



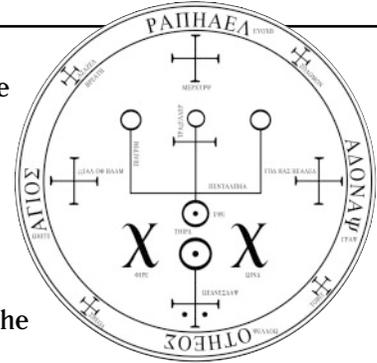
The Archangel Series

Raphael *The Breath of God*

Above all, Raphael's legends paint a picture of a healer. Often represented with the "Golden Vial of Balm", and a pilgrim's staff, Raphael has an apparent charge to heal the Earth. He was the angel who healed Abraham's pain of circumcision, cured Jacob's thigh after being wrestled by Samael, and gave the medical book, "The Book of the Angel Raziel" to Noah. Raphael also provided Solomon with a magic ring, the Pentalfa, in order to build his temple. He is one of the Princes of the Presence, healing, joy, miracles, grace, patron of travellers, and ruler of the 2nd Heaven.

According to my research (which although it was vast, is not foolproof), here are the translations of what I believe to be the Hebrew words on the seal:

ΡΑΠΗΑΕΛ	RAPHAEL	Means: "God has Healed"
ΑΓΙΟΣ	AGIOS	A name of God
ΑΔΟΝΑΨ	ADONAY	"The Lord"
ΟΤΗΕΟΣ	OTHEOS	A name of God



The Signature of Archangel Raphael



About The Series

Based on a combination of Christian, Judaic & Islamic legends & history, I was inspired to render these mysterious creatures in their more mysterious and dramatic light. All too often angels are depicted as "cute" or "docile", and I wanted a view of the warriors, the secret-keepers, the guides and messengers. Of course, this does fall under my basic love of archetypes, but my methodology reflected my thoughts to some degree, in that I wanted to capture the timeless conundrum of the angel concept. The particular class of Archangels seemed the best route for this thought, as most people are familiar with the big names, Michael and Gabriel. Along with Raphael, these are the only three angels mentioned by names in the Bible. I ended up with two distinct lists of what were classified as Archangels, one was a group of seven angels who stood before God, the second, a list of 15 (with several of the same names), was more divided by their jobs and personalities. I decided a series of seven would be quicker, though I better conceptualized the bigger list. Therefore I decided to produce the series in two phases, the first is the standard list of seven Archangels. Phase II will be the "complete" list of all 15 (the remaining eight).

The medium for these pieces, which I decided on almost as soon as I started considering the project, is somewhat peculiar. They are rendered as fairly detailed pencil drawings, scanned & altered in Photoshop (mostly just the glow effect), then I add the Angelic Seal and other touches in the background and print it in dull brown ink on parchment paper. The result is a nice "ancient-scroll" impression which is very appropriate. The seals and "signatures" are used in elements of the image, as well as Celestial Angelic Script translations of their names and representations. The seals are recreated in a vector-graphics program and the words are produced "Symbol" font, which is essentially Greek.

Below is an outline of the series, as planned, based on the research and my interpretations. Enjoy!

PHASE I

<u>Piece (title)</u>	<u>Essence (job)</u>	<u>Chakras/planets/colors/elements</u>
Michael; <i>The Right Hand of God</i>	Soldier / Messenger	throat chakra/solar/blue/fire / General of the Armies
Gabriel; <i>The Wrath of God</i>	Destroyer / Messenger	Base of Spine/moon/water / Extinguisher of nations
Raphael; <i>The Breath of God</i>	Healer	3rd Eye/Mercury/green/wind / Pilgrim's staff
Azrael; <i>The Comfort of God</i>	Death (comfort)	Book of Life & Death / (gigantic)
Metatron; <i>The Voice of God</i>	The Voice of God (messenger)	Uranus/fire / Burning Bush / Pillar of smoke/fire
Uriel; <i>The Gift of God</i>	Winds of Change/Gift of Love	Solar Plexis/Venus/violet/air / Fiery Sword
Camael; <i>The Judgement of God</i>	Divine Justice (war)	Heart Chakra/Mars / Red tunic & Green armor

PHASE II

Jophiel; <i>The Beauty of God</i>	Artists / Beauty	Crown Chakra/yellow / Illumination / Inspiration
Israfil; <i>The Chorus of God</i>	Entertainers (song)	Regeneration / Weeps for the Damned
Raziel; <i>The Mind of God</i>	Intellect (mysteries)	Neptune
Cassiel; <i>The Tears of God</i>	Solitudes (tears) / temperence	Saturn & Pluto/maroon / loves dragons
Zadkiel; <i>The Mercy of God</i>	Mercy & Freedom	Seat of the Soul/violet / Usually holding a dagger
Haniel; <i>The Love of God</i>	Love & Harmony	Venus/green / Carries a lantern / androgynous
Raguel; <i>The Eye of God</i>	Account (Vengeance)	earth / Wreaks justice on the Celestial (angels)
Sandalphon; <i>The Path of God</i>	Clarity (Guidance)	black / Was the prophet Elias / Twin of Metatron