

Exploring Text Manuscripts

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e-Catalogue Thirteen Exploring Text Manuscripts

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e-Catalogue Thirteen

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.

Association Manuscripts

Association copies (books owned or annotated by their author, someone close to the author, or more broadly, by any notable individual) are prized by collectors of printed books. It is not ordinarily a term applied to medieval or Renaissance manuscripts, but we have recently been having fun with the concept, which underlines the fascination we all have with the people associated with every book, be it printed or copied by hand. The most straightforward examples of medieval and Renaissance "association" copies are autographs (in the author's own hand – which are not very common), and dedication or presentation copies, neither of which are included in this catalogue. But the concept can be used more elastically, given the string of possible associations with the author (of the text), the scribe and artist ("authors" of a particular manuscript), the first owner, who was almost always the commissioner of the manuscript, and sometimes was also the scribe, and with subsequent owners who left significant signs of ownership and use. Most, although not all, printed association copies include an inscription of some sort, but as you'll see, the evidence in manuscripts is not restricted to inscriptions. This short list includes nine examples of medieval and Renaissance manuscripts that we think are especially interesting for their associations (plus a bonus printed example). Hold these books in your hands, and you are connected with everyone who has owned, read, or annotated them down through the centuries.



Sandra Hindman and Laura Light

PHILLIP J. PIRAGES. Booked by Fate: A Life Dealing in the World of Rare Books

Imprint on paper, with an inscription by the author Oregon, 2022

AUTHOR'S COPY: SIGNED AND PRESENTED TO SOMEONE MENTIONED IN THE BOOK

Not a medieval manuscript, this is rather a printed copy of a memoir of someone who has sold his fair share of medieval



manuscripts, just acquired by Sandra Hindman at the New York Antiquarian Book Fair last month (April 2022). Signed by the author, with an inscription to Sandra: "To Sandra. Who has always been kind and amusing." Phillip Pirages's new memoir mentions Sandra three times, making this a perfect example of an association copy, presented by the author to someone connected with the text of the book.

Not for Sale

2.

NICHOLAS OF GORRAN, Sermones de Tempore et de Quadragesima [Sermons for the Temporale and for Lent], Sermons excerpted from the Sermones de Santis [Sermons for the Feasts of Saints]

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment Northern France (Paris), c. 1275-1300

SUPERVISED BY THE AUTHOR?

DESCRIPTION: 136 folios on parchment, complete, written by three scribes, penwork initials, one historiated initial, slight water staining, a few margins trimmed, modern leather binding over wooden boards. Dimensions 203 x 139 mm.

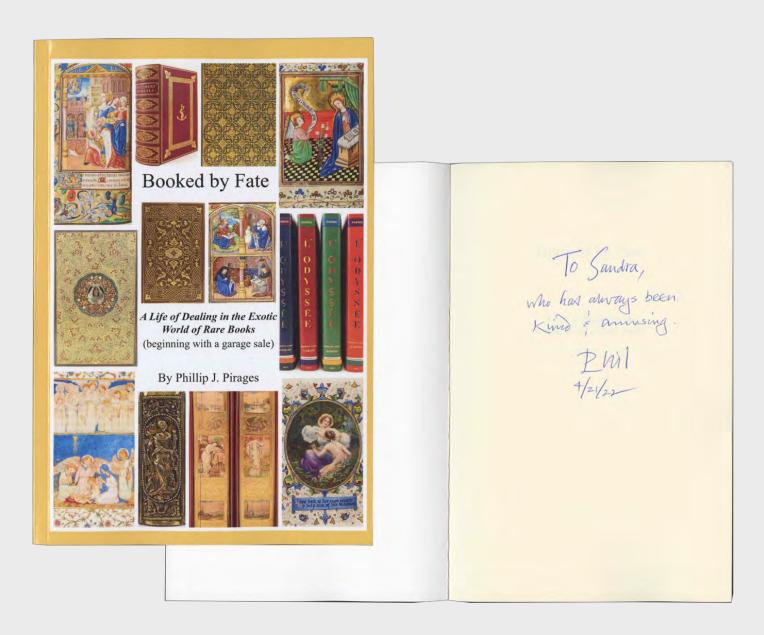


A very early collection of the still unedited sermons of the influential Dominican preacher and royal advisor, Nicholas of Gorran. We can point to three features that connect it closely to the author. First, the time and place of its creation; this was copied during the author's lifetime, and in Paris, where he spent his adult life. Secondly, its quality; the opening initial depicting the author receiving Christ's blessing suggests this was made for an important recipient. And finally, careful examination of the text show evidence of changes while the manuscript was being copied, raising the real possibility that Nicholas himself was supervising its production. [TM 868]

\$95,000

AUTHOR'S COPY: SIGNED AND PRESENTED TO SOMEONE MENTIONED IN THE BOOK





SUPERVISED BY THE AUTHOR?





[2. ~ TM 868]

JACOBUS FOLQUERIUS (JACQUES FOUQUIER), Viridarium Gregorianum sive Biblia Gregoriana, New Testament (A Garden or Bible of Gregory)

In Latin, decorated manuscript on parchment Southwest Flanders or Hainaut (Tournai?), c. 1350

FROM THE AUTHOR'S CIRCLE?

DESCRIPTION: 120 folios on parchment, complete but out of order, illustrated catchwords, cadels and penwork initials, stains, slight rodent damage, 19th-century half-parchment binding. Dimensions 240 x 170 mm.

Any manuscript signed by its scribe is, in a medieval sense, an association copy (although the best case would be a manuscript



signed by scribe who not only copied the text but was also the author). This one is signed by the scribe "Ludolphus," surely not the author. The text, a commentary on the New Testament compiled from the writings of Gregory the Great, is unedited and apart from the preface and dedication, has never appeared in print. Little is known about the author, Jacques Fouquier, who was an Augustine Hermit in Toulouse. This text survives in only three other manuscripts, all, like our manuscript, copied during the author's lifetime or close to it, suggesting that this is an example of a text that circulated only in the author's immediate circle. [TM 1054]

\$85,000

Full description, images and video available online

4.

LAURENTIUS RUSIUS, *Hippiatria sive Marescalia* (Book on the Health of Horses), in the Italian translation of ANTONIO DAPERA, *Liber meneschalcie*

In Italian and Latin, illustrated manuscript on paper Northern Italy (perhaps Ferrara), dated 1434

DRAWINGS, DIRT, AND A FOLD

DESCRIPTION: 82 folios on paper, complete, five marginal drawings, repairs, stains and dirt, original limp vellum binding. Dimensions 283 x 217 mm

The origin and use of this practical manuscript are known with unusual specificity. The date is written in red in one of the



margins. The colophon records that it was copied by the scribe Guido de Santo Angelo for the farrier Chalavereso, in honor of St. Allo (or Eligius), patron saint of farriers. And it includes charming pen and ink drawings in red (possibly by the scribe), one of which is a drawing of St. Eligius, mentioned in the colophon. A string of associations link it to the Este court of Ferrara, where Chalavereso may have served as ducal farrier. It is a manuscript that was made to be used, and it was, as shown by the dirt and stains; judging by the vertical fold down the middle of the pages, this may even have once traveled in the farrier's pocket. [TM 1026]

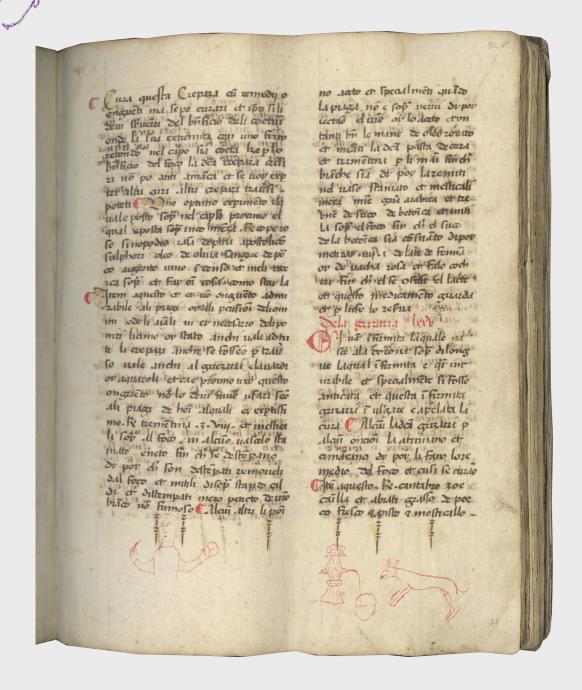
FROM THE AUTHOR'S CIRCLE?





[3. ~ TM 1054]

DRAWINGS, DIRT, AND A FOLD



[4. ~ TM 1026]

BARTOLOMEO DA SAN CONCORDIO (1260-1347), Summa de casibus conscientiae (Compendium of Cases of Conscience)

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment Northern Italy (Milan), January 31, 1444 (dated)

LUXURY FOR A FRANCISCAN FRIAR

DESCRIPTION: 361 folios on parchment, complete, penwork initials, historiated initial and illuminated border, stains in some of the margins including on f. 1, a tear on f. 361, 19th-century limp vellum binding. Dimensions 167 x 125 mm.

The informative colophon of this manuscript identifies the place and time of copying, as well as the names of the scribe and patron: "Here ends the *Summa of Cases* ... written and completed in the city of Milan on the last day of January by Roland of "sabbel<r?>e" for the praise of the



most holy Trinity. In the year of our Lord 1444. And not for the use of Roland of the preaching brothers, but for Philip of Florence." We know from this that Roland was a Dominican friar, but we have found no other information about him. At the end of the colophon is the name of the original owner, Philip of Florence, for whom the manuscript was made. Philip was a Franciscan Friar, living in a convent in Florence c. 1480. He owned at least two other books, one manuscript, and one printed, and added personal inscriptions to both. The luxurious decoration of our manuscript, somewhat at odds with his Franciscan vow of poverty, suggests that Philipp may have been a son of one of the elite Florentine families. [TM 1152]

\$45,000

Full description and images available online

6.

The Ketyll Bible

In Latin, manuscript on parchment England (Oxford?), c. 1220-1240

FROM THE OXFORD FRANCISCANS TO THE CHICHESTER CHEST

DESCRIPTION: 376 folios on parchment, lacking several single leaves and quires, red and a few blue initials, some added later, thumbing and stains, 19th-century blind-tooled leather binding. Dimensions 220 x 150 mm.

The ownership and use of this Bible couldn't be clearer, even though it lacks a colophon, or any early ownership notes. We have named it the "Ketyll" Bible after its 15th-century owner, William Ketyll (d. 1485) rector of St. Mary at the Walls, Colchester, 1468-1476, who



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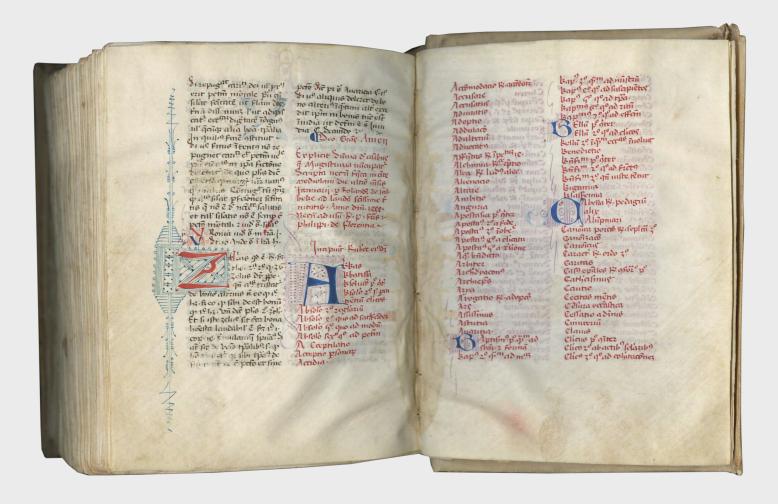
pledged this manuscript in the Chichester Chest when he was a student at Oxford between 1452 and 1458 as surety for a loan to pay for his education (notes recording the transaction remain in the volume). The fact that it was copied by numerous scribes and includes added texts and marginal annotations in many hands, tells us this was owned corporately. The identify of its first owners can be found in the intriguing symbols found in the margins, which are related to the indexing symbols used by Robert Grosseteste and his circle (or inspired by them). Their presence here ties this manuscript to the Franciscans at Greyfriars, Oxford, where the Bible may have been made, as surely as an inscription would have.

[TM 1095]

\$150,000

LUXURY FOR A FRANCISCAN FRIAR





 $[5. \sim TM \ 1152]$

FROM THE OXFORD FRANCISCANS TO THE CHICHESTER CHEST



[6. ~ TM 1095]

7. Hours of Du Breuil (use of Rome)

In Latin and French, illuminated manuscript on parchment. 4 full-page miniatures by the Master of Jean de Ferrières France, Bourges, c. 1490-1500

"FROM YOUR VERY OBEDIENT (AND BEST) SON"

DESCRIPTION: 166 folios on parchment, lacking 2 leaves, four full-page miniatures slight damp-staining, faces on f. 1 quite worn, 18th-century brown sheepskin binding. Dimensions 135 x 90 mm

This attractive Book of Hours bears witness to the rise of innovative artists in Bourges in the wake of Jean Colombe (c. 1430-1493), with four full-page miniatures by the Master of Jean de Fer-



rières, a rare artist who enjoyed success at the Bourbon court in Moulins, and whose career certainly deserves further study. Moreover, it includes an inscription that brings to life its earliest owners, possibly within the influential Du Breuil family of Bourges. An inscription added on f. 163v in the early sixteenth century soon after it was made, states: "Vostre tresobeissant et meilleur filz a jamais: Du Breul" (Your most obedient and best son forever: Du Breul). He may tentatively be identified as the son of Jeanne Toustain (1450-1494), first wife of Pierre III Du Breuil (1425-1500), a lawyer and counselor to the King of France who became the mayor of Bourges in 1500. [BOH 193]

\$60,000

Full description, images and video available online

8.

Noted Antiphonal (use of Vienne)

In Latin, illustrated manuscript on parchment Southeastern France, Rhone Valley, archdiocese of Vienne, c. 1275-1320

LIVRE DE RAISON (FAMILY RECORDS) ADDED BY A PRINTER IN LYONS

DESCRIPTION: 283 folios on parchment, lacking two leaves, five large very fine penwork initials, wear and stains, 16th-century blind-tooled brown calf binding.

Dimensions 239 x 173 mm.

Fascinating for its music as well as for its early ownership, this attractive monastic Antiphonal from the archdiocese of Vienne is



distinguished by its generous margins, elaborate penwork initials, and early binding. The volume also includes the *livre de raison* of its sixteenth-century owner, the Lyons printer and libraire Olivier Estange, who owned this manuscript in the years 1504-1534. He used the margins to record his family history, to describe local events in Lyons, and to provide details of his work, otherwise unknown apart from the evidence in this Antiphonal. It is even possible that this very manuscript was used during a religious procession in Lyon in 1534, described by Estange in these marginal notes, surely qualifying this manuscript as an "association copy" of a special sort. [TM 1187]

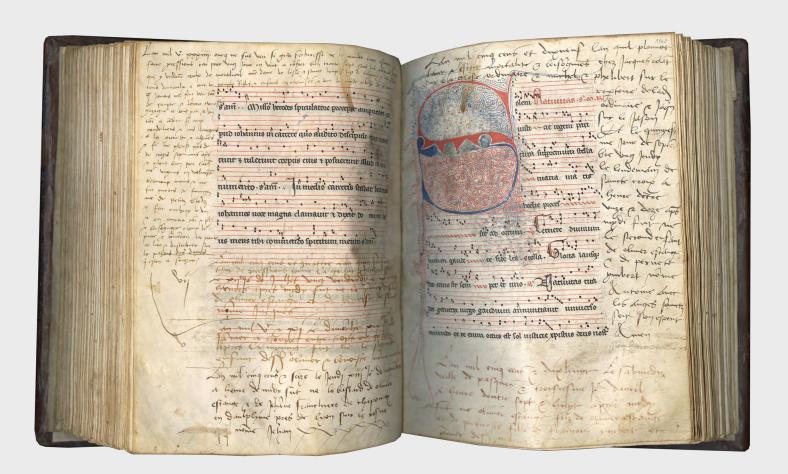
"FROM YOUR VERY OBEDIENT (AND BEST) SON"



[7. ~ BOH 193]

LIVRE DE RAISON (FAMILY RECORDS) ADDED BY A PRINTER IN LYONS





 $[8. \sim TM 1187]$

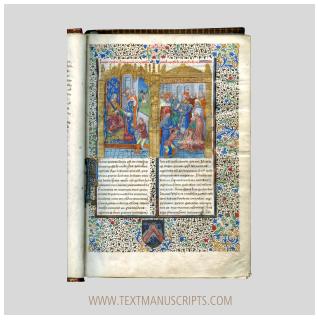
HAIMO OF AUXERRE, Expositio in epistolas Pauli

In Latin, illuminated manuscript on parchment France, (Paris), c. 1460-1480 (before 1481) and (Troyes), c. 1500

OWNERSHIP INSCRIPTION AND COAT OF ARMS OF JEAN II BUDÉ

DESCRIPTION: 193 folios on parchment, complete, 21 painted initials on gold or colored grounds, large miniature with full border, 18th-century gold-tooled red Morocco binding. Dimensions 278 x 193 mm.

Beautifully illuminated, this manuscript once belonged to Jean II Budé, father to the famous humanist-bibliophile Guillaume Budé (1468-1540), who acquired it in 1481. One can just make out his



ownership inscription on f. 190: "Hunc librum scribere fecit Johannes Bude//" (the date 1481 can be read under ultraviolet). Guillaume almost certainly commissioned the manuscript, and it includes his coat of arms in the bas-de-page on f. 1. Intriguingly, it seems that this first page was left unfinished for about twenty or thirty years, when the miniature was finally added, painted in Troyes, where the Budé family had strong ties. It has been treasured by numerous private collectors down to the present day. [TM 908]

\$125,000

Full description, images and video available online

10.

[ANONYMOUS]. La voie d'enfer et de paradis (The Way to Hell and to Heaven)

In French, decorated manuscript on paper France, Bourges, c. 1460

AUTOGRAPH OWNERSHIP INSCRIPTIONS AND THE EARLIEST FRENCH ARMORIAL BOOKSTAMP

DESCRIPTION: 139 folios on paper, missing some leaves at the beginning and end, red and blue initials, 16th-century reused parchment binding. Dimensions 212 x 150 mm.

This manuscript is one of only three copies of this versified work, composed by an anonymous author at the end of the 14th century



and still unpublished. In the first half of the 16th century it belonged to Jacques Thiboust (1492-1555), secretary and notary of the king, and celebrated Bourges poet, book collector, and patron of the arts. It includes his heraldic bookstamp, the first of its kind in France, as well as two ownership inscriptions written by Thiboust himself. On the first leaf one reads: "C'est au seigneur de Quantilly Me Jacques Thiboust notaire et secretaire du Roy," with the interesting added note: "Pour apprendre a lire" (To learn how to read), and it is listed among Thiboust's books in his Liber amicorum (Paris, BnF, MS fr. 1667). [TM 775]

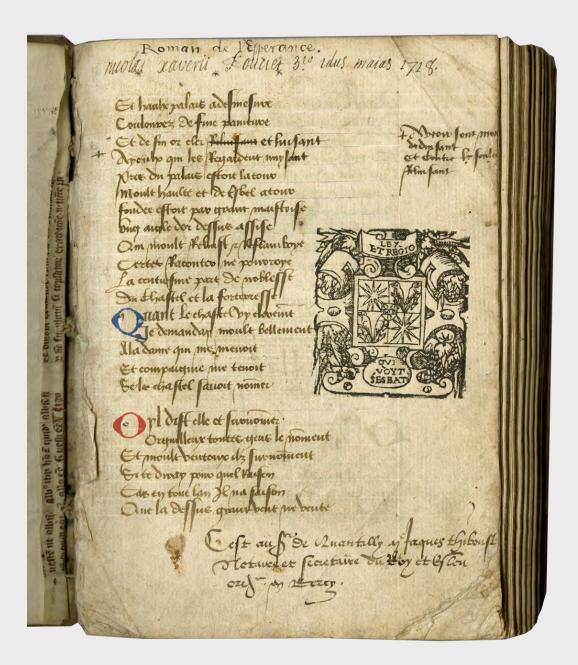
OWNERSHIP INSCRIPTION AND COAT OF ARMS OF JEAN II BUDÉ



[**9.** ~ TM 908]

AUTOGRAPH OWNERSHIP INSCRIPTIONS AND THE EARLIEST FRENCH ARMORIAL BOOKSTAMP





[**10**. ~ TM 775]