

## REMARKS ON COLOURS AND PIGMENTS IN THE FRENCH COURT ILLUMINATION OF THE XIIIth CENTURY

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The paper is dedicated to the study of the particularities of colours, pigments and pictorial technique in the French illumination of the 1260 ca. related to the decoration of manuscripts produced for the French court. The author has chosen as example the manuscript T of the *Bestiaire d'Amours* of Richard de Fournival (Switzerland, private collection), the most ancient known manuscript of this work, commissioned probably by the gend of Saint Louis, Thibaud V, count of Champagne and king of Navarra.

The miniatures of this manuscript give an exciting possibility for the close investigation of pigments, of their degradation and transformation, their reaction with the parchment and their modification visible on the backside of the folios.

At the same time, several pigments used in this manuscript seem to be close to those which were used by artists who have worked on the decoration of the French Royal Psalters of the 1260-ies: the Saint Louis Psalter, ms. 10525 of the BNF of Paris and the so called Isabella Psalter, ms. 300 of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Related stylistically one to another but different in their pictorial technique, these manuscripts are essential for the reflexion and study of the use of colours by the artists executing the commands of the French court of the XIIIth century, in particular of the court of Saint Louis and his family.