



THE TRÈS RICHES HEURES OF JEAN, DUKE OF BERRY

*“Unique and unrepeatable first edition, strictly limited to 987
numbered and authenticated copies”*



This edition, exceptionally limited to 550 copies is the only one that has been authorised and certified by the Bibliothèque du Château de

Chantilly, **FONDATION POUR LA SAUVEGARDE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DU DOMAINE DE CHANTILLY.**

The Très Riches Heures of Jean, Duke of Berry (1413/1416 – 1485)

(Bibliothèque du Château de Chantilly, Ms. 65)

- Size: 21.3 x 29.2 cm.
- 412 life-size, laser-trimmed pages
- 130 illuminations and 3000 initials embellished with gold and silver.
- Gold hierarchy: gold leaf, burnished gold, gold paint in relief.
- Extremely accurate chromatics and stochastic printing.
- 3-D images.
- Accentuated lapis lazuli.
- Original quires.
- Hand-sewn headbands.
- Binding identical to original: distressed, red leather embossed with gold.
- Companion volume by Patricia Stinermann and Inès Villela-Petit.

The *Très Riches Heures*, Bibliothèque du Château de Chantilly, France, is the most lavish manuscript commissioned by the wealthiest, late-medieval, French bibliophile and art lover: Jean, Duc de Berry (1340-1416), the son, brother and uncle of three kings of France: John II the Good, Charles V and Charles VI. An extraordinary undertaking produced between 1413 and 1416 by the Limbourg brothers, Paul, Hermann and Jean, undoubtedly the foremost miniaturists of that period, who were commissioned by Jean, Duc de Berry to make the most lavish book of hours of all time: the most highly-prized gem in his remarkable library.

The most extraordinary book by three leading artists was left unfinished.

The *Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry* with its 130 illuminations embellished with gold and silver and more than 3000 gilded initials was a milestone in the late Gothic miniature and the greatest masterpiece by Hermann, Paul and Jean Limbourg, the three brothers from Nijmegen who worked on the



manuscript's decoration between 1413 and 1416, the year when they mysteriously disappeared, possibly because of the plague. Duc Charles of Savoy, depicted with his wife on folio 75r, commissioned Jean Colombe, another great master of the miniature, to resume the work which was completed in 1485. Certain authors hold that Barthélemy d'Eyck also participated, in c. 1440 in the October and December miniatures in the calendar to be precise, and possibly in some details of the March, June and September illustrations too.

A marvellous amalgamation of man and nature in breathtakingly beautiful images

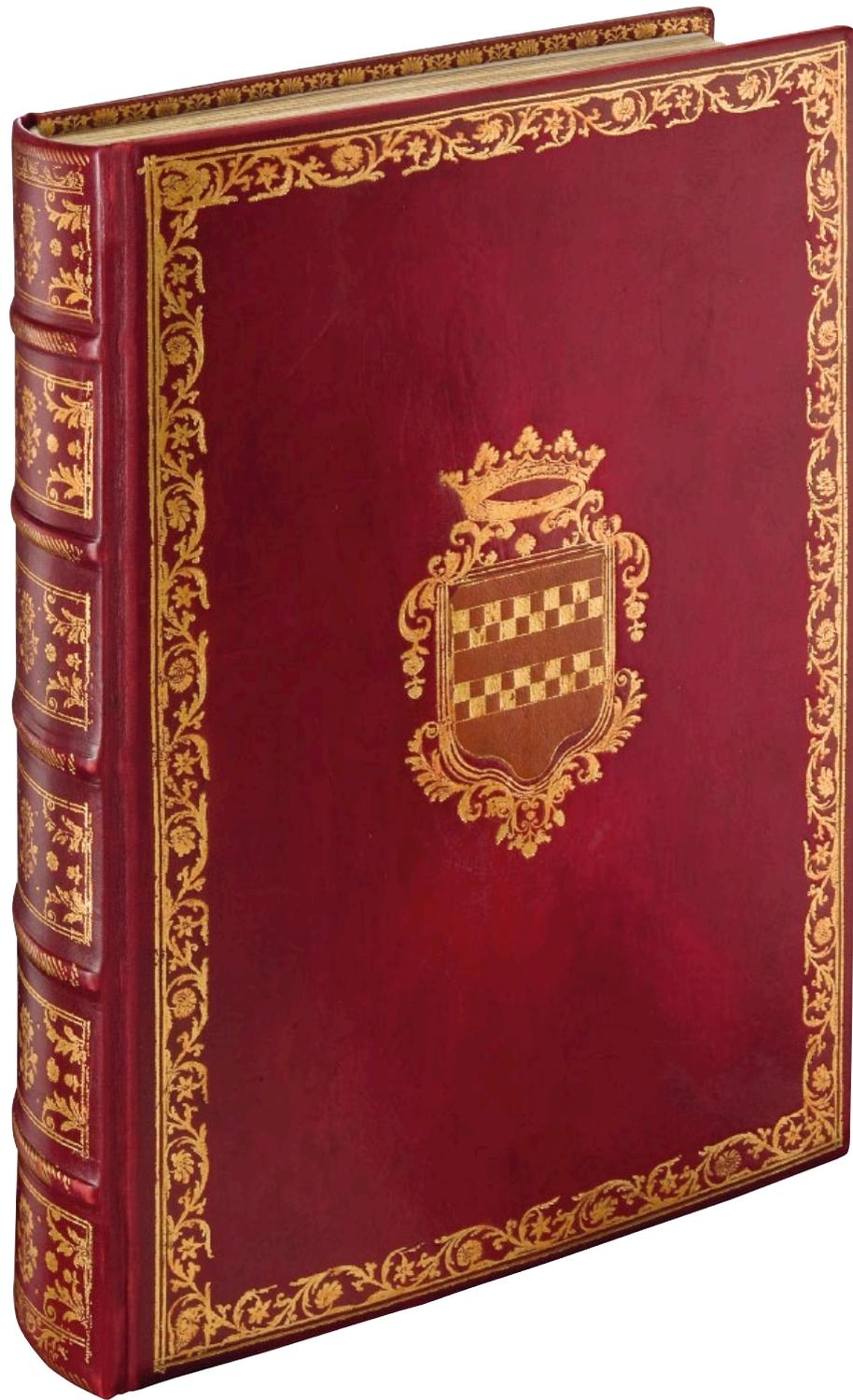
The Limbourgs' delightful miniatures, particularly those in the calendar, captivate and fascinate and draw beholders into a seemingly enchanted world. The three brothers' masterful chromatics, layouts and subtle observations on the pages of the *Très Riches Heures* bring to life the pastimes of the aristocracy and the toil of poor peasants, the striking beauty of the country landscape and the imposing presence of castles and walled cities, the lavish garb of the French upper class and the plain, modest dress of peasants. An imaginary yet realistic and tangible world that conveys a harmonious, peaceful balance between man, nature and a great variety of architectonic settings.

The king of illuminated manuscripts

Undoubtedly the most outstanding and beautiful fifteenth-century illuminated manuscript, the *Très Riches Heures* is unanimously deemed by experts to be, as Waagen described it, "le roi des manuscrits enluminés" (the king of illuminated manuscripts).

**First, unique and unrepeatable edition
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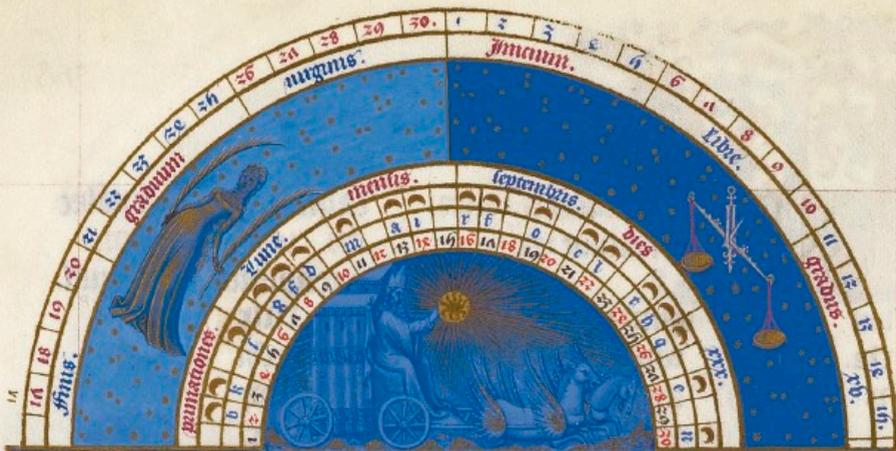




folio 2v



folio 5v



folio 9v



folio 12v

Annes. leo. sagittarius. sunt
calida et sicca colerica
masculina. Orientalia.

Taurus. uirgo. capricornus.
sunt frigida et sicca melanco
lica femmina. Occidentalia.



folio 14v



folio 25v



folio 51v



folio 52r



folio 54v



Domiene
nos deus
salutaris
nostr.

Et auerte iram tu
a nobis.
Deus in adiuto
rium meum

folio 60v





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