

The Val-Dieu Apocalypse

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Picture-book of the Life of St John and the Apocalypse



The Val-Dieu Apocalypse

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• Shelfmark: Add. Ms. 17333

Date: c. 1320-1330Size: ± 325 x 225mm

- 108 pages, 83 miniatures illuminated with gold.
- Green leather binding. Inside cover in red leather with gold motifs
- Full-colour commentary volume, written by internationally renowned experts

This illuminated Apocalypse manuscript is remarkable first and foremost for the exquisite palette of its illustrations and the minute detail of the visions it depicts from the Book of the Revelation.

This codex made in Normandy features Berengaud's glosses in Latin and French beneath enchantingly refined illustrations, each spanning half a page, with incredibly sophisticated hues. Another outstanding feature of its illustrations is the truly singular style of their portraits and scenes. The almost physical realism of the figures makes the fantastic Apocalypse scenes seem almost tangible. The *Val-Dieu Apocalypse* with its dreamlike realism features an iconographic cycle whose painstaking artistry and impressive elegance are truly breathtaking.



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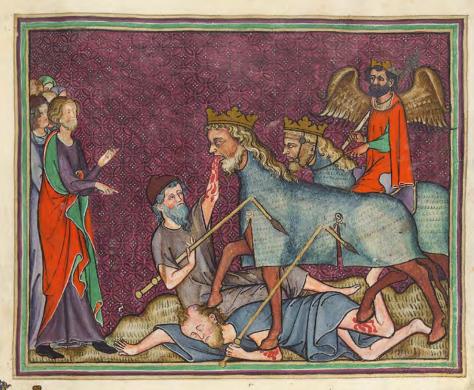


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Picture-book of the Life of St John and the Apocalypse

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• Shelfmark: Add. Ms. 38121

• **Date**: c. 1400

• Size: ± 320 x 200 mm

100 pages, 94 miniatures illuminated with gold

- Brown leather binding
- Full-colour commentary volume, written by internationally renowned experts.

This manuscript exuding modernity evolved from the English tradition of illuminated Apocalypses and was an outstanding forerunner of the woodcut Apocalypses that flourished in Europe in the latter half of the 15th century.

Produced in c. 1400, probably in northern France or southern Netherlands, its iconographic cycle includes a preamble and epilogue consisting of an unusual series of illustrations about the life of St John the Evangelist. Hence, the revelations made to the saint are framed by scenes of his persecution, exile, miracles, last mass and death.

The illustration of this unusual manuscript, in addition to being very abundant, features a particular palette, innovative style and liveliness that make it strikingly attractive whilst its vignettes are extraordinarily engaging and eloquent.

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Johannes















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