



Comparative Methodologies, 10 Years On. An Archaeological Approach to the Study of Illuminated Manuscripts

5th International Workshop of the IUS ILLUMINATUM Research Team

September 19th, 2025

h. 9,00-18.30 - Lisbon time (Western European Time GMT +00.00)

ONLINE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS PLATFORM

To participate (free but compulsory registration):

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Program

9.00 Opening Session

Catarina Tente - Director of IEM-NOVA/FCSH

Stefano Scaramuzzino – Director of Istituto Italiano di Cultura - Lisboa

Timoty Leonardi – Director of Fondazione Biblioteca Capitolare di Verona

Maria Alessandra Bilotta – PI of IUS ILLUMINATUM

9.30–10.30 Opening Lecture

Chair: Maria Alessandra Bilotta (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)

El manuscrito iluminado medieval: una aproximación material a su elaboración

Stefanos Kroustallis (Escuela superior de conservación y restauración de bienes culturales)

10.30 Break

Chair: Sara Prata (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)

10.45 *La eclosión del pergamino en los confines de Occidente: monasterios y soportes de escritura en la Península Ibérica tardoantigua y altomedieval* - Jordina Sales-Carbonell (Universitat de Barcelona)

11.15 *From Beast to Book: Palaeoproteomics and the Archaeological Investigation of Medieval Parchment Production* - Matthew Collins (Kobenhavns Universitet, Denmark; Cambridge University, UK)

11.45 *Parchment as a Zooarchaeological and Biomolecular Archive* - Sean Doherty (University of Exeter, UK)

12.15–14.00 Lunch

Chair: Alberto Campagnolo (KU Leuven; Université de Tours - CERS)

14.00 *The Opificio delle Pietre Dure in Florence: Experiences in Restoration Field, Research and Conservation of Miniatures on Parchment.* - Letizia Montalbano (Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Firenze)

14.30 *From Greenland to France: Tracing Sealskin in Medieval Bookbindings* - Élodie Lévêque (Université Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne)

15.00 *Manuscript preservation in fragile contexts: experiences from West Africa and Middle East* - Maria Luisa Russo (Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures – Universität Hamburg)

15.30 Concluding Round Table

Scientific Comittee

- Maurizio Aceto (Università de Piemonte Orientale)
- Maria Alessandra Bilotta (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)
- Alberto Campagnolo (KU Leuven; Université de Tours - CERS)
- Carlo Ebanista (Università del Molise)
- Roberto Farinelli (Università di Siena)
- Timoty Leonardi (Fondazione Biblioteca Capitolare di Verona)
- Sara Prata (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)
- Juan Antonio Quirós Castillo (Universidad del País Vasco)
- Stefano Scaramuzzino (Istituto Italiano di Cultura – Lisboa)
- Catarina Tente (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)
- Mathieu Vivas (IRHiS - Université de Lille / Institut Universitaire de France)
- Hanno Wijsman (Institut de recherche et d’histoire des textes [IRHT-CNRS])

Organizational Committee

- Maria Alessandra Bilotta (IEM – NOVA/FCSH)
- Catarina Tente (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)
- Sara Prata (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)

Entities Organizers

- Instituto de Estudos Medievais (IEM-NOVA/FCSH)
- IUS ILLUMINATUM Oficina de investigação
- Istituto Italiano di Cultura* - Lisboa
- Fondazione Biblioteca Capitolare di Verona

10 years ago, within the framework of the scientific activities of the **Institute for Medieval Studies (IEM) of NOVA/FCSH**, we convened our first Workshop devoted to this theme (“O estudo dos manuscritos iluminados e dos artefactos na Arqueologia da Idade Média: metodologias em comparação”), marking a significant moment of reflection and scholarly exchange.

Today, as we commemorate the 10th anniversary of the inaugural event, this second interdisciplinary Workshop seeks to advance our knowledge of the outcomes generated by archaeological methodologies in the study of illuminated manuscripts.

Organized by the **IEM** and the **IUS ILLUMINATUM Research Team**, in collaboration with the ***Istituto Italiano di Cultura*** - Lisbon and the ***Fondazione Biblioteca Capitolare*** of Verona, this Workshop features the participation of researchers from the **Opificio delle Pietre Dure** in Florence, together with scholars from other esteemed institutions and aims to demonstrate how archaeological sciences and their methodologies can meaningfully contribute to the study of these manuscripts, offering new and important insights that often transcend the scope of traditional approaches in art history, as well as in artistic, palaeographic, and codicological studies.

By integrating multiple disciplines, we aspire to open new perspectives and to foster a stimulating dialogue among archaeology, history, art history, conservation, and related fields, thereby enriching our understanding of these invaluable testimonies of the past.

We hope that this meeting will provide an opportunity for further advances in the study of illuminated manuscripts and reinforce the essential value of a multidisciplinary approach to the study of these artefacts.

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