



LES ENLUMINURES

# The Groundhog Day Sale



2024



[www.textmanuscripts.com](http://www.textmanuscripts.com)

Philippus del  
16302

Volunté de la Bibliothèque  
F. Aboij de Barons  
1793

# TEXTMANUSCRIPTS.COM – GROUNDHOG DAY 2024

Please click on the TM number to access complete descriptions and videos at [www.textmanuscripts.com](http://www.textmanuscripts.com)

20% off



1.

**TM 1267**

Psalter

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on vellum  
France (Paris), c. 1230-1250

Sixteen calendar roundels and eight historiated initials by the Soissons Atelier

A delightful treasure, every page in this small volume sparkles with polished gold. This is in every way a classic example of an illuminated Gothic Psalter from Paris, from the calendar with vignettes of the Labors of the Month and Zodiac and the historiated initials illustrating the major liturgical divisions of the Psalms, to the exuberant penwork line fillers and playful marginal decoration, replete with fish, dogs, dragons, and birds. Once a treasured volume used for private devotion, this manuscript will surely delight any modern owner.

~~\$115,000~~ / **\$92,000**

2.

**TM 1265**

**GUILLELMUS BRITO**, *Expositiones vocabulorum Biblie, sive Summa Britonis*; Miscellany of Patristic and Monastic Texts, including works by or attributed to ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX, ALCHER OF CLAIRVAUX, GEOFFREY OF CLAIRVAUX, PSEUDO-DIONYSIUS AEROPAGITE, and PSEUDO-NICODEMUS; GERARD DE FRACHET, *Vitae fratrum Ordinis Predicatorum*; added texts include a medical recipe for memory and a diplomatic cipher

In Latin, decorated manuscript on parchment

Southern France or Spain (Catalonia), c. 1280(?) -1350

Written in tiny compact script on thin parchment and preserved in an original binding, this medieval pocketbook presents a miscellany of theological and devotional texts by important, yet diverse medieval authors. Although none of the works is especially rare, the combination is unusual and suggests a specially curated volume. Within decades of its composition, the manuscript was owned and used in 1391 by a distinguished theologian-cleric, who appended an alphabetical table of subjects.

~~\$45,000~~ / **\$36,000**



3.

TM 1167

[Samaritan Calendrical Treatise] *Ishban kashtah* (True Calculation)

In Samaritan and Arabic, manuscript on parchment

Holy Land, c. 1300-1325

There are very few copies of this Samaritan treatise on the calendar from such an early period that have survived. In addition to its early date, noteworthy here are the extra Arabic calendrical instructions and the circular diagram incorporating extra information from the Arabic astronomical tradition.

~~\$80,000~~ / \$64,000

4.

TM 1285

JACOBUS DE VORAGINE, *Sermones quadragesimales* (Lenten sermons), including sermons from his *De sanctis et festis* (six), and *De tempore* (two), and from SERVASANCTUS DE FAVENTIA, *Sermones de tempore et de sanctis* (five)

In Latin, manuscript on parchment

Southwestern Germany or Northeastern France (Alsace?), c.1300-1325

One of the primary methods of educating ordinary lay people about theology and the faith; sermons can offer modern scholars a glimpse into daily life in the Middle Ages. Jacobus de Voragine, author of the *Golden Legend*, was one of the most influential authors of the thirteenth century, famous in his own lifetime and still well-known today. This is an early manuscript of his Lenten Sermons, which were composed before 1286, and as such, its text deserves further study. It is also a valuable witness to the reception of these popular sermons; the extensive signs of reader engagement throughout, including a detailed alphabetical subject index, keyed to the added foliation and marginal letters, are of special interest.

~~\$50,000~~ / \$40,000

5.

TM 1289

[Notarial Register] Three transactions related to a property settlement recorded by the notary, Bandino De Brazzi

In Latin, manuscript on parchment

Italy (Padua), dated 1395 (March 3 to April 3)

Beautifully written with clean wide margins and in its original binding, this legal brief contains a property settlement between two Paduan nobles in 1395, written in the expert hand of Bandino de Brazzi, the premier notary of the Carrarese chancery. The manuscript is a valuable witness to the legal procedures of the Paduan court and a unique source for the local history of Padua near the violent end of Carrara domination. Because the archives in Padua were nearly destroyed by a fire in 1420, this document emerges as an important and rare survival from an otherwise small archive.

SOLD

6.

TM 1292

Inventory of the Church of San Benedetto in Orsago

In Latin and Italian, manuscript on parchment

Italy (Orsago), 1400-1576

Spanning nearly two hundred years, this inventory records the holdings of the parish church of San Benedetto in Orsago, a commune of Treviso in the Veneto. The many named notaries and historical personages illuminate the history of this small commune, and the many hands that recorded the entries show a developing notarial and scribal practice from Gothic cursive in the early entries toward Humanist cursive in the later entries. The inventory of the movable goods of the church includes their liturgical books; evidence of book ownership at the parish level is quite rare and always of special interest.

**SOLD**

7.

TM 1298a

Calendar from a Book of Hours

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment

France (likely Paris), c. 1400-1420

Calendars from medieval manuscripts offer an unparalleled glimpse into day-to-day life in the Middle Ages. Without today's modern devices, they were how people saw what day it was and why it was important: the special feast days throughout the year so important to daily life. Medieval calendars also include tools for figuring out the days of the week, Easter, means of following the Kalends, Ides, and Nones of Roman calendars, ways of finding out when the moon rises and sets, and clues to dark or Egyptian days each month. They are rich sources for anyone who wants to learn about and vicariously experience the medieval world.

~~\$9,500~~ / **\$7,600**

8.

TM 1279

BOETHIUS, *De consolazione philosophiae*; [Anonymous], *Expositio quinque librorum de consolazione philosophiae* (Commentary on the five books of the Consolation of Philosophy)

In Latin, illustrated manuscript on paper

Northern France (Anchin Abbey?), dated 1422

Boethius's *Consolation of Philosophy* was a true medieval bestseller – in fact, the most widely copied work of secular literature of the Middle Ages. Our manuscript was copied and almost certainly decorated (in an exuberant fashion) by a young scribe who inserted his name in multiple colophons, Pierre Toullet. Twenty-six years later in 1448, he became abbot of the Abbey of Anchin. The text was an essential schoolbook throughout the Middle Ages; this copy, still in its original binding, was certainly used for study and includes an anonymous commentary (to be identified), and interlinear glosses, making its monastic provenance particularly interesting.

~~\$58,000~~ / **\$46,400**

9.

**TM 1283**

Prayer Book compiled from two Books of Hours (formerly Use of Granada)

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment

Southern Netherlands (Bruges?), c. 1430-1450; Spain (Granada?), 1534

A fascinating example of the "life" of a book, this manuscript began as a Book of Hours written and decorated in mid-15th century Bruges. About a hundred years later, in 1534, in Spain, a later owner transformed it into a Book of Hours for Spanish use. Special prayers, an Hours for the use of Granada (now lacking), and miniatures were added, and the calendar was appropriately altered. Books of Hours made in Spain are uncommon, and dated manuscript Books of Hours are also rare. The liturgical use of this manuscript is evidently unique; we have not identified any other Books of Hours, either in manuscript or print, with the liturgical the use of Granada. Transformations to its text attest to its continued use after the Council of Trent.

~~\$48,000~~ / **\$38,400**

10.

**TM 1266**

PSEUDO-SUETONIUS, [PSEUDO-SEXTUS AURELIUS VICTOR], *De viris illustribus urbis Romae* (On the Illustrious Men of the City of Rome); list of ten kings of Egypt; epistolary formulas in Italian and Latin; [ANONYMOUS], *Epistula Pilati ad Claudium* (Letter of Pilate to Claudius)

In Latin and Italian, manuscript on paper

Northern Italy (Bergamo?), December 10, 1432

What we colloquially call a "Selfie," a volume copied for the scribe's personal use, this manuscript was most likely written by Michael of Bergamo, who signed and dated it. Michael copied an early Roman history that attests to the importance of Republican Rome as a model for humanist thinkers and citizens, a text that is now undergoing a scholarly rebirth. The size, paper support, clearly legible but idiosyncratic script, and simple decoration of this modest manuscript, are characteristics that suggest an unprofessional though accomplished project. Perhaps it was Michael who added the interesting short texts at the end which customize the manuscript.

~~\$19,000~~ / **\$15,200**

11.

**TM 1264**

PALLADIUS RUTILIUS TAURUS AEMILIANUS, *Opus agriculturae* (Treatise on Agriculture)

In Italian, manuscript on paper

Central Italy, c. 1450-1460

Unstudied and little-known, this manuscript offers an extraordinary opportunity for study. Organized according to the calendar, this influential text was a practical guide, in simple language, to the agricultural tasks to be performed in each season of the year. As a representative of the first of three approximately contemporary Italian versions of Palladius, none of them yet studied in detail, this manuscript will reward examination of its approach to translation and to the dialect employed. Manuscripts of Palladius are extremely rare on the market, with only four sales of the Latin text recorded since 1898, and no sales of any translation.

~~\$80,000~~ / **\$64,000**

12.

**TM 1261**

ROBERT de FRONCULA, *Magnifico domino suo domino Jacobo d'Appiano capitaneo et defensori populi Pisarum ... Robertus de Froncula inter decretorum doc[tor] minimus* [Legal decision on the taxation of Corsican wine]

In Latin, manuscript on paper

Italy (probably Pisa), c.1452

Dealing with the taxation of Corsican wine, the present work was produced by the lawyer Robert de Froncula at the behest of Jacobo d'Appiano, *capitano* of the Republic of Pisa. Neatly copied in a clear hand in a single gathering (part of a larger manuscript), our manuscript will spark the interest of lawyers, legal and economic historians, and researchers focusing on Renaissance Italian city-states and their wine trade in general and the Corsican wine industry in particular.

~~\$9,500~~ / **\$7,600**

13.

**TM 1250**

Mass Lectionary with Readings from the Epistles (Epistolarium)

In Latin, decorated manuscript on parchment

Northern Italy (Brescia), c. 1461-1484

This is a very fine display copy of an Epistolarium. In its original binding, the volume boasts an attractive rounded Gothic script, an especially refined opening foliate initial, and lovely tinted swirling cartouches containing catchwords. Epistolaries are a rare type of liturgical manuscript, and this one represents a significant source for the history of the Dominican convent dedicated to Saint Florian, most likely St. Fiorano ai Ronchi in Brescia. The manuscript comes from the prestigious Italian collection of Count Ercole de Silva (1756-1840).

~~\$28,000~~ / **\$22,400**

14.

**TM 1299**

MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO, *Tusculanae disputationes* (Tusculan Disputations) In Latin, illuminated manuscript on paper

Italy, Tuscany (Florence?), 14<6?>4

Humanist manuscripts from the Italian Renaissance have been treasured by scholars, readers, and collectors since the fifteenth century. This classical text by Cicero is a good example of why: composed for his own consolation in the wake of the death of his beloved daughter, it is copied in an attractive humanistic script, graced with a lovely white vine-stem initial, and survives with wide margins, original marginal side notes, and pointing hands and other notes added by subsequent readers. Signed and dated by the scribe, this manuscript has been owned by a long series of distinguished collectors, including the famous (or infamous) Guglielmo Libri and Sir Thomas Phillipps.

~~\$55,000~~ / **\$44,000**

15.

TM 225BOH

Book of Hours, Use of Bourges

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment

France (Bourges), c. 1470-1480

A tiny Book of Hours that bears all the hallmarks of having once been a remarkably luxurious book, produced at the workshop of Jean Colombe. Although now lacking its large miniatures, gold is used throughout the manuscript, including shining gold initials within the text, replacing the more usual red and blue initials, along with numerous delicate initials in "camaïeu d'or," including signs of the zodiac in the calendar. It survives in a precious, although now fragile, example of a sixteenth-century embroidered velvet binding, and includes family records, direct evidence of its early provenance.

~~\$21,000~~ / \$16,800

16.

TM 1323

[Latin Vulgate] Gospels, with marginal commentary on Matthew chapters 1-9 from THOMAS AQUINAS, *Catena aurea in Matthaëum* (The Golden Chain on Matthew)

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment

Italy (Florence?), c. 1475-1500

This tiny manuscript (measuring only 4.4 x 3 inches) is as lovely as it is unusual. The four Gospels, copied throughout the Middle Ages in manuscripts made for liturgical use, are transformed in this manuscript into a humanist book for personal use and study. Its beautiful script, sometimes in goldleaf, and lovely illuminated initials are noteworthy. Intriguingly, this manuscript has traditionally been associated with one of the most influential men of the Renaissance Italy, Girolamo Savonarola, and its marginal commentary comes from Thomas Aquinas, whose writings Savonarola studied in detail.

~~\$50,000~~ / \$40,000

17.

TM 1239

Administrative Records from the Chapter of the Cathédrale Saint-Trophime

In Latin, manuscript on paper

France (Arles), late 15th-early 16th century (1476-1503)

A collection of administrative records recording the *arrentements* (a type of lease) of the chapter of the Cathédrale Saint-Trophime d'Arles, spanning the late 15th through the early 16th centuries, and naming multiple canons and other officials associated with the Cathedral. Bound in an early limp vellum binding, and copied and annotated in numerous hands, this remarkable historical source perhaps represents several sets of records joined together into a single volume. This is a treasure-trove for researchers of late medieval Provence, French ecclesiastical administration, and 15th-16th century paper

RESERVED

18.

**TM 981**

PEDRO de GRACIA DEI, *Blasón General y Nobleza del Universo* (General Blazon and Nobility of the Universe)

In Spanish, illustrated manuscript on paper

Spain, between 1489 and 1500

A meticulously transcribed manuscript copy of the 1489 Coria imprint of *Pedro de Gracia Dei's Blasón General y Nobleza del Universo*, Spain's first printed heraldic text, and one of Spain's earliest illustrated books.

Exceptionally rare on the market, with no other manuscript copies listed for sale in Schoenberg Database, the work was produced by an author closely associated with the Castilian royal court and dedicated to King João II of Portugal. This copy – preserved in an early binding, with painted illustrations, and contemporary marginal annotations – will be of value to scholars researching heraldry, late medieval Iberian culture and politics, and the relationship between manuscript production and early printing.

~~\$48,000~~ / **\$38,400**

19.

**TM 228BOH**

Printed Book of Hours (Use of Lyon)

In Latin and French, printed on paper

France (Paris), Philippe Pigouchet for Toussaint de Montjay, July 30, 1495 (dated colophon)

With twenty-nine small metalcuts (one repeat), nineteen full-page metalcuts, Pigouchet's printer's mark, and full borders on every page

Philippe Pigouchet (fl. 1488-1518) was a renowned French printer-bookseller and engraver, who enjoyed an excellent reputation as a printer of Books of Hours. This is an early example of his work, notable for its cycle of metalcut illustrations designed by the Master of the Grandes Heures Royales (the first series used by Pigouchet). Surviving in excellent condition, this is a rare edition, known in only three other copies, two of which are complete, as is our copy. The customization of the text for use of Lyon is noteworthy, since editions for use according to regional liturgies became increasingly scarce in the context of the progressive standardization of the printed Book of Hours in the sixteenth century.

~~\$28,000~~ / **\$22,400**

20.

**TM 1255**

ANONYMOUS, [*Sefer ha-temunah* (The Book of the Image)]: *Sod ha-temunah* (The Secret of the Image), *Bei'ur gemarah min ha-temunah* (Explanation of the Image); and *Sod shem ha-meyuhad* (The Secret of the Unique Name)

In Hebrew, manuscript on paper

Northern Italy, c. 1500-1550

Espousing a deterministic view of history and a highly original understanding of such central religious concepts as reward and punishment, free will, and the existence of evil, *Sefer ha-temunah* (The Book of the Image) attracted a wide readership from the late Middle Ages into the modern era, even after leading sixteenth-century kabbalistic authorities denounced its theology. Despite its wide circulation both in manuscript and in print, there is still no modern critical edition. The present volume survives as a beautifully preserved copy of this text, one of only two known exemplars still held privately.

~~\$34,000~~ / **\$27,200**



21.

TM 1256

ANONYMOUS, Excerpts from *Midrash Esther Rabbah* Chapters 1-5

In Hebrew, manuscript on paper

Ottoman Empire, sixteenth century

This is an attractive manuscript, copied in a beautiful Sephardic script, that contains commentaries on the first five chapters of the book of Esther, the biblical book telling the story of the heroic Queen Esther, one of the seven female prophets of Israel. It contains an extensive prayer of Esther (ff. 20v-22) in the middle of the Midrashic commentary to ch. 5:1. This prayer may be unique and should be studied further with comparison to other extant manuscripts. The text differs from the standard printed editions with numerous spelling variants, and textual variants.

~~\$38,000~~ / \$30,400

22.

TM 1282

Ritual with prayers and blessings (Carthusian Use); brief selection from Carthusian Statutes (in French);

JOHANNES RODE, *De proprietate monachorum*

In Latin and French, decorated manuscript on paper with musical notation

Eastern France (Bourg-en-Bresse, Ain, Chartreuse de Montmerle), dated 1515

This volume sheds light on the daily life of Carthusian monks (and nuns) in the early sixteenth century at one of its important Charterhouses. Dated colophons identify the scribe and tell us when and under what circumstances this manuscript was made. The selections of the statutes in French are expressly addressed to nuns, and the liturgy, recorded with masculine forms, often includes feminine alternatives indicated throughout above the lines of text.

~~\$28,000~~ / \$22,400

23.

TM 1027

LAURENTIUS RUSIUS, *Hippiatria sive Marescalcia* (Book on the Health of Horses), in the Italian translation of ANTONIO DE BARLETTA, *Liber de signis bonitatis et malitie equorum et de ipsorum infirmitatibus causis et curis* (Book on the Signs of Health and Illness of Horses and on the Causes and Cures of their Diseases)

In Italian, manuscript on paper

Italy (Pavia?), c. 1530-1560

Lorenzo Rusio's (d. 1347) state-of-the-art treatise on veterinary science for horses is the best known and most widely read medieval work on the subject. It appears here in a rare fifteenth-century Italian translation, known only in four other manuscripts, none in North American collections. Its large size and long lines suggest a reference copy, not something suitable for practical use in the stables. Going beyond a simple translation, the text adds forty chapters on the preparation and application of medicines for horses, and a table of Latin and vernacular names for plants and herbs.

~~\$80,000~~ / \$64,000

24.

TM 1274

Papal Letters of Indulgence and a Letter from the Apostolic Camera in favor of the Hospital of San Giacomo degli Incurabili in Rome

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment

Italy (Rome), 1538

The exquisite script and illumination mark this as a deluxe presentation copy of documents issued in favor of the Hospital of San Giacomo degli Incurabili in Rome, one of the most important hospital complexes in that city. Its artist was familiar with illuminations by Vincent Raymond, a famous French illuminator who is documented working for the papal court in Rome from the time of Leo X (r. 1513-1521) until his death in 1557. Works by this master may have been used as our artist's model. This is of special interest as a high-quality illuminated document produced in Rome in the post-Gutenberg era.

SOLD

25.

TM 400

ANONYMOUS, *Relazioni delli Principi de Italia* (Accounts of the Rulers of Italy)

In Italian, manuscript on paper

Italy (Tuscany?), 1605

Modern diplomacy with our embassies and their ambassadors come into focus in this modest paper pamphlet. It belongs to an understudied category of Early Modern documents that consist of records known as *Relazioni* that ambassadors compiled on their travels and residencies, a practice that began already in the fifteenth century. Most likely written by an Italian ambassador of the early 17th century in an irregular cursive script, this set of unpublished diplomatic records offers a snapshot of the Italian political scene at the time of its creation and survives as an excellent reminder of the pervasive manuscript culture that existed ~~after the~~ popularization of print.

\$5,000 / \$4,000

26.

TM 1252

THOMAS NORTON, *The Ordinal of Alchemy*

In English, manuscript on paper

England, 17th century (perhaps c.1600-1650?)

One of the earliest and subsequently most influential works on alchemy in Middle English, Norton's poem *the Ordinal of Alchemy* (written 1477) set out to educate the uneducated English people in what he considered a "trew science." Its first appearance in print was in 1652, in a collection of English alchemical texts by Elias Ashmole, giving it pride of place. Undated and with deviations from Ashmole's edition, our manuscript may belong to an alternative manuscript tradition, or it may be a copy of the 1652 edition (with some changes to ~~the text~~ made by the scribe). Copies on the market are very rare.

\$39,000 / \$31,200

27.

TM 1232

*Officium Corporis Christi* (Office of Corpus Christi), copied and decorated by Ferdinand Boitel  
In Latin, decorated manuscript on paper with musical notation  
Northern France (Laon), c. 1780-1782

This luxurious music manuscript was most likely made for Thérèse-Lucy, Countess de Dillon, one of the closest friends of Marie-Antoinette, Queen of France. Adorned with over one hundred illustrations by the *maître écrivain*, Ferdinand Boitel, who worked for the most eminent aristocratic women in France, it survives in a remarkable gold-tooled binding that matches a binding made for Marie-Antoinette herself. Boitel's craftsmanship, coupled with the presumed royal patronage, extends the evolving story of the fascination with manuscript culture hundreds of years after Gutenberg.

~~\$15,000~~ / \$12,000

28.

TM 1276

*Album Amicorum* of Sophie Beate Maximiliane von Seydlitz (1772-1853)

In German, French (one entry), illustrated manuscript on paper  
Prussia, Silesia, in various locations including Striegau (Strzegom), Wohlau (Wolow), Breslau (Wroclaw), Liegnitz (Legnica), and Pfaffendorff, 1794-1822, one addition in 1845 (dated)

Less studied than the *album amicorum* typically made for men, those produced by women offer insightful glimpses into women's social networking. Sophie's album, collecting 85 souvenirs from friends and family of eminent German aristocrats, displays especially fine illustrations, mainly watercolors of charming allegorical scenes and romantic pastoral landscapes, many undoubtedly inspired by local views in the Polish countryside, where the family lived.

~~\$11,000~~ / \$8,800

29.

TM 1246

EMANUEL VON BRETTFELD ZU KRONENBURG (1774-1840), *Album Amicorum* prepared for his wife,  
Caroline

In German, Italian, French, illustrated manuscript on paper  
Varaždin, Ofen, Prague, Brandeis, and Verona, 1810-1840 (dated)

Long before social media, the *Album Amicorum* existed as a friendship book, passed around and carried about by its owner so that his or her friends and acquaintances could sign it, often adding pictures. What is highly unusual about the present *Album Amicorum* is that it is an exchange only between a husband and wife. Every year without fail on his wife Caroline's birthday, a nineteenth-century Bohemian general wrote poems or love letters and added paintings, drawings, and even music over their thirty years of marriage. In response Caroline sometimes added short notes or annotation.

~~\$15,000~~ / \$12,000

30.

TM 1275

*Album amicorum* of Marie Pacher

In German, French, and Italian, illustrated manuscript on paper

Austria (Vienna and Mödling); Hungary (Pressbourg) [today Slovakia], 1819-1839 (dated)

*Album amicorum* (the friendship or autograph album) made for women are not common. This interesting example includes entries mostly by women for a woman, Marie Pacher, an aristocrat residing in two cultural capitals in central Europe, Vienna, and Pressbourg (Bratislava), at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It comprises poems in German and French and beautiful artwork of romantic landscapes, fashion, and allegorical images. The volume provides a fascinating, fresh perspective for writing social history, bringing forth the voices of women, who have often been overlooked in the past.

~~\$8,000~~ / **\$6,400**