Abu Ma'shar Encyclopedia Article

Abu Ma'shar

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Arab astrologer, also known as Albumasar or Albumazar, who influenced Western thinking on cosmology during the Middle Ages. In his *Introductorium in astronomiam* and *De magnis coniunctionibus,* he maintained that the world was created when the seven planets were in conjunction with Aries, and predicted that it would end when the same phenomenon occurred in Pisces. Translated into Latin and later vernacular tongues, his works were widely circulated in Europe and he became the inspiration for literary depictions of astrologers by several minor authors of the early modern era.