

ARTSTOR

ARTSTOR INTERDISCIPLINARY ARTSTOR RESOURCES IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES

The ARTstor Digital Library is a visual resource of value to scholars, teachers, and students across the arts, humanities, social sciences, and beyond. This handout is part of a growing series designed to highlight ARTstor's relevance to a variety of fields of study.

ARTSTOR COLLECTIONS RELEVANT TO MEDIEVAL STUDIES



Several ARTstor collections will be of interest to scholars, teachers, and students in Medieval Studies. Key works of Medieval art – including many of the works illustrated in standard survey texts of Western art history – may be found in the Art History Survey Collection. The Hartill Archive of Architectural and Allied Arts includes hundreds of images of the architecture and architectural sculpture and decoration of Medieval Europe. The Clarence Ward Archive of Romanesque and Gothic architecture, from the National Gallery of Art Library, offers uniquely detailed photographs of Medieval French architecture. These images are the product of pre-World War II photographic campaigns that documented these monuments, many of which were subsequently subjected to war damage. Contemporary views of many Medieval cathedrals are also available as Quick Time Virtual Reality files from the Columbia University collection of QTVR Panoramas of World Architecture, which allow users to view these structures in 360 degrees from many vantage points.

ARTstor's encyclopedic Image Gallery offers innumerable images of Medieval art and architecture throughout Europe, from Early Christian and Byzantine to the Late Gothic periods. The Image Gallery includes contributions from museums with significant holdings in Medieval art, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cleveland Museum of Art. It also incorporates specialized collections that directly relate to Medieval Studies, such as Princeton University's Illuminated Manuscript Collection and the Manuscripts and Early Printed Books from the Bodleian Library, at the University of Oxford.

HELPFUL SEARCH TIPS

Keyword searches are likely to be most successful. Truncating your search term in order to retrieve terms with variant endings will enlarge your search results. For more precise searches, you can search for phrases in quotation marks (“...”), or use the Advanced Search feature to limit your searches by date or geographic region.

- ❖ A search for “book of hours” yields over 670 images
- ❖ Searching for “byzantine ivory” produces more than 140 results
- ❖ “illuminated manuscript,” or “romanesque,” or “gothic” will return more than 1000 images each

HELPFUL BROWSING CATEGORIES

ARTstor’s collections may be browsed in a number of ways. For instance, the Art History Survey Collection may be browsed by stylistic period, region, and/or medium – e.g. “Italian Romanesque Architecture and Sculpture” or “French Gothic Architecture and Architectural Sculpture.” Similarly, the Hartill Archive of Architecture and Allied Arts may be browsed by period and country. You may also browse across all of ARTstor’s collections by geography or object classification, so that those specializing in specific areas within Medieval Studies may access images relevant to their primary interests. For example, you can browse ARTstor for “Architecture and City Planning” and then expand that browsing category to narrow the set down to “Germany.” Alternatively, you can start by browsing geographically first, such as selecting “Netherlands” or “Ireland” from a controlled list of countries, and then choosing the category for “Manuscripts and Manuscript Illuminations.”

Image Credits:

- 1) Antichrist: detail of *Livre de la Vigne nostre Seigneur*, early 1460's | French | Bodleian Library, University of Oxford
- 2) Double-Sided Pendant Icon with the Virgin and Christ Pantokrator, ca. 1080 | Byzantine | The Image Gallery
- 3) Personification of Ktisis, first half of 6th century | Byzantine | The Image Gallery
- 4) Plaque with the Crucifixion and the Stabbing of Hades, mid-10th century | Byzantine | The Image Gallery