ARTY FACTS

BURAQ Philippines, Mindanao, early or mid-20th century Wood, paint

In the Islamic tradition, the Buraq is often described as a "white animal, half-mule, half-donkey, with wings". The Prophet Muhammad rode the Buraq to fly through the heavens in a single night, a journey known as Mir'aj.

Only in certain regions, such as Mindanao, is the animal depicted with a human face. Although the Buraq is not uncommon in Islamic art, sculptures of the creature seem to be unique to the Philippines. It is possible that the flourishing carving industry of religious images for Catholic Filipinos may have encouraged the making of such sculptures.



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MEET THE BURAQ

Its name means "lightning" in Arabic.

According to tradition, the
Prophet Muhammad rode the
Buraq, a half-mule, half-donkey
creature with wings to fly through
the heavens in a single night.
Sculptures of the Buraq like this
are found mostly in the Philippines.

Spy with your little eye

the Buraq in the Shaw Foyer gallery.





IDENTIFY the different animals that were used to make up the Buraq.



LOOK closely at the Buraq. How would you describe the material that it is made of?



NOTICE the crown that the Buraq wears. What does this tell us about the creature?



Instructions **COLOUR** the shapes below.

CUT along the -----& dotted lines.

CREATE your mythical creature!

EXAMPLE





