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# Illuminated Manuscripts Masterpieces Of Art



## Synopsis

Prior to the invention of the printing press, all books had to be written by hand. Manuscripts are the beautiful manifestation of this craft, and the most precious and expensive of such manuscripts were 'illuminated' through the use of brightly coloured pigments and gold embellishments. Beginning with a fresh and thoughtful introduction to illuminated manuscripts, *Illuminated Manuscripts Masterpieces of Art* goes on to showcase key works in this stunning artistic genre.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

("Masterpieces Of Art" is a series, from Flame Tree Publishing, London, art gift books.) Well designed, printed, produced book. Paper substantial; semi-glossy, but not acid-free. Sewn binding. Most of the (88) miniatures, (22 from secular works,) are from the British Library. Well chosen. Some familiar. Sometimes more than one example is given, by an artist or from a particular manuscript, within the thematic sections, ("Venerable Depictions", "Bible Stories", "The Calendar", "Secular Works".) I see in the index that those with more than three examples are: Simon Bening's "Golf Book", 4, all under "The Calendar", the Saluces Hours, 6, and the Bedford Hours, 7. The enlarged details in the introductory section remind one to use a magnifying glass to isolate and study the different aspects of the plates that capture one's interest. The introduction concentrates on the the historical and religious context, with a little about vellum, pens, the materials and chemistry of the colours, the bindings; but I didn't see anything about the brushes used, or methods of planning and painting these wondrous works, or the conditions that allowed these miraculous

illustrators to develop their artistry, nor what little might be known about their lives. Or about the histories of each of the books. But then, this is a gift book. It is not represented as being an exhaustive scholarly treatise.

Clear good size copies of beautiful manuscript illuminations.

An outstanding book, mostly containing full page color plates of illuminated manuscripts.

I really fine book! I would buy from this eller again!

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