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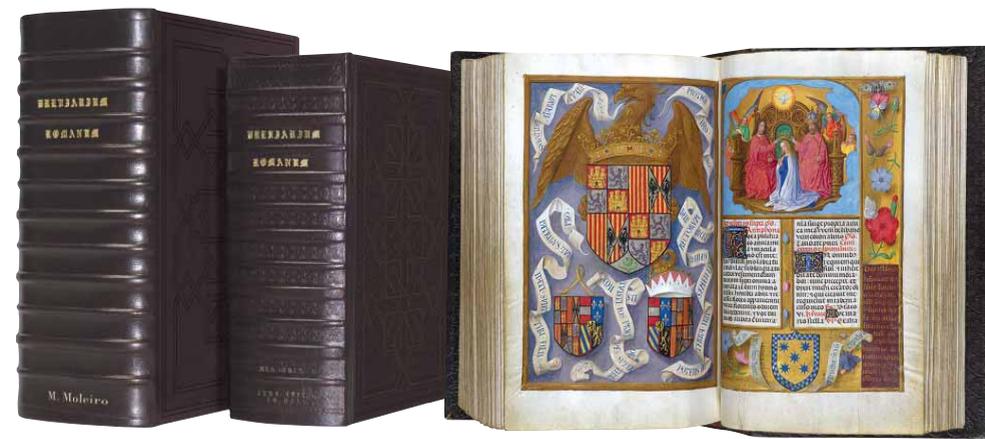
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# THE ISABELLA BREVIARY

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f. 8v, Twelve sibyls announce the Lord's arrival.

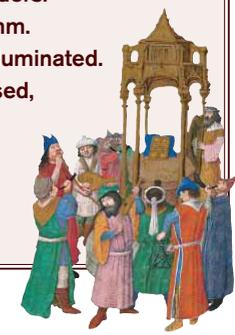
Conceived of as the most luxurious Flemish breviary, with each page masterfully illuminated by the finest Flemish painters: the Master of the Dresden Prayerbook, Gerard Horenbout, Gerard David, etc. An outstandingly magnificent manuscript of peerless beauty.

Having more texts than a book of hours, the breviary allows illuminators more artistic license, resulting in a greater variety of images.

Isabella the Catholic was given the manuscript in 1497 by her ambassador Francisco de Rojas on the occasion of the double marriage of her children, the Infante John of Asturias and Infanta Joan-

na, to the children of emperor Maximilian of Austria and duchess Mary of Burgundy, Margaret and Philip.

- Shelf mark: Add. Ms. 18851.
- Date: last decade of the 15th c.
- Provenance: Flanders.
- Size: 230 x 160 mm.
- 1046 pages, all illuminated.
- Bound in embossed, brown leather.
- Full-colour commentary volume.





feria tertia **Ad matutinas**  
**Inuicatumum.** Jubilemus  
 deo salutari nro. **psalmus**  
**D**omi castodia  
 inas mea  
 ut no delin  
 qua i lingu  
 a mea **D**omi ou meocu  
 stodia amio susteret pcor  
 aduersus me **C**onmunt

z humiliatus su r silu a bonis  
 et doloz meus renouatus est  
**Q**ualuit cor meū in treme  
 z medicatōe mea exarsescit  
 ignis **Q**uare sūi lingu  
 a mea non facit dñe finis  
 meū **E**t nūc dies meoz  
 quis ē ut quā qd defit michi  
**E**cce mēsurabiles posu  
 illi dies meos: z sba mea

(f. 132)

f. 132r, David cursed by Shimei.



**In annuntiatōe dominica**  
**Ad vesperias sup psā** Ave ma.  
 ragna plena dominus tecum.  
 benedicta tu in mulieribz **T**e  
 pore resurrectiois **Alleluia** **Fez**  
**fiat rex illa. que in sup**  
**munta pānas r scia scz**  
**qz tū dicant qe resurrectiois**  
**ps.** Laudate pueri domini  
 laudate nomen domini

**H**ec ungo **Li cetisā**  
 conapict r pauetfi  
 uum r uocabitū  
 nomen eius emmanuel bityr  
 z mel cōmēcet ut sciat repro  
 bare malum r eligere bonū  
**Q**uomodo ficcilio **ym**  
 Ave maris stella **ps** No rorate  
 celi desuper r nubes pluant ius  
 tum **ps** Aperiatur terra r g.

f. 354r, Annunciation and the tree of Jesse.



**Ad sextam hymnus**

**R**ector potens  
 verax deus qui  
 temperas rex  
 iuces splendore mane in  
 stans rignib; meridiem  
 Et lingue flamas li  
 tium aufer calorē noxiuz  
 confer salutem corporum  
 veramq; pacem cordium:  
 Oreta pater piissime  
 ut s. **O saluus ad. Caph.**  
**D**efecit  
 saluta  
 re tuuz  
 anima  
 mar:?  
 in ue  
 bium tuum super speravi.  
 Defecerunt oculi mei  
 in eloquium tuum dicitur  
 qui consolaberis me.

**Q**uia fcs sum sicut vt  
 in p̄m̄ia iustificaciones  
 tuas non sum oblitus.  
**Q**uod sunt dies sem  
 tan qñ facies te persequen  
 tibi in iudicium.  
**P**arauerunt michi  
 iniqui fabulationes sed  
 non ut lex tua.  
**Q**uoniam mandata tua  
 uentis unqui perlecati sē  
 me adiuuame.  
**D**aulomnis conu  
 mauerunt me in terra: ego  
 autem non dereliqui man  
 data tua.  
**S**ecunduz inam tua  
 iungica me: r custodia m.  
 testimonia oris tui. **psal.**  
**I**n eternum lameth  
 comine uerbuz  
 tanun permanet  
 in celo.  
**I**n generatione r ge  
 nerationem uentis tua  
 firmoasti terra r pmanet.  
**I**rdinatione tua ple  
 nerat dies qm̄ omnia se  
 iunnt tibi.  
**Q**ui quod lex tua me  
 ditatio mea tunc forte pe  
 gissem i humilitate mea  
**I**n eternum non ob  
 litiuicaz iustificacione tua



imploret: que tibi gra  
 ta semper erit: r me  
 to castitatis r tue pro  
 fessione uirtutis per.



**Sa iacobi apli ad vel  
 peras super psalmos. A**

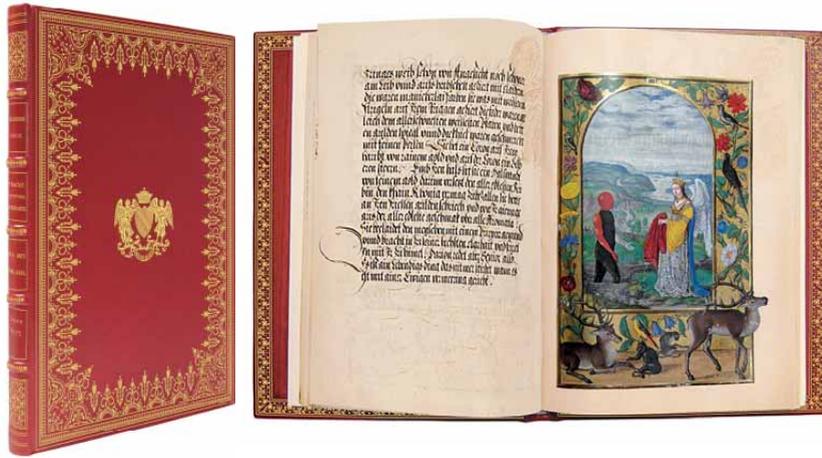
**B**eate ia  
 cobe omni  
 um corde  
 r ore lauda  
 ce: o patro  
 ne singulares r amabil  
 intercede pro nobis ad  
 dominum **Ad mag An**  
**O**lue r deus hispanie sa  
 ssime iacobe qui inter a  
 postolos p̄m̄atum tene  
 p̄m̄us eorum martiri  
 o laureatus o singulare

predicium qui me uita  
 videre redemptore n̄m  
 ad huc mortale in deita  
 te transformatum. exau  
 di preces senonum tuor  
 r intercede pro n̄a salute  
 omnūq; populor **Dio**  
**S**to domine eple  
 tator r custos  
 ut apostoli tui iacobi  
 munita p̄sidijs r con  
 uersatione tibi placeat  
 r secum desemat per do  
 minū **ad mona de sco**  
**xp̄stosoro r euuifate**  
**martyri oro**  
**R**esta quis  
 omnipotens  
 deus: ut qui  
 gloriosos m̄  
 tres xp̄storum r euu  
 fatem fortes in sua con  
 fessione cognouimus.  
 p̄ros apud te in n̄a int  
 cessione sentiamus p̄  
 domi **Ex gestis eius lco**  
**I**acobus p̄ma  
 apostolus euz  
 p̄di casset pe  
 in deam r sum  
 riam: predicationem  
 suam usq; ad galatiam  
 extendit r tibi non e ois

# SPLENDOR SOLIS

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- Shelf mark: Harley 3469.
- Date: 1582.
- Provenance: Germany
- Size: 230 x 330 mm.
- 100 pages, 22 full-page illuminations.
- Bound in crimson leather decorated with gold.
- Full-colour commentary volume.

This codex, dated 1582, is the most beautiful treatise on alchemy ever made. The imagination and lyricism of its truly marvellous illustrations are awe-inspiring even to those not familiar with this subject.

This sumptuously illustrated treatise is attributed to Salomon Trismosin, possibly a pen name of Ulrich Poysel, the master of the legendary Paracelsus. The secrets of kabbalah, astrology and alchemic symbolism are revealed on 22 folios bearing full-page illustrations with a wealth of colour and almost Baroque profusion of detail.

The codex has 100 pages written in a dainty, German Gothic script. The text is embellished with enormous, lavishly decorated initials that are, in themselves, a delight to behold.



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f. 13v, Extraction of prime matter and its four elements.



f. 19v, Rebis, the perfect hermaphrodite, with the philosophical egg.



f. 26r, The sun rules in the sign of Leo.

# THE BOOK OF HOURS OF JOANNA I OF CASTILE, JOANNA THE MAD

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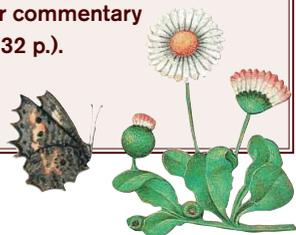
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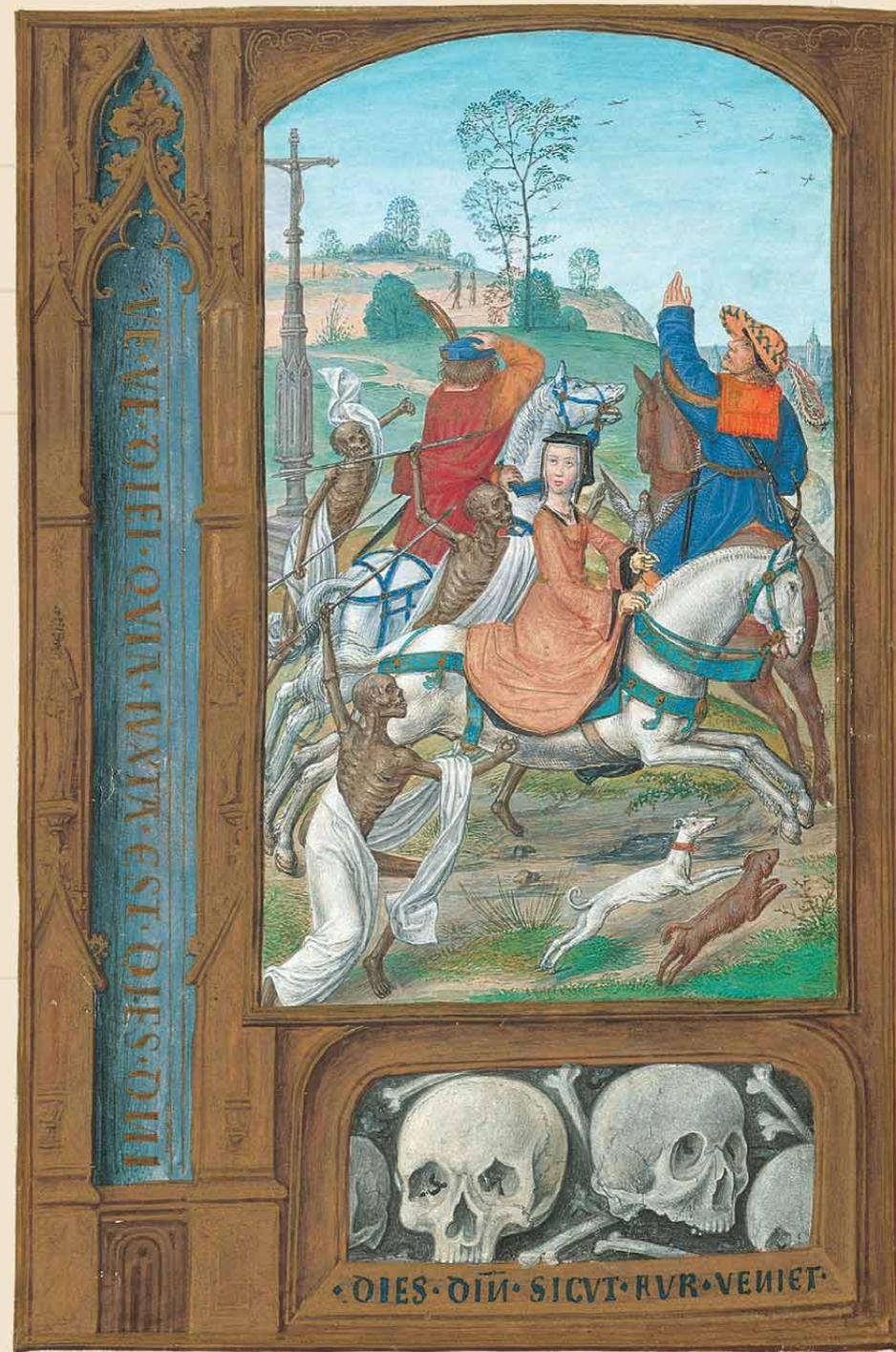
The illuminations in this exceptional Book of Hours are the work of the Master of James IV of Scotland (Gerard Horenbout). Horenbout and Simon Bening are recognized as the leading Flemish illuminators of the first half of the 1500s.

The miniatures are characterised by their three-dimensional realism and great sophistication, particularly those that illustrate the cycle of the Passion. The faces, charged with emotion, along with the liveliness and realism of the illuminated scenes, make this codex one of the most impressive works by the Flemish artist.

- Shelf mark: Add. Ms. 35313.
- Date: c.1500.
- Provenance: Ghent.
- Size: ± 237 x 168 mm.
- 482 illuminated pages and 75 full-page illuminations.
- Full-colour commentary volume (432 p.).



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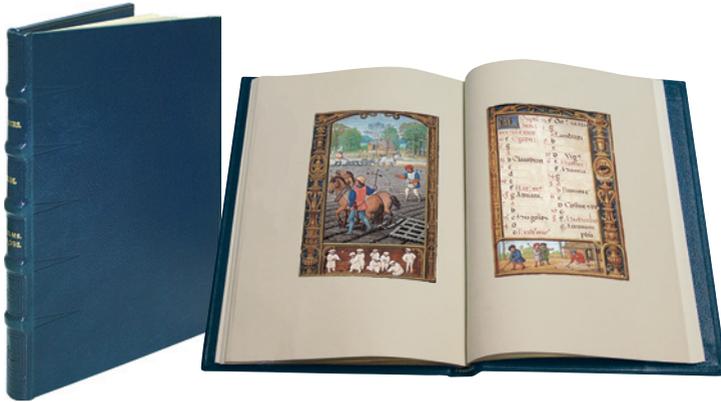


f. 158v, *The encounter of the three living and the three dead.*

# GOLF BOOK

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The person for whom this marvelous Book of Hours was made is still unknown. Running along the bottom of the pages in the calendar is a series of images of great interest. They depict sports activities and other pastimes typical of the period when the manuscript was made. One of the games portrayed is golf, the reason why this book is also known as the "Golf Book". In addition to these small, marginal scenes, the pages of the calendar are characterised by a series of miniatures depicting daily work and leisure activities typical of the 16th century.

- Shelf mark: Add. Ms. 24098
- Date: c. 1540
- Provenance: Bruges
- Size: ± 220 x 145 mm
- Size of the illuminations:  
115 x 84 mm
- 60 pages, most of them with a full-page illumination
- Miniatures by Simon Bening
- Full-colour commentary volume (256 p.) by Carlos Miranda (Doctor in History)



## TRACTATUS DE HERBIS

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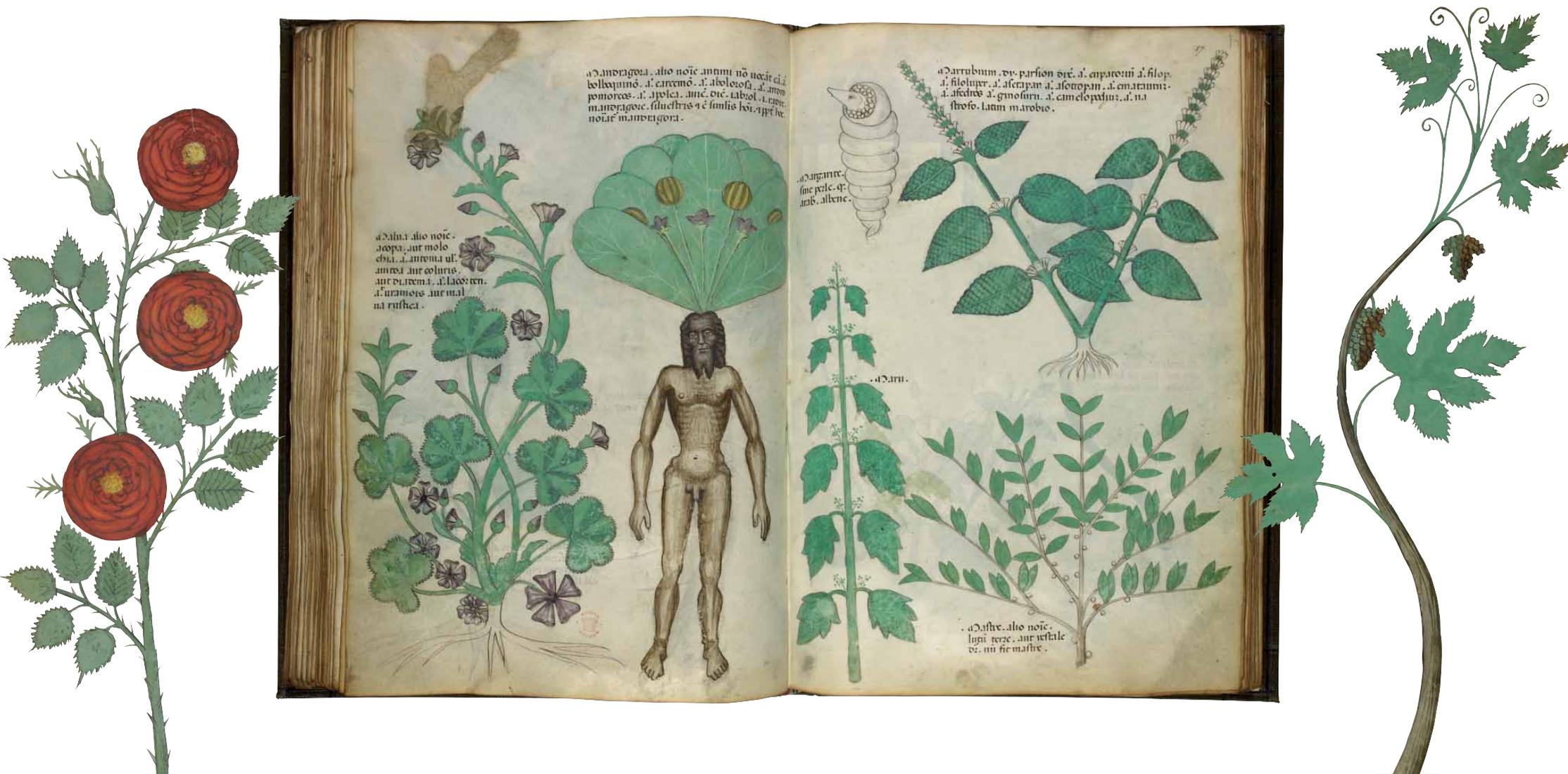
- Shelf mark: Sloane Ms. 4016.
- Date: 1440.
- Provenance: Italy.
- Size: 380 x 260 mm.
- 218 pages, all illuminated.
- Bound in embossed, dark green leather.
- Full-colour commentary volume.



Herbal manuscripts preserve ancient Greek and Arabic writings describing the medical uses of plants. The major texts were translated into Latin in the Middle Ages and often illustrated.

This mid-15th century manuscript contains an alphabetical list of simples: reme-

dies derived from single natural resources. Each simple is captioned with the plant's name and synonym, or a translation of its Arabic name. A richly illustrated codex with practically no text such as this one may have been made for book collectors as well as for medicinal use.





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