

Hierodules

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 26 May 2006

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b sharp — 26 May 2006, 10:48

I'm pretty sure the ugly Hierodule masks of F, B and O are an insect, a lamprey (fish) and a human leper. I think Famulimus is the leper.

yep, earthly hierodules, uh praying mantises, have very triangular heads. So does Thecla (face anyway). Perhaps Michael Andre-Driussi also?

Praying Mantises are pretty scary looking up close but helpful to us because they eat a bunch of nasty, harmful bugs. Plus they pray! Deliberate symbolism by Wolfe?

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 27 May 2006, 02:11 · in reply to b sharp

On 5/26/06, b sharp <bsharporflat at hotmail.com> wrote:

I'm pretty sure the ugly Hierodule masks of F, B and O are an insect,
a lamprey (fish) and a human leper. I think Famulimus is the leper.

This is correct. And there were exceptionally beautiful human faces -- to the point, as I recall, that they were no longer quite human -- underneath the second layer of masks. Severian, if I recall correctly, remarks that they appear to him to be what the walking statue in the garden of the House Absolute was based on.

--Dan'l

I do not fear Satan half so much as I fear those who fear him.

-- St Teresa of Avila

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