Corpus Christi

WMP
World Microfilms
Microworld House
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London W9 2HH
England
THE LIBRARY at Corpus Christi contains a marvellous range of illuminated decoration of the highest quality. Two early works with monastic provenance stand out. The Chronicle of Florence and John of Worcester (Ms. 157) c. 1140 contains five tinted drawings, some of the earliest extant chronicle illustrations. They show visions which Henry I was said to have had in 1130, relating to protests over the imposition of taxes. Two leaves of a Psalter from St. Albans (Ms. 2) show the Deposition and the Marys at the Sepulchre and are early works of the Lambeth Palace Master.

The later English manuscripts include a fine Bible from the workshop known after the William of Devon Bible (Ms. 1); and a Psalter 1270-80 (Ms. 205) with fine miniatures, calendar pictures and marginal drawings. There are also three manuscripts connected to the workshop of William Scheere: John Gower's Confessio Amantis (Ms. 67), a Book of Hours (Ms. 350) and the famous Lapworth Missal 1398 (Ms. 394).

The continental manuscripts are equally fine. The Meditations on the Life of Christ by the Ps. Bonaventura (Ms. 410) contain a large number of miniatures by a Central Italian hand.
# List of Contents of Reels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reel</th>
<th>Ms.</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bible. Fine Initials, style of William of Devon c.1250-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Psalter (St. Albans) c.1140-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bible 13th c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>13,14</td>
<td>New Testament c.1520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Psalter added to 13th c. French Ms. c.1400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Psalter 15th c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Peter Lombard. Sentences 12th c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>John Geddesden. Ross Medicinae 14th c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>122</td>
<td>Gospels (Bunyon). Celtic influence c.1140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>Chronicle of Florence and John of Worcester c.1140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>161</td>
<td>Speculum Humanæ Salvationis 15th c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>207</td>
<td>Genealogical Chronicle of the Kings of England c.1467-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>Joachim of Fiore. Figuree c.1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>271</td>
<td>Pedigree of the Royal Family of England c.1520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>285</td>
<td>Psalter 1270-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>Book of Hours, workshop of Herman Scheere 15th c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>387</td>
<td>Book of Hours c.1530-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>Larpworth Missal, Scheere workshop 1398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>410</td>
<td>Pseudo Bonaventura. Meditations on The Life of Christ. 14th c.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>