

TEXTMANUSCRIPTS

LES ENLUMINURES

e-Catalogue Nine Exploring Text Manuscripts

SIZE MATTERS

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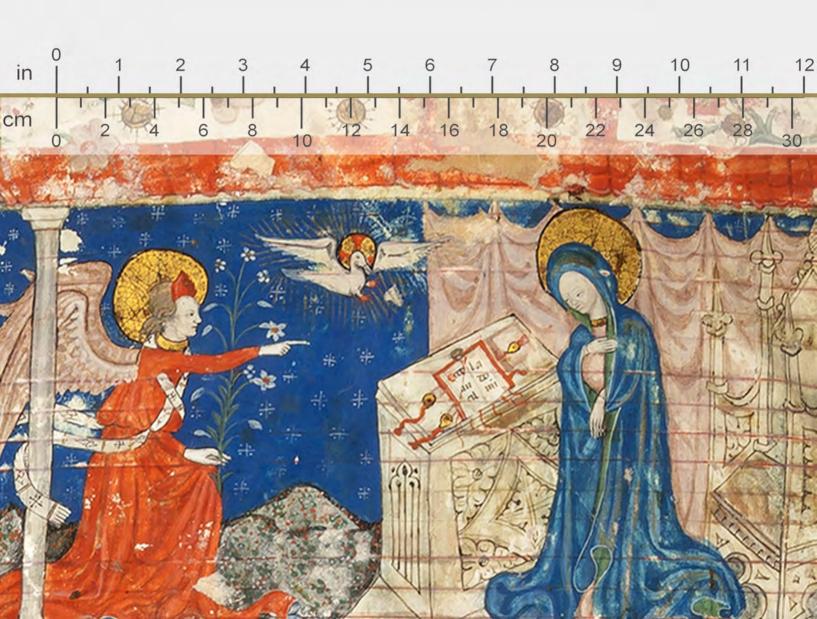
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SIZE MATTERS





e-Catalogue Nine

Exploring Text Manuscripts

This new series of e-catalogues focuses on select themes of text manuscripts available in our inventory on www.textmanuscripts.com. This series follows two earlier series of text manuscript catalogues, including the Primers. These remain available in digital form on our website and in print by order.

Look for our e-catalogues on the first Tuesday of the month.

Size Matters

Manuscripts come in all sizes. Size is one of the most important clues to how a book was used. It is also the most difficult attribute of a book to convey by means of digital images. This list includes the six smallest and six largest manuscripts (including one early printed book) from our Text Manuscripts site. Two are Prayer Books: these tiny, personal volumes must have been perfect companions to the intimate act of individual prayer. Not surprisingly, two miscellanies made for Franciscans or Dominicans are also included; travelling friars have long been associated with small volumes. Very small size could also be an expression of luxury, as seen here in a manuscript made for the sons of the King of France. quintessential large manuscripts from the later Middle Ages and early modern period are Choir Books, large enough that a whole group could sing from them at once, and there are two here (one made by stencils, rather than written by hand). Other large volumes in our list include a stately Missal that once graced the altar of a German church, an early 13th-century Bible (the well-known 13th-century portable Bibles in our inventory were not quite small enough to make the list), and a luxurious humanist copy of a text by Thomas Aquinas. In a stunning display of 17th-century fascination with the microscope, a rare micrographic drawing condenses a very large manuscript into one sheet. (The dimensions here are the dimensions of the book block, not of the binding. Since manuscripts and printed volumes were often trimmed the dimensions of the written space, or justification, are also included when possible.)



Sandra Hindman and Laura Light

Printed Book of Hours (Use of Rome)

In Latin and French, illuminated imprint on parchment Paris, Germain Hardouyn, c. 1534 (almanac for 1534-1546) 15 large metalcuts (one a replacement), all illuminated most likely in the Hardouyn Workshop

Personal Devotion throughout the Day

DESCRIPTION: 120 folios on parchment, missing one leaf at the beginning, gold initials throughout, 15 illuminated metalcuts, stains, some initials smudged, sig. A8 loose, modern leather binding, worn along the joints, with the joint on the upper cover splitting. Dimensions 82 x 50 (justification 63 x 35) mm.

Small gem of a book, printed on vellum and carefully illumi-

nated in vibrant colors. Measuring only 3 ¼ x 2 inches, this miniature Parisian Book of Hours, survives as a charming example of one of the most important types of books printed in sixteenth-century Paris. Its metalcuts show off the skill of the printer, whose shop was especially known for illuminated Books of Hours, and the illuminator. This is a very rare imprint, not listed in any of the standard sources, and almost certainly a unicum. [TM 1189]

\$25,000



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Full description, images and video available online

2.

Agenda defunctorum, Office of the Dead (Carthusian Use)

In Latin, decorated manuscript on parchment with musical notation

Germany, c. 1350-1400

REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

DESCRIPTION: : 44 folios on parchment, complete, penflourished initial, stains and signs of use, text faded in places, 16th-century(?) blind-stamped pigskin binding over wooden boards, leather very worn, loose at the hinges. Dimensions 85 x 68 (justification 69 x 45) mm.

This very small manuscript bears poignant evidence that it was used for many years to pray for the souls of the dead by

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Carthusian monks in Germany. Strikingly personal, this little volume was perhaps copied by a monk for his own use and then passed down in the Charterhouse for use by others. Its early blind-stamped binding is a special feature, including figures of Christ and St. Paul which are still partially distinguishable despite wear. Above all, this is a wonderfully moving material object. [TM 1186]

\$12,000

PRINTED BOOK OF HOURS (USE OF ROME)





[1. ~ TM 1189]

Full description, images and video available online

REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD





[2. ~ TM 1186]

Full description, images and video available online

GUILLAUME PETIT, Le viat de salut (The Road to Salvation)

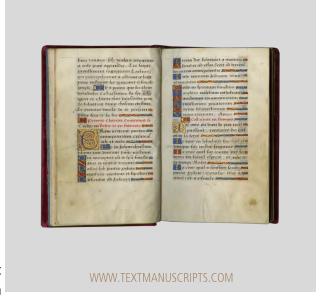
In French and Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment Central France (Tours), 1526

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN EXILE

DESCRIPTION: 78 folios on parchment, complete, gold initials, 34 illuminated initials, very few stains and signs of use, original velvet binding over pasteboard, slightly worn.

Dimensions 122 x 75 (justification 87 x 51) mm.

Henry and Francis, sons of King Francis I of France, were sent to Spain as hostages to secure their father's freedom when



they were only seven and eight years old. This manuscript was sent along with the princes. The text was composed expressly for their instruction by the king's confessor shortly before their departure, and this appears to be the only copy in manuscript of a work that also circulated in print. Written in elegant humanistic script and decorated with high quality all'antica initials, this is a small jewel of a book. [TM 1149]

\$65,000

Full description, images, and video available online

4.

Sermons, including THOMAS AQUINAS, *Quadragesimale* (third series); Marian Exempla; the confessional treatise *Ad habendum salutifere confessionis ordinem*; and other texts on confession

In Latin, manuscript on parchment Central Europe (Southern Germany or Austria?), c. 1250-1275

PREACHING AND HEARING CONFESSION: THE WORK OF THE TRAVELLING FRIARS

DESCRIPTION: : 144 folios on parchment, complete, copied by 12 scribes with varying layouts, text abraded on p. 1, late 15th-century leather binding over wooden boards.

Dimensions 130 x 90 mm. (justification varies).



A small volume, perfect for a travelling Franciscan or Dominican Friar, that includes sermons, sermon exempla, and texts related to confession. The ninety-three sermons probably by Thomas Aquinas, and ninety-six other sermons, all but a small handful by unknown authors and identified only in this manuscript, make this a manuscript of considerable scholarly importance. Datable to the third quarter of the thirteenth century, it was likely copied while the authors of many of these texts, including Thomas Aquinas (d. 1274), were still alive. [TM 762]

\$65,000

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN EXILE



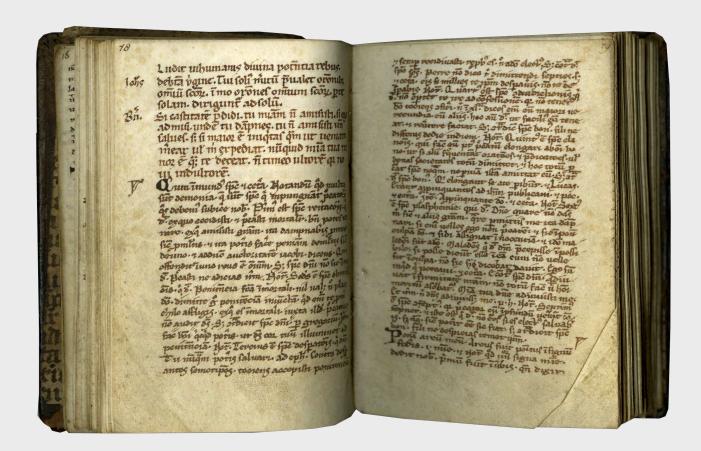


 $[3. \sim TM 1149]$

Full description, images, and video available online



PREACHING AND HEARING CONFESSION: THE WORK OF THE TRAVELLING FRIARS



 $[4. \sim TM 762]$

Full description, images and video available online

Carthusian Rules and Sermons for Visitations

In Latin and Italian, illuminated manuscript on parchment Northeastern Italy, c. 1564

PRACTICAL CONTENTS EMBELLISHED WITH ILLUMINATIONS

DESCRIPTION: 84 folios on parchment, complete, gold initials, illuminated initial and borders. f. 1 slightly trimmed, f. 20 small slit lower margin, ink on a few pages shows some powdering, some soiling, original limp vellum binding.

Dimensions 130 x 90 (justification 94-92 x 60) mm.

The austere perfection of the life of Carthusian monks has been admired from the origins of the order in the Middle Ages

- "never reformed because never deformed." Key to their
 enduring success was the system of visitations to inquire into the condition of each house and insure against abuses.

This system produced a whole genre of little-studied manuscripts that record these visitations. The present tiny but profusely illustrated manuscript contains the order of visitation with texts in both Latin and Italian, brief notes from actual visitations, and a rich collection of Carthusian sermons. [TM 1072]

\$30,000



6.

BARTOLOMEUS DE RINONICO, De conformitate vitae beati Francisci ad vitam domini Ihesu (excerpt); THOMAS A KEMPIS, De imitatione Christi, (excerpt, book four only); PS.-AUGUSTINE, De dignitate sacerdotum; [ANONYMOUS], De officio et tempore septuagesime; PS.-JOHN OF CAPISTRANO, Animadversiones circa sacrosanctum missae sacrificium, in Italian translation

In Latin and Italian, manuscript on parchment and paper Southern Italy (Lanciano?), c. 1450-1475

EDUCATION, DEVOTION, AND PASTORAL CARE: PORTABLE FRANCISCAN MISCELLANY

DESCRIPTION: 109 folios on parchment and paper, complete, written by five main hands, colored initials, text warn on two folios, 15th-century blind-stamped leather binding over wooden boards. Dimensions 135 x 90 (justification 95-90 x 65) mm.



This small format manuscript is an example of a mendicant "pocket-book," designed for easy portability. Texts Include an excerpt from Bartolomaeus de Rinonico, a classic and rare Franciscan text by an Italian friar, and Book IV of the great *Imitatio Christi*, evidence of its dissemination into Italy and readership by Franciscans. The Italian translation of a text on the Mass, known in only one other manuscript, and the text on the Divine Office at Septuagesima, perhaps unique to this manuscript, are of particular importance. This miscellany warrants further study for its unusual contents. [TM 770]

PRACTICAL CONTENTS EMBELLISHED WITH ILLUMINATIONS





[5. ~ TM 1072]

Full description and images available online



EDUCATION, DEVOTION, AND PASTORAL CARE: PORTABLE FRANCISCAN MISCELLANY



[6. ~ TM 770]

Full description and images available online

PIERRE MIGNARD (?), Drawing of Marie Anne Christine, Dauphine of France, reproducing in microscopic letters the text of IGNATIO FRANCESCO MULGIN, II Trionfo d'applausi, e di glorie figurato ...; manuscript copy of the same text

In Italian, micrographic drawing and manuscript on paper France, c. 1683-84

THE INTERSECTION OF ART AND OPTICS FOR DIPLOMACY

DESCRIPTION: Drawing, one large sheet; dimensions 630 x 500 mm.; manuscript: 221 folios on paper, complete, contemporary gold-tooled red morocco binding. Dimensions 335 x 225 mm.

A complete book is concealed within this astonishing and very

rare micrographic drawing made entirely from microscopic letters. The text when it is copied again in the accompanying manuscript is a large-format and lengthy book with 221 folios. This tour de force of calligraphy, likely intended as a diplomatic ploy on the part of the papal envoy to influence the king of France was made within decades of the publication of Robert Hooke's *Micrographia* (1665) and the perfection of the microscope by Anton van Leeuwenhoek (1674). [TM 16]

\$95,000



Full description and images available online

8.

THOMAS AQUINAS, Sententia libri Ethicorum, or Liber super ethicorum aristotelis [Commentary on the Ethics of Aristotle]

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment Northeastern Italy (Venice), c. 1470

LUXURIOUS IN EVERY WAY, INCLUDING SIZE

DESCRIPTION: 160 folios on parchment, complete, penwork initials. 9 illuminated initials and one historiated initial with threeguarter border, 19th-century red morocco binding with silk doublures.

Dimensions, 340 x 235 (justification 213-205 x 150-148) mm.

A deluxe, carefully written, and very large manuscript



illuminated by Leonardo Bellini, the most important Venetian illuminator c. 1460-80, or a close associate. It survives in pristine condition, with broad margins, clean pages, clear and bright illuminated initials and elegant penwork decoration at almost every opening. Although the text survives in 125 manuscripts (some fragments), the Schoenberg Database lists no sales since the early nineteenth century, and there may be no copies in North American libraries. [TM 629]

\$225,000

THE INTERSECTION OF ART AND OPTICS FOR DIPLOMACY



Enlarge these details to see the lines of script (which are legible in the original under magnification).







[7. \sim TM 16] Full description and images available online

LUXURIOUS IN EVERY WAY, INCLUDING SIZE





[8. ~ TM 629]

Full description, images and video available online

Missal

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment with Hufnagelschrift musical notation Northwestern Germany (likely Cologne), 1420

Public Liturgy: Celebrating the Mass for Centuries

DESCRIPTION: 319 folios on parchment, missing at least 9 text leaves, penwork initials, full-page miniature, book block trimmed, multiple signs of use, early leather binding over wooden boards, very worn and fragile.

Dimensions 340 x 260 (justification 268-260 x 200-192) mm.

A large, very handsome Missal that still retains its original fullpage illumination of the Crucifixion by a Cologne artist follow-



ing in the tradition of the Master of St. Veronica. Made for the Church of St. Severinus in Erpel on the Rhine, the date and circumstances of its origin are detailed in a lengthy note. This volume served the parishioners there for centuries, and almost every page includes evidence of these many years of use. Of particular interest to historians of the liturgy and medieval music are the numerous passages with musical notation, include an extensive section (19 folios) of Mass Sequences. [TM 1066]

\$55,000

Full description and images available online

10.

Vulgate Bible

In Latin, decorated manuscript on parchment England, c. 1220-1230; c. 1230-1240

THE WORD OF GOD: LARGE AND TEXTUALLY IMPORTANT BIRLE

DESCRIPTION: 304 folios on parchment, missing a quire and three additional leaves, penwork initials, signs of use throughout, modern repairs, 18th-century brown leather binding, some wear, joints splitting slightly at the top.

Dimensions 350 x 240 (justification 225-205 x 145-128) mm.

A large and impressive Bible of considerable scholarly importance and undoubtedly of English origin. Bibles from the



early thirteenth century are much less common than the well-known examples from after c. 1230, and examples from this period from England are less common than those from France. The present codex was apparently assembled at an early date from two Bibles of independent origins; noteworthy textual elements include the presence of both older and modern chapters, and an extensive cycle of the apocryphal Ezra books. [TM 973]

\$160,000



PUBLIC LITURGY: CELEBRATING THE MASS FOR CENTURIES

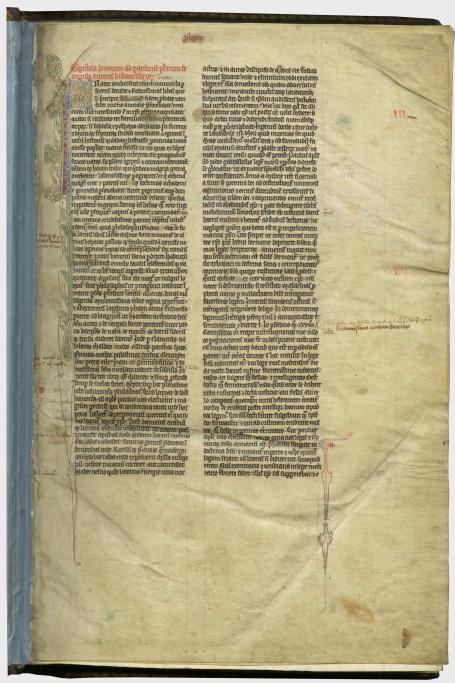


[9. ~ TM 1066]

Full description, and images available online



THE WORD OF GOD: LARGE AND TEXTUALLY IMPORTANT BIBLE



[**10**. ~ TM 973]

Full description, and images available online

Choir Book with Selected Texts for the Mass and Office

In Latin with some Italian, illuminated stenciled book on paper with musical notation

Italy, c. 1767

STENCILED VOLUME IN THE TRADITION OF THE MEDIEVAL CHOIR BOOK

DESCRIPTION: 23 folios on paper, complete, 5 illuminated initials, original gold-tooled leather binding.

Dimensions 460 x 320 mm.

Books made with the aid of stencils occupy an interesting, and relatively unstudied, mid-ground between manuscripts and

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printing with movable type. Many large Choir Books made using stencils survive; this is an unusually luxurious example with richly illuminated initials, executed by hand. It was certainly made for someone in or close to the Piarist Order (the "Order of the Pious Schools"), likely to celebrate the sanctification of the founder of the order, St. Joseph Calasanctius, who was canonized in 1767. Bound in a gold-tooled armorial binding, this handsome book was surely appropriate for such a special occasion. [TM 994]

\$18,000

Full description, images and video available online

12.

Choir Book: Gradual with feasts for the Temporal (Franciscan Use)

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment with musical notation. Piedmont, Northern Italy, c. 1450-1460. One miniature with full border, eleven historiated initials, and numerous painted initials by a provincial follower of the Master of the Budapest Antiphoner

THE QUINTESSENTIAL LARGE BOOK OF THE LATER MIDDLE AGES

DESCRIPTION: 192 folios on parchment, complete, numerous illuminated and eleven historiated initials, one miniature, numerous signs of use through the centuries, including many faded pages (some overwritten), 17th- or 18th-century brown leather over wooden boards.

Dimensions 480 x 355 (justification 372-370 x 245-240) mm.



It is not always the case that we can associate a manuscript so closely with the circumstances of a particular site. Thanks to new research, this one must have been made in Piedmont for the Franciscans in Domodossola during the very period when the cathedral there was being rebuilt, and the Franciscan church was serving as its replacement. Large Choir Books are among the most celebrated illuminated manuscripts from Italy in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Our Gradual, of significant historical interest, survives here in its entirety with its illuminated initials intact. The artist, an interesting provincial follower of an important Northern Italian illuminator, testifies to the spread of mainstream Lombard styles of illumination past mid-century. [TM 1164]



STENCILED VOLUME IN THE TRADITION OF THE MEDIEVAL CHOIR BOOK



[11. ~ TM 994]

Full description images and video available online



THE QUINTESSENTIAL LARGE BOOK OF THE LATER MIDDLE AGES



[**12**. ~ TM 1164]

Full description images and video available online