

Winthrop University Collection of Medieval Manuscripts

MEDIEVAL MUSIC

1. Antiphonal (Feast of St. Nicholas). Single folio on vellum. The Netherlands, ca. 1450: 395 x 289, ten four line staves (16 mm) ruled in black ink. The high-quality vellum has a regular nap, like suede. Decoration: staff-high initials in red and blue, with similarly grand black capitals highlighted in red and decorated with fine penwork in black ink. This manuscript closely resembles in execution the folio of a Dutch Gradual offered in *Enchiridion 6 #62*. Text: standard psalms, antiphons, and lessons for the Feast of St. Nicholas (6 December).

2. Portable Antiphonal. Single folio on vellum. Eastern France, ca. 1325: 295 x 218 mm, written area 217 x 130 mm. Double column, 13 staves in red. Decoration: staff-high initials in brown ink with red highlights, infilled with delicate foliage designs or grotesque human faces. Four staff-high initials in red or blue with alternating penwork in a style of the fourteenth century. Text: services for three unidentified ferial days (part of Tuesday, all of Wednesday, the beginning of Thursday).

MEDIEVAL LAW

3. Justinian, *Corpus iuris civilis* ("Digest"). Single folio on vellum. Southern France, ca. 1275: 435 x 272 mm, essentially the entire page full of writing. Double columns of text in 40 lines, surrounded by dense glossing. Additional glossing in a later hand. Decoration: in the text: two-line initials in blue with single penwork lines in red; in the gloss: alternating red and blue two-line initials with contrasting penwork lines. Condition: slight damage in the lower right corner, resulting in losses of text in the gloss on recto and verso; staining in the upper right, affecting recto and verso. Text: from Book 50, Title 16 or 17.

THE BIBLE

4. Folio Bible. Single folio on vellum. England (possibly Cambridge), ca. 1220-1240: 276 x 200 mm, written area 193 x 112 mm. Double column, 60 lines. Decoration: alternating red and blue initials with contrasting penwork. Large initials at chapter headings, with penwork flourishes down the margin. Chapter numbers added in the margins. Related fragments suggest that the volume came from a monastic library. A medieval price for the manuscript recorded on the last page: "centum solidi" (100 shillings = five pounds). Possibly owned by Thomas Lever (1521-1577), Master of St. John's College, Cambridge and possibly sold on 29 May 1786 by Sotheby's. Item #6 from the portfolio entitled "Fifty Original Leaves from Medieval Manuscripts,"

assembled by Otto F. Ege of Cleveland (d. 1951) and marketed by his widow from 1954.

5. Pocket Bible. Single folio on vellum. France (probably Paris), ca. 1260: 158 x 105 mm (written area 108 x 75 mm). Double column, 43 lines. *Decoration*: Two alternating two-line red and blue initials and a single four-line blue initial with contrasting penwork swags lining the inner and outer margins; chapter numbers and headings in alternating red and blue characters; versal initials touched in red. *Text*: Galatians 3-6. *Provenance*: ex coll. William Foyle (1885-1963).

6. Lectern Bible. Single folio on vellum. Germany, ca. 1475: 416 x 275 mm, written area 311 x 207 mm. Double column, 34 lines. Rubricated with alternating red and blue three-line initials at chapter openings. Item #44 from the portfolio entitled "Fifty Original Leaves from Medieval Manuscripts," assembled by Otto F. Ege of Cleveland (d. 1951) and sold by his widow from 1954.

THEOLOGY

7. Peter Lombard, *Sentences*. Single folio on vellum. England, ca. 1275: 328 x 218 mm, written area 200 x 125 mm. Double column, 50 lines. *Decoration*: four multi-line initials in alternating red and blue with contrasting penwork decoration; rubricated headings and marginal chapter numbers in red and blue. Abundant marginal glossing in a fourteenth-century English hand. *Provenance*: from a manuscript owned by Edward Walmsley (his sale, March 1795), Nell and Charles Wheeler (their sale, New York, 29 July 1919 lot 593), and C. Lindsay Ricketts (d. 1941; see De Ricci, *Census*, I, p. 646, no. 185, his sale Parke-Bernet, NYC, 24 February 1929 lot 280). This leaf sold at Sotheby's, 22 June 1982 lot 25 (to Ralph Hanna), re-sold 17 June 1997 lot 16. The manuscript was already missing leaves by 1910, for John Frederick Lewis acquired fragments at that time (now Philadelphia, Free Library MS Lewis XIII:373).

8. Thomas Aquinas, *Commentary on the Sentences of Peter Lombard, Book I*. Single folio on vellum. Italy, ca. 1475: 288 x 210 mm, written area 178 x 130 mm. Double column, 37 lines. Foliated "211" in the upper right margin. *Decoration*: alternating red and blue parafs.

9. John Chrysostom, *Homilies on the Psalms*. Single folio on vellum. Flanders or possibly northern France, ca. 1450: 308 x 229 mm (written area 200 x 145 mm). Double columns, 40 lines. Written in *lettres bâtarde*s. From the collection of Cleveland dealer Otto F. Ege (1888-1951), who included fragments of this manuscript in his portfolio, *Fifty Original Leaves from Medieval Manuscripts* (#41). This manuscript is item 56 in De Ricci's *Census* (vol. II, p. 1945), a Flemish compilation that originally included Gregory's *Dialogi*, minor works of Chrysostom, and Anselm's *Meditationes*. *Text*: opening of Chrysostom's homily on Psalm 1. *Provenance*: From the library of

Charles Van der Cruisse de Waziers, and obtained by Ege in 1925 from an English source.

PSALTERS and BOOKS OF HOURS

10. Psalter. Single folio on vellum. The Netherlands, ca. 1475: 175 x 127 (written area 114 x 76). Single column, 18 lines. The rubrics written in Dutch. *Decoration*: alternating red and blue one-line initials; a single three-line initial in red with a quatrefoil piercing and feathery violet tracery extending along the margin. Remnants of tape on recto. *Text*: Psalms 31.5 *confitebor* ... 32.8 *inhabitantes*. *Provenance*: from a manuscript once owned by Cleveland manuscript dealer Otto F. Ege, number 43 in his posthumous portfolio, *Fifty Original Leaves from Medieval Manuscripts*.

11. Monastic Psalter. Single folio on vellum. France, ca. 1220: approx. 144 x 127 mm (written area approx. 130 x 80 mm). Single column, 19 lines. Sotheby's dated this manuscript to the third quarter of the thirteenth century (see below), but the decoration belongs to an earlier generation, and it is written above top line, making it pre-1240. *Decoration*: a two-line initial in gold—now worn right down to the brightly colored gesso—on red and blue grounds infilled with white penwork decoration. Versal initials alternate in gold and blue. Foliated “86” in modern pencil. *Contents*: Psalm 138. *Condition and Provenance*: this book seems to have been in a fire at some point, for scorched corners and edges of the slightly browned leaves have flaked away, leaving irregularly shaped folios. Some of these folios have been inscribed with signatures of the sixteenth-century owner François de Marcambie, according to Sotheby's possibly a descendant of François de la Haye, seigneur de Marcambie (Nôtre Dame de Cenilly, Basse-Normandie: the charming château still stands). This François offered a reward of wine should the book, if lost, be returned to him (126r). The name of a second owner, B. Goussil, is also recorded. The volume came into the possession of Count Eric von Rosen (1879-1948) of Rockelstad Castle, Sweden (now a conference center), and was sold in 1969 and 1980, eventually acquired by Canadian banker Joseph Pope, owner of the Bergendal Collection. Purchased by a German dealer (Sotheby's 5 July 2011 lot 55), it was subsequently cut up and dispersed.

12. Book of Hours (kalendar leaf for April). Single folio on vellum. Northern France, ca. 1480: approx. 114 x 79 mm. Single column, 17 lines written in a charming bâtarde script. *Decoration*: the KL of kalends in gold on burgundy and blue grounds with white penwork details, bar borders of gold and black, and decorated margins with ivy leaves, multicolored blossoms, and gold dots. Double-graded in red and brown ink, with the Golden Numbers recorded in red. *Provenance*: sold to benefit the American Friends of the Israel Museum. The page for March has an ownership inscription: “Ce Présent livre appartient à / moi Jean Baptiste Chareau / De Baubigny Le 17 fév. 1813.” Baubigny is located in the Basse-Normandie region, on the western side of the Cotentin peninsula, only a few miles from the English Channel. *Condition*: slight smudges and some slightly tacky tape residue.

13. Book of Hours (Penitential Psalms). Single folio on vellum. Northern France or Flanders, ca. 1450: 153 x 112 mm, written area 66 x 52. Single column, 12 lines. *Decoration*: seven initials in gold on red and blue grounds infilled with white penwork, with similar line-fillers. Margin border decoration with red blossoms, green leaves, and blue and gold feathers. *Text*: Psalm 142.1 *<verit>ate ... 142.7 descenditibus*, the last of the Penitential Psalms. *Provenance*: based on dimensions, number of lines, and date, this leaf may have come from a volume sold at Christie's 5 July 1967, lot 169.

14. Book of Hours ("Livre de Raison"). Single folio on vellum. French Flanders, ca. 1450-75: approx. 157 x 105 mm (written area 90 x 58 mm). Single column, 15 lines. This folio comes from an undistinguished, worn, and stained Book of Hours, but *records births and deaths in the Dumesnil family*, doubtless from the Loire town of St.-Georges-du-Cher, since Joseph (d. 1548) was born in Montrichard close by. Eamon Duffy's *Marking the Hours* describes how Books of Hours were annotated. He remarks, "transmission within families ... might go on for generations or even centuries" (23). This prayer book was used by at least four generations of Dumesnils. These entries were made in the prayer book shortly after the events they record. The writers identify themselves with expressions like "my father Louis Richard died in Paris" or "my only son, issue of me Louis Richard." This is the lineage as reconstructed from the annotations: Joseph Richard (b. 18 April 1548) m. Catherine Ceré, have issue Louis Richard (b. 17 June 1576, d. 4 March 1642); Louis Richard (d. 1 March 1642) m. Susanne Ladire (d. 6 September 1659) have issue Charles (b. 29 May 1626); Charles Richard m. Madeleine de Montigny have issue Louise (b. 22 June 1657, d. 1 June 1737), Madeleine (b. 25 August 1660), and Charles (b. 1672). Additional reference to Pierre (b. 18 June 1666) and Susanne (b. 25 August 1676). The Richard line terminated with the death of Louise in 1737. This leaf references the birth of Pierre (18 June 1666) and Susanne (25 August 1676).

15. Book of Hours (Office of the Dead). Conjugate bifolium on vellum. France, ca 1480: 146 by 103 mm, written area 71 x 47 mm. Single column, 13 lines. *Provenance*: simply based on the dimensions and number of lines, this bifolium probably comes from a *horae* sold at Sotheby's London, 6 July 1964 lot 246. *Decoration*: two two-line brown initials on rich blue grounds with liquid gold highlights; fourteen initials alternating blue and gold with elaborate contrasting penwork details; thirteen line-fillers in red and blue with liquid gold highlights; four borders with a profusion of feathers, blossoms, and leaves in green, pink, blue, and liquid gold. *Condition*: well worn, and browned along one inch of the lower margin and up the sides. The corners are discolored as well, from being taped, though there is no tape residue. *Text*: Psalms 120, 129, and 137 from Vespers in the Office of the Dead.

MEDIEVAL SCIENCE

16. Bartholomeus Anglicus, *De proprietatibus rerum*. Single folio on vellum: France, ca. 1350: 269 x 182 mm, written area 200 x 125 mm. Double column, 45 lines. Decoration: a single two-line initial M in blue with contrasting penwork decoration, else alternating red and blue parafs. Marginalia indicate the contents. Text: Book V, caps. xvii-xxviii, on the characteristics of arms and hands. The *De proprietatibus* was one of the most famous scientific encyclopedias of the Middle Ages.

LITURGY

17. Breviary. Single folio on vellum. Northern Italy, ca. 1425: 131 x 100 mm (written area 96 x 71 mm). Double column, 31 lines. Text: both leaves preserve texts for unidentified ferial days, with various lessons, versicles, responds, antiphons, and collects. Decoration: Alternating two-line initials in red and blue with astonishingly busy, intricate and delicate trailing penwork in contrasting colors (red on blue, purple on red), often looping throughout the margins, else rubricated.

18. Missal (Sanctorale). Single folio on heavy paper, western Germany, possibly southwest Germany or Switzerland, ca. 1500: 406 x 275 mm (written area 286 x 187 mm). Double column, 30 lines. An accomplished, bold script on clean white stock. Text: from the Sanctorale of a large missal, with masses for SS. Romanus, Bernard, and Aegidius with a long sequence. Given the script and mixture of saints in related leaves, the volume could be situated in western Germany, probably in the southwest. Many of the abbreviated texts (Gospels, epistles, communions, etc.) have numbers referencing the full readings in an indexed source. Decoration: brightly and freshly rubricated with multiple one- and two-line decorative initials. The folio is tabbed.

19. Capitulary. Single folio on vellum, southern France or Italy, ca. 1425: 245 x 172 mm (written area approx. 185 x 130 mm). Double column, 16 lines. An unusual compilation, the capitulary contains the various benedictions and *capitula* (“chapters”) to be chanted during monastic offices. This leaf preserves chapters and prayers for Advent. Decoration: six large initials in alternating red and blue with intricate contrasting penwork, sometimes extending up and down the margins, else simple rubrication. A very grand, legible leaf with soiling here and there, especially in the edges of the outer margins—a book well used, in other words—but impressive.

MODERN MANUSCRIPTS IN MEDIEVAL STYLE

20. Ethiopian, ca. 1880.

21. Koran. Egypt, ca. 1850.

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