Imagining Christ

May 6 to July 27, 2008
The J. Paul Getty Museum at the Getty Center

Medieval and Renaissance images of Christ provided visual accounts of the historical figure described in the Gospels and served as powerful entry points to prayer. Though today the study of the complete Bible is fairly common, most medieval worshippers who were not members of the clergy depended largely on church services and private prayer books to access the word of God. The illuminations in this exhibition demonstrate the multiple, overlapping ways in which Christ was understood to be simultaneously human and divine, the son of God and God, the sacrifice made for mankind, and the divine judge who would save or condemn humanity at the end of time.

-Kristen Collins
Department of Manuscripts

1. Attributed to Nivardus of Milan
Italian, active about 1000 - about 1025
The Crucifixion, First quarter, 11th century from Sacramentary
Tempera colors, gold, silver, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 23.2 x 17.9 cm (9 1/8 x 7 1/16 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig V 1, fol. 2r (83.MF.76.2r)

2. Ottonian
Text Page, First quarter, 11th century from Sacramentary
Tempera colors, gold, silver, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 23.2 x 17.9 cm (9 1/8 x 7 1/16 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig V 1, fol. 3 (83.MF.76.3)

3. Ottonian
Bishop Engilmar Celebrating Mass, about 1030 - 1040 from Benedictional
Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 23.2 x 16 cm (9 1/8 x 6 5/16 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig VII 1, fol. 16 (83.MI.90.16)

4. Ottonian
Cover of a Sacramentary, 1100s from Sacramentary
Oak boards covered with red silk, fitted with hammered and engraved silver and copper
Object: 26.7 x 18.9 cm (10 1/2 x 7 7/16 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig V 2, cover (83.MF.77.cover)

Additional information about some of these works of art can be found by searching getty.edu at http://www.getty.edu/art/gettyguide/

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5. British

*Christ Led to Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph*, Image 12th century; Text 15th century

from *Illustrated Vita Christi*, with devotional supplements

Tempera colors and gold leaf on parchment

Leaf: 17 x 12.1 cm (6 11/16 x 4 3/4 in.)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. 101, fol. 48v (2008.3.48v)

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6. Italian

*The Crucifixion and The Harrowing of Hell*, Late 12th century

from New Testament

Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment

Leaf: 24.6 x 16.2 cm (9 11/16 x 6 3/8 in.)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig I 5, fol. 191v (83.MA.54.191v)

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7. Italian

*Initial P: Saint Paul with a Book*, Late 12th century

from New Testament

Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment

Leaf: 24.6 x 16.2 cm (9 11/16 x 6 3/8 in.)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig I 5, fol. 192 (83.MA.54.192)

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8. Limoges School

*Christ in Majesty*, about 1188

Copper (half relief), engraved, gilt, champlevé enamel, colored glass

Object: H: 45.4 cm (17 7/8 in.)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
2007.6

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9. Byzantine

*The Women at the Tomb*, Early 13th century - Late 13th century

from *Gospel Book*

Tempera colors and gold leaf on parchment

Leaf: 20.6 x 14.9 cm (8 1/8 x 5 7/8 in.)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig II 5, fol. 74v (83.MB.69.74v)

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10. English

*The Twenty-Four Elders Pay Homage to the Throne of God*, about 1255 - 1260

from *Dyson Perrins Apocalypse*

Tempera colors, gold leaf, colored washes, pen and ink on parchment

Leaf: 31.9 x 22.5 cm (12 9/16 x 8 7/8 in.)

The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig III 1, fol. 4v (83.MC.72.4v)
11. English

The Vision of the Lamb in the Midst of the Four Living Creatures and the Twenty-Four Elders, about 1255 - 1260
from Dyson Perrins Apocalypse
Tempera colors, gold leaf, colored washes, pen and ink on parchment
Leaf: 31.9 x 22.5 cm (12 9/16 x 8 7/8 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig III 1, fol. 5 (83.MC.72.5)

12. Silesian

Hedwig Leaving Bloody Footprints in the Snow; The Self-Flagellation of Hedwig, 1353
from Life of the Blessed Hedwig
Tempera colors, colored washes, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 34.1 x 24.8 cm (13 7/16 x 9 3/4 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig XI 7, fol. 38v (83.MN.126.38v)

13. Master of the Brussels Initials

Italian, active about 1389 - 1410
The Elevation of the Host; Initial T: A Putto Between the Sun and the Moon, between 1389 and 1404
from Missal
Tempera colors, gold leaf, gold paint, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 33 x 24 cm (13 x 9 7/16 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. 34, fol. 130 (88.MG.71.130)

14. Master of St. Veronica

German, active about 1395 - 1415
The Crucifixion, about 1400 - 1410
Miniature, Perhaps from a Manuscript
Tempera colors, gold paint, and gold leaf on parchment
Leaf [cut to shape]: 23.7 x 12.4 cm (Leaf [cut to shape]: 9 5/16 x 4 7/8 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. Ludwig Folia 2, leaf 1 (83.MS.49.1.recto)

15. Masters of Dirc van Delf

Dutch, active about 1400 - about 1410
The Lamentation, about 1405 - 1410
from Book of Hours
Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 16.5 x 11.7 cm (6 1/2 x 4 5/8 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. 40, fol. 68v (90.ML.139.68v)

16. Dutch

Decorated Initial D, about 1405 - 1410
from Book of Hours
Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment
Leaf: 16.5 x 11.7 cm (6 1/2 x 4 5/8 in.)
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles
Ms. 40, fol. 69 (90.ML.139.69)
17. Master of Sir John Fastolf  
French, active before about 1420 - about 1450  
**Saint Francis**, about 1430 - 1440  
from *Book of Hours*  
Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 12.1 x 9.2 cm (4 3/4 x 3 5/8 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. 5, fol. 44v (84.ML.723.44v)

18. French  
**The Trinity**, about 1440 - 1450  
from *City of God*  
Tempera colors, gold and silver paint on parchment  
Leaf: 36.2 x 27.3 cm (14 1/4 x 10 3/4 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig XI 10, fol. 2 (83.MN.129.2)

19. Master of the Llangattock Hours  
**The Circumcision**, 1450s  
from *Llangattock Hours*  
Tempera colors, gold leaf, gold paint, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 26.4 x 18.4 cm (10 3/8 x 7 1/4 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig IX 7, fol. 92v (83.ML.103.92v)

20. Antoine de Lonhy  
French, active about 1460 - about 1490  
**Christ in Majesty**, about 1460  
Leaf from a missal  
Tempera colors, gold leaf, and gold paint on parchment  
Leaf: 34.5 x 25 cm (13 9/16 x 9 13/16 in.)  
Gift of the Emerson Family in honor of John S. Bonnell.  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. 69, recto (2001.84.recto)

21. Italian  
**The Ascension**, about 1460  
from *Book of Hours*  
Tempera colors, gold, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 17.1 x 12.1 cm (6 3/4 x 4 3/4 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig IX 12, fol. 262v (83.ML.108.262v)

22. Willem Vrelant or workshop  
Flemish, died 1481, active 1454 - 1481  
**Adam and Eve Eating the Forbidden Fruit**, Early 1460s  
from *Arenberg Hours*  
Tempera colors, gold leaf, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 25.6 x 17.3 cm (10 1/16 x 6 13/16 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig IX 8, fol. 137 (83.ML.104.137)
23. Workshop of Master of the First Prayer Book of Maximilian  
Flemish, active about 1475 - 1515  
The Last Judgment, about 1510 - 1520  
from Spinola Hours  
Tempera colors, gold, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 23.2 x 16.7 cm (9 1/8 x 6 9/16 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig IX 18, fol. 165v (83.ML.114.165v)

24. Master of the Lübeck Bible  
David in Prayer, about 1510 - 1520  
from Spinola Hours  
Tempera colors, gold, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 23.2 x 16.7 cm (9 1/8 x 6 9/16 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig IX 18, fol. 166 (83.ML.114.166)

25. Simon Bening  
Flemish, about 1483 - 1561  
The Worship of the Five Wounds, about 1525 - 1530  
from Prayer Book of Cardinal Albrecht of Brandenburg  
Tempera colors, gold paint, and gold leaf on parchment  
Leaf: 16.8 x 11.4 cm (6 5/8 x 4 1/2 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig IX 19, fol. 335v (83.ML.115.335v)

26. Simon Bening  
Flemish, about 1483 - 1561  
The Mass of Saint Gregory, about 1535 - 1540  
Leaf from the Montserrat Hours  
Tempera colors, gold paint, and ink on parchment  
Leaf: 13.7 x 10 cm (5 3/8 x 3 15/16 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. 3, leaf 1v (84.ML.83.1.verso)

27. Armenian  
Saint John the Evangelist, 1615  
from Gospel Book  
Tempera colors, gold paint, and gold leaf on glazed paper  
Leaf: 23 x 17.1 cm (9 1/16 x 6 3/4 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig II 7, fol. 193v (83.MB.71.193v)

28. Armenian  
Decorated Incipit Page, 1615  
from Gospel Book  
Tempera colors, gold paint, and gold leaf on glazed paper  
Leaf: 23 x 17.1 cm (9 1/16 x 6 3/4 in.)  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles  
Ms. Ludwig II 7, fol. 194 (83.MB.71.194)