



Codices illustres: The world's most famous illuminated manuscripts

Ingo F. Walther, Norbert Wolf

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Famous Manuscripts: The fascinating world of medieval miniature painting and illumination

From *The Book of Kells* to Boccaccio's *Decameron* and from the *Vienna Genesis* to Dante's *Divine Comedy*, to open *Codices illustres* is to open the door into a precious, private world. Now in a new format, this radiant book brings you **face-to-face with 167 of the most exquisite and important manuscripts of the medieval age**.

Presented in brilliant large-format reproductions, these paradigms of miniature painting and illumination **from the 4th century to 1600** were once the property of some of the greatest power players in history. Now art-historical treasures, they are worth many millions and typically tucked away in private collections or closely-guarded archives—until now.

Although the focus of this collection is on European manuscripts, examples from **Mexican, Persian, and Indian** tradition illustrate the refinement and intricacy of manuscript illumination in non-European cultures. An **informative synopsis** for each manuscript orients the reader at a glance, while a **36-page appendix** contains biographies of the artists, as well as an extensive bibliography, an index and a glossary for technical terms.

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