



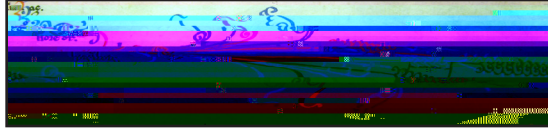
MANUSCRIPTS ON MY MIND

News from the Vatican Film Library

No. 2 December 2010

Editor's Remarks Manuscript queries News and Postings

Call for Papers 2011 Redux



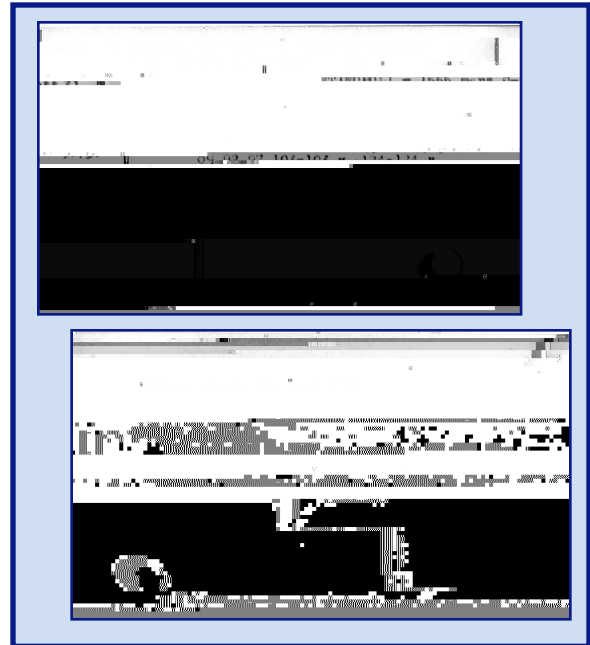
EDITOR'S REMARKS

Thanks to all who forwarded the first issue of "Manuscripts on My Mind" to friends and colleagues; there has been a great response to the newsletter from manuscript lovers worldwide. As a result we have a substantial amount of news to post, including current and forthcoming exhibitions, conferences, and calls for papers. On the subject of calls for papers, let me remind you once more that the deadline for paper proposals (with titles and 300-word abstracts) for the 2011 Saint Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies is January 15, 2011. Please send proposals directly to me at lengles@slu.edu.



I would like to draw your attention to a little known resource available to scholars at the Vatican Film Library. It comprises the [Summary Index of Manuscripts](#) for the collections of the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, the result of a huge cataloguing project funded by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace from 1926 through 1946/47. A complete historical account of this project has recently been published: Nicoletta Mattioli Háy, *The Vatican Library and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: The History, Impact, and Influence of Their Collaboration (1927–1947)*, Studi e testi 455 (Vatican City, 2009). The objective of this project was to provide a "quick and dirty" analysis of each manuscript held in the Vatican Library (around 75,000), with separate index cards for subjects, authors, titles of works, and

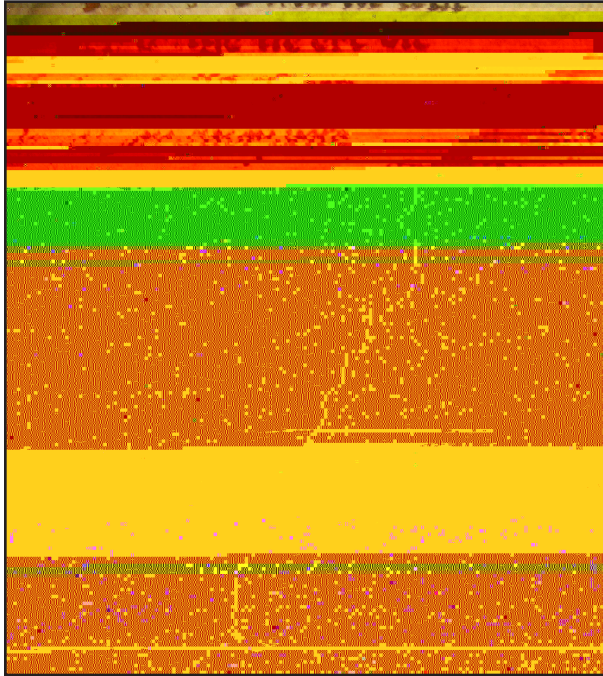
was 12,396. The cards occupy 134 drawers in the Vatican Library; the unique photostatic copies in the Vatican Film Library fit into 115 drawers. Each card provides the shelfmark(s) of all indexed manuscripts in its class, indicating the probable century of each manuscript's production and the folio numbers on which the cited work can be found. This Summary Index is especially useful to researchers looking for works by particular authors, or for copies of anonymous texts. In addition, a drawer and a half are devoted to *Avvisi*. See examples below:



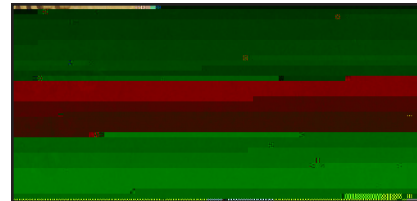
This resource is wonderful for fishing expeditions;10(i)-104C /Sp39.0 1100 0 1

📖 QUERIES TO THE MANUSCRIPT COMMUNITY 📖

Lucy Freeman Sandler writes: "I've been struggling with an Anglo-Norman transcription problem in a Morgan Library manuscript (M.761), a *Lumere as lais* about which I'm writing. I made a pretty good photo of the page in question, and a stab at a transcription (a few lines) ... but I'd love to circulate it to anyone with potential interest or expertise. Here's the transcription of the crucial lines:



Fols. 190-194, inc. 'Ceschun dei estre ame/Par la mesure de sa bonte;' see Ruth J. Dean, *Anglo-Norman Literature: A Guide to Texts and Manuscripts* (London, 1999), no. 636, 351–52; for text, see Paul Meyer, "Notice du MS. Rawlinson Poetry 241 (Oxford)," *Romania* 29 (1900): 5–21. M. 761 was not known to Meyer. A colophon in M. 761 (fol. 194r) attributes the poem to St. Edmund of Pontigny: 'I cest escrit fist seint edmon/Ke de ponteni. ad le sornon/E prie tuz ke le lirrunt/Ou en lisant le escuterunt/Ke il eyent sovent en memorie/E dieu le sire de glorie/Lor dorat(?) henry(?) sa beneson/Ki atenerent(?) bien sa reyson amen.'



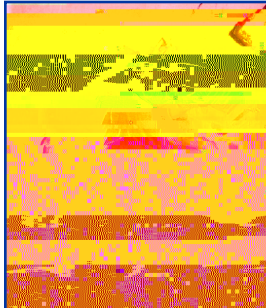
Please send any comments or suggestions to Lucy at lucy.sandler@nyu.edu

POSTINGS FROM READERS

A conference on "Nuns' Literacies in Medieval Europe" will take place at the University of Hull from 20–

POSTINGS FROM READERS

Exhibitions:



You are invited to attend the New York Public Library's latest exhibition, *Three Faiths: Judaism, Christianity, Islam*, in Gottesman Hall at the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building. The exhibition runs through February 27, 2011. Three Faiths explores the complementarities and differences between the three faiths with 200 of the most inspiring sacred texts from the Library's collections. Accompanying the exhibition is a specially created Scriptorium, where you can learn about the amazing traditions of creating sacred books and scrolls. Admission is free. Learn more about it at <http://www.nypl.org/events/exhibitions/three-faiths-judaism-christianity-islam>



Nancy Shawcross, Curator of Manuscripts at the Rare Book & Manuscript Library, University of Pennsylvania, directs us to the University of Pennsylvania's Web site for medieval and Renaissance manuscripts: <http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/medren/>. The site provides full facsimiles of their 900-plus holdings. Although the project will not be completed until July of 2011, the site is fully operational and already provides access to complete facsimiles of approximately 650 western European manuscripts dated up to 1600.



Massimo Bernabò informs us about a forthcoming exhibition at the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana in Florence, running from February 14 through June 25, 2011. Its preliminary title is *Voci d'Oriente: Miniature e testi classici da Bisanzio alla Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana*, <http://www.bml.firenze.sbn.it/medicea/medicea-laurenziana>



State) and Eliza Glaze (Coastal Carolina) has undertaken to examine a database of more than 450 Latin medical manuscripts that survive from the "long twelfth century," and has already made several crucial discoveries and identifications. They are currently writing up their findings for publication and seeking

