

WORKSHOOP

TO PAINT IN THE MEDIEVAL SCRIPTORIUM

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An hands-on workshop for the painting of miniatures from "The book of Birds (1184) and "Lorvão Apocalypse" (1189), both from Monastery of Lorvão, will be organized. In this WS the participants will reproduce, step-by-step, with the materials and techniques of the past, a miniature from these medieval manuscripts. The materials and techniques proposed for the hands-on activities are based on the results obtained in the research project "The colour of Portuguese medieval illuminations: an interdisciplinary approach".

The participants will select an illumination to be reproduced. This image will be then copied to the parchment, the colours needed to paint prepared and, finally, applied. The medieval paints will be made by mixing a binder with a pigment. The binder used will be based in parchment glue and egg white. The colour palette includes lapis lazuli, vermilion, red lead, carbon black, lead white and lac. These medieval colours will shine magnificently in the reproduction that the participants will take with them.

In a brief introduction to the WS the following themes will be discussed: the description and representation of the illuminations, paint colours, in the scriptorium-painting an illumination.

All the materials needed will be available as well as a step-by-step worksheet. A copy of the first quire made with medieval materials and techniques will be also on hand.