

Symbols in the Coptic Art

The Icons of St. Mary (Theotokos)

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Introduction

- There is a difference between the art work inside the church and the art work at the museum, and galleries.
- The art work inside the church (The Icons) follows the church's beliefs and orthodox traditional but the art work at the museum or galleries follows art rules.
- What distinguishes normal painting from icon is the symbols and meaning that they carry.
- The icons is full of meaning's and symbols .

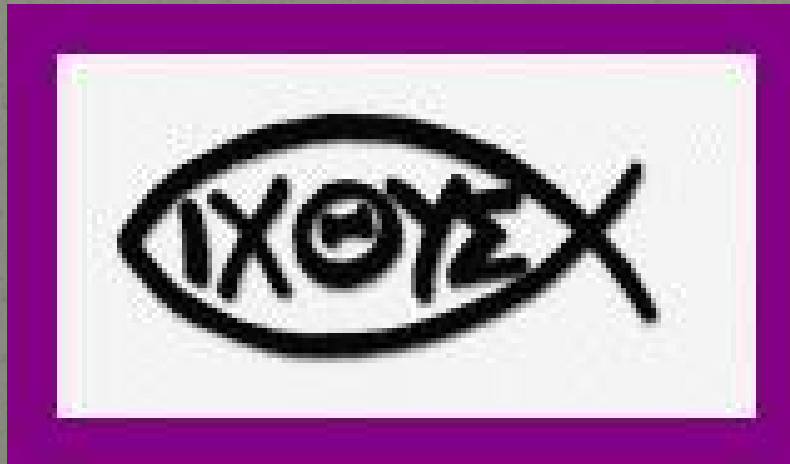
When were symbols started to be used in Icons?
What symbols are used?

- The symbols started in the first and second century.
- Some of the symbols that were used.
 - 1. The Shepherd
 - 2. Fish
 - 3. The Monogram
 - 4. The Eagle
 - 5. The Vine
 - 6. The Peacock.

The Shepherd



The Fish, The Monogram



The Peacock, The Eagle



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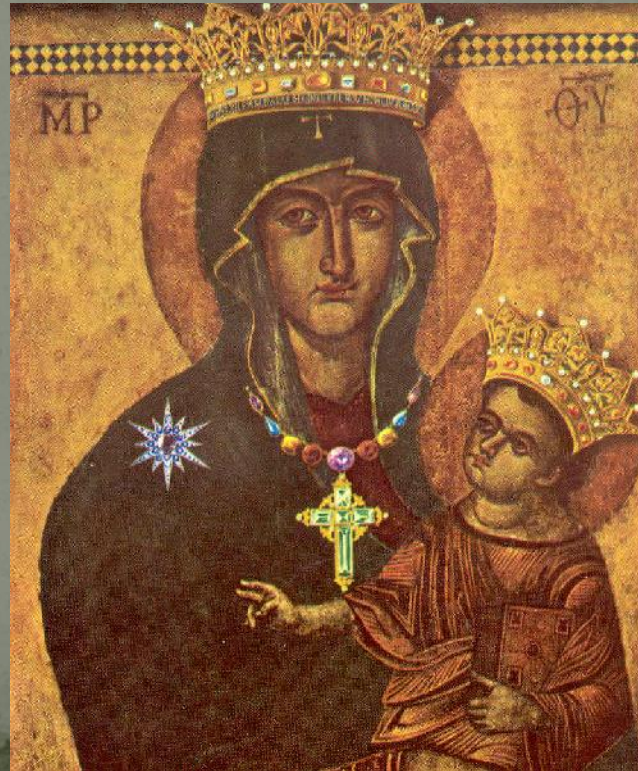


St. Mary Icons (Theotokos)

- The history of this icons
 - icons by St. Luke
 - icon by Vladimir monastery by Greek orthodox
- She wears a blue dress that includes stars it's a symbol to the sky
 - as we say to St. Mary: you are the second heaven for Jesus Christ.
- There are 3 big stars
 - one in her right shoulder,
 - one in her left shoulder,
 - and one in her head
- St. Mary is a pure virgin before, during, and after she bore Jesus Christ.

St. Mary Icons (Theotokos)

- Pharaonic Statue
- Icon by St. Luke
- Greek Orthodox icons in St. Vladimir Monastery



Greek Orthodox Icons at St. Vladimir Monastery

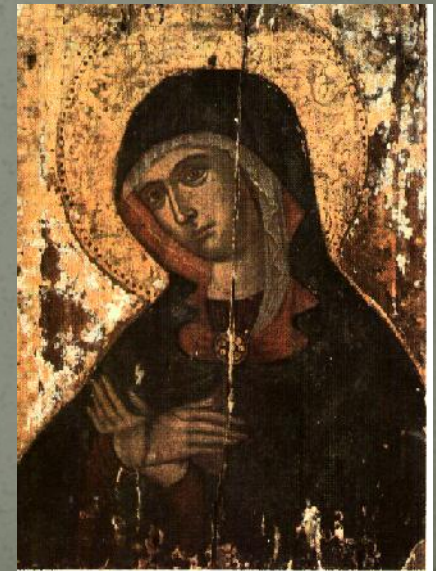


St. Mary Icon (The Theotokos)

- Jesus Christ wears white and red
 - Jesus is pure and our savior through the blood
 - (the song of Songs) say my love is white and red.
- Jesus as a baby didn't look to his mother but looked at another direction
 - He isn't a normal child
 - He is the savior child and he looks to the salvation.
- Jesus looked older than his original age
 - Although He is a child He is the eternal too.
- Jesus wears sandals one tied and the other is untied
 - The sandals is made out of skin of an animal it symbolizes sin,
 - why tied and untied? Because Jesus is without any sin and he became a sin for us.







Reading of Icons: St. Antony

