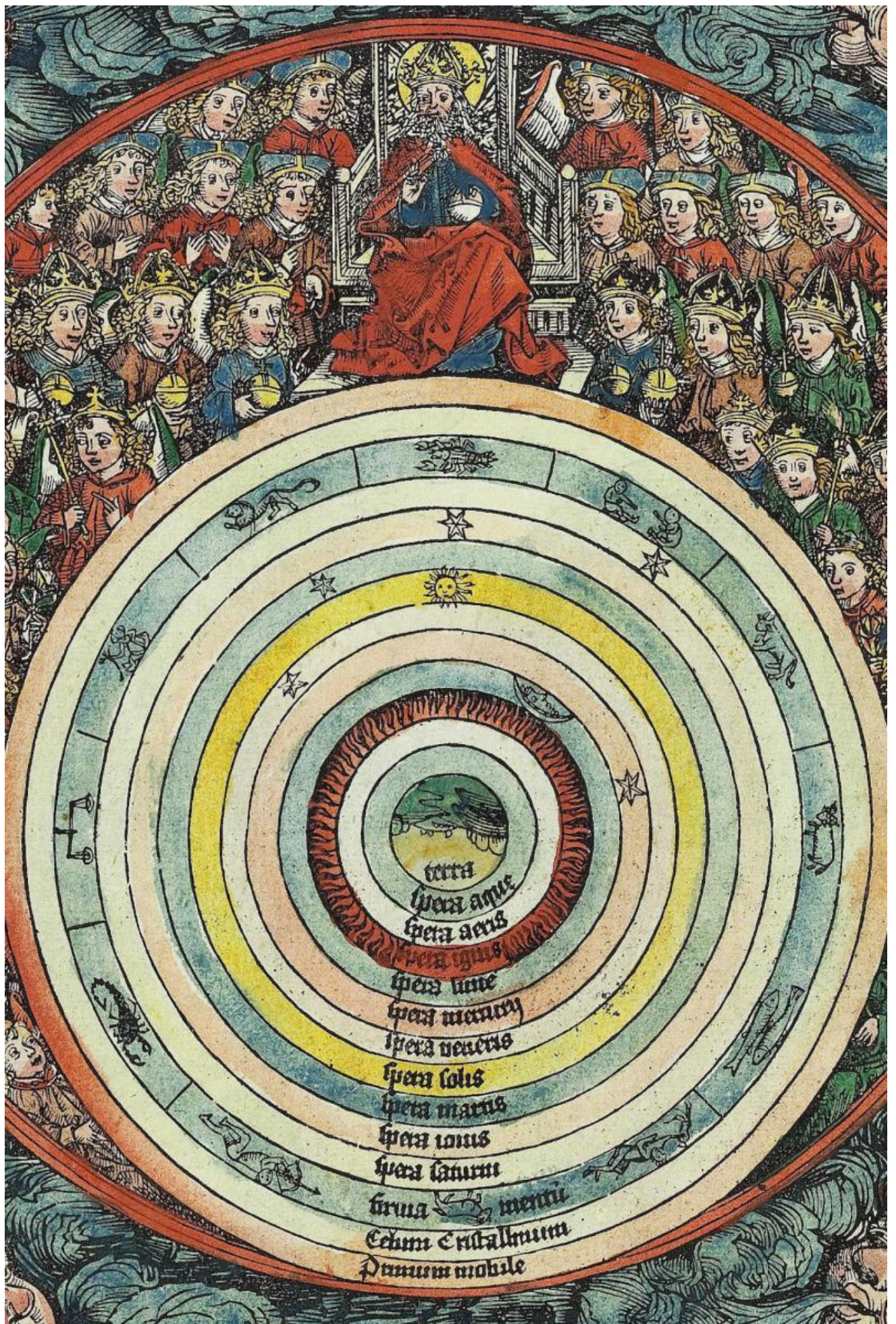
Interior design was created by **Mária Gazdag**, a designer who has won international acclaim for her two previous exhibitions at the NSZL, while graphic design was executed by **Máté Török**, a versatile artist who recently won the Kossuth Prize with his ensemble Misztrál.



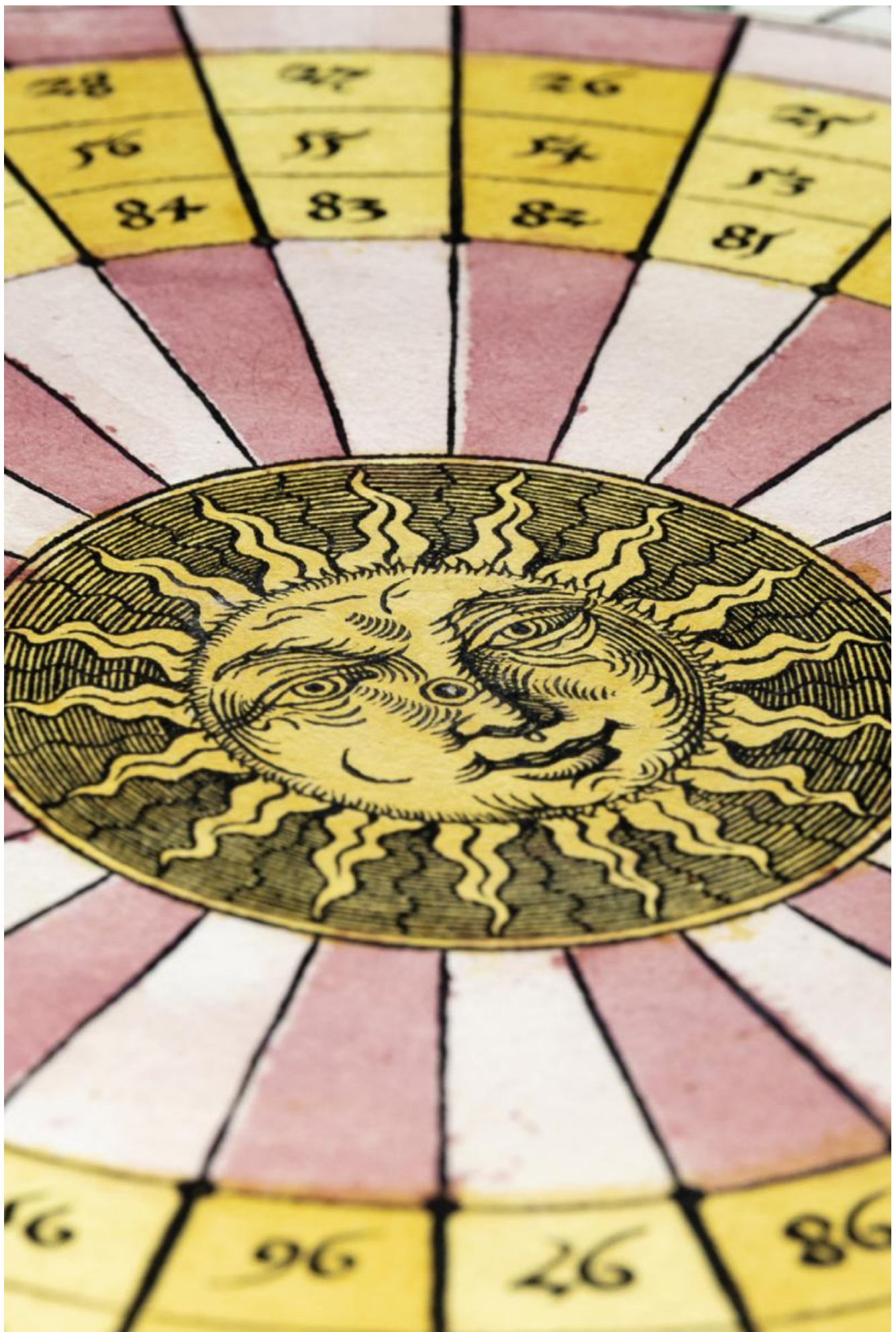
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[17]



[18]



[19]

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- [2] <http://csoportvezetes@oszk.hu>
- [3] https://oszk.hu/sites/default/files/Az-ido-arcai_kiallitas_OSZK_240411-0713_02.jpg
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- [10] https://oszk.hu/sites/default/files/Az-ido-arcai_kiallitas_OSZK_240411-0713_17.jpg
- [11] <http://while> graphic design was executed by Máté Török, a versatile artist who recently won the Kossuth Prize with his ensemble Misztrál.
- [12] https://oszk.hu/sites/default/files/Az-ido-arcai_kiallitas_OSZK_240411-0713_20.jpg
- [13] https://oszk.hu/sites/default/files/Az-ido-arcai_kiallitas_OSZK_240411-0713_21.jpg
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