A Symposium of the Research Group on Manuscript Evidence

www.manuscriptevidence.org/wpme
Friday & Saturday, 13‒14 March 2020
Princeton University

From Cover to Cover

Activities Dedicated to Manuscripts, Early Printed Materials & Beyond
From Collecting & Cataloguing to Deciphering & Beholding

Sponsors: The Research Group on Manuscript Evidence
The Department of Art & Archaeology at Princeton University
The Index of Medieval Art
Program in Medieval Studies
James Marrow and Emily Rose
Celia Chazelle
Barbara A. Shailor
The Bibliographical Society of America
Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library
The Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies
Vassar College

The Symposium gathers specialists, teachers, students, and others engaged or interested in activities relating to manuscripts, early printed books, and related media. Such activities include Collecting, Curating, Conserving, Cataloguing, Deciphering, Reading, Reconsidering, Editing, Teaching, Displaying, Accessing, Beholding, and More. Their cultivation does not, naturally, necessarily occur in that order, and often they appear in combination.

We present workshops over original materials in manuscript and early print in Special Collections of Princeton University, curated displays of materials from other collections, a demonstration of materials and processes for medieval scripts, discussions about databases devoted to manuscripts and rare books, and sessions addressing multiple activities approaching medieval, early modern, and other textual resources. We examine subjects across a wide range geographically and chronologically, and take care to attend to their material and bibliographical evidence. Speakers will come from Princeton, Pennsylvania, and Yale Universities, Vassar College, Les Enluminures, The Index of Medieval Art, projects devoted to Mapping Manuscript Migrations (MMM), Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI), Books as Symbols in Renaissance Art (BASIRA), and elsewhere.

The focus centers principally upon selected medieval and early modern materials, both Western and non-Western. We include reports of discoveries, work-in-progress, cumulative research, and collaborative projects by specialists from multiple centers, including independent scholars and younger scholars. All are welcome. Registration is required, and space is limited.

Further information about this event and instructions for registration appear on the Research Group website:

Pro Francisco de Africa. Panormus:

Qui solituarce philestatis...
Figure 1. Princeton University Library, Rare Books and Special Collections, William H. Scheide Library, 53.8. Latin Bible in double columns of 49 lines, printed in Strasbourg on paper by Johann Mentelin, not after 1460 CE (ISTC ib00528000). Opening page of text with the beginning of the epistolary prologue for the Latin Vulgate version by its translator Jerome (347–420 CE), beginning with a 9-line initial F for Frater Ambrosius (“Brother Ambrose”) decorated with foliate, animate, and interlace ornament extending the full height of the left-hand margin and across the bottom margin, and bearing a coat of arms. The ownership inscription of the Reformed Franciscian Cloister of Saverne (in Grand Est, France) stands at the top of the page. Photograph courtesy Princeton University Library, Rare Books and Special Collections.
Program: Saturday, 14 March

SESSION 9:45–11:30am  McCormick 106

Opening Remarks: “Cover Story”
Mildred Budny (Research Group on Manuscript Evidence)

Session 3. Cataloguing: Opportunities, Constraints & Advances

Moderator: Barbara A. Shailor (Classics Department, Yale University)

Barbara A. Shailor
“Introduction”

Lynn Ransom (Curator, SIMS Programs, Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University of Pennsylvania)
“Mapping Manuscript Migrations: Negotiating Metadata Standards and Manuscript Description in an LOD Environment”

Kelly Tuttle (Project Cataloguer, Manuscripts of the Muslim World, University of Pennsylvania Libraries)
“Cataloging and Discovery in the Manuscripts of the Muslim World Project”

Laura Light (Director and Senior Specialist, Text Manuscripts, Les Enluminures, Chicago, New York, and Paris)
“Do Manuscript Descriptions Influence Scholarship: The Case of Thirteenth-Century Latin Bibles”

COFFEE BREAK 11:15–11:30am  Lobby outside McCormick 106

SESSION 11:30am–1:15pm  McCormick 106

Session 4. Looking, Assessing & Accessing

Moderator: Pamela Patton (Director, Index of Medieval Art, Princeton University)

Ronald D. Patkus (Head of Special Collections and Adjunct Associate Professor of History, Vassar College)
“Collecting for Undergraduates: Nicholas B. Scheetz and the Bibliotheca Scheetziana”

John McQuillen (Associate Curator, Printed Books & Bindings Morgan Library & Museum, New York)
“15th-Century European Blockbooks: Towards a US Census”

Jessica L. Savage (Art History Specialist, Index of Medieval Art)
“Cataloguing Manuscript Iconography between Digital Covers at the Index of Medieval Art”

Barbara Williams Ellertson (BASIRA and Research Group on Manuscript Evidence)
“The Painted Page: Examples from the BASIRA (Books as Symbols in Renaissance Art) Project”

LUNCH 1:15–1:45pm  Lobby outside McCormick 106
Session 1:45–3:15pm

Session 5. Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI): Reports from the Field

Moderator: Ronald D. Patkus (Associate Director of the Libraries for Special Collections, Vassar College)

Sabrina Manuzzi (Researcher in Early Modern History, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice)

“An Overview of Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI), with a Focus on Readers of Materia Medica”

Eric White (Curator of Rare Books, Princeton University Library Special Collections),

“Flourished circa 1455: A Remarkable Strasbourg Rubricator Identified”

Meghan Constantinou (Librarian, The Grolier Club of New York)

“Making Connections with Incunabula in MEI: A Small Library’s Perspective”

Raymond Clemens (Curator, Early Books and Manuscripts, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library)

“CERL MEI at Yale’s Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library: Materials and Relationships”

Coffee Break 3:15–3:45pm

Lobby outside McCormick 106

Session 3:45–5:30pm

Session 6. Deciphering, Reading & Beholding

Moderator: Helmut Reimitz (Professor of History and Director, Program in Medieval Studies, Princeton University)

Christine E. Bachman (Department of Art History, University of Delaware, and Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies, University of Pennsylvania Libraries)

“Carolingian Structures of Logic and Learning: The Evidence of University of Pennsylvania MS LJS 101”

Carson J. Koepke (Program in Medieval Studies, Yale University)

“The Decoration of Tironian notes in the Commentarii Notarum Tironianarum: Evidence for Merovingian Exemplars”

Lynley Anne Herbert (Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, Maryland)

“New Eyes on Old Books: Unraveling the Mystery of the Walters Lace Manuscript”

Closing Remarks

Reception 5:30–7:00pm

Lobby outside McCormick 106