

MODERN + MEDIEVAL : PLAYING WITH MOTIFS

REFERENCES

BOOKS:

THE BIBLE OF ILLUMINATED LETTERS: A treasury of Decorative Calligraphy, by Margaret Morgan. Visual references and alphabets. Highly recommend if you are interested in the medieval style.

HORTUS EYSTETTENSIS: The Bishop's Garden and Besler's Magnificent Book, by Nicolas Barker. The painting and calligraphy in this reprint of a 1613 book by the apothecary / botanist Basilius Besler are a treasure of inspiration. This was before most hybridization of plants and I have enjoyed comparing these plants to those in my own garden and studying the calligraphic hands he employs.

PATTERN DESIGN, by Lewis F. Day - a classic from the era when everything was hand done. This book will help you understand the elements of doing a repeat, whether you're doing an original or working on a computer.

ARTHUR BAKER'S HISTORIC CALLIGRAPHIC ALPHABETS- A Dover book with excellent large exemplars.

WEBSITES to use as springboards for creativity:

The manuscript dated from 1522 for La Operina, done in cancellarescha, a script italic:

<https://archive.org/details/laoperinadiludou00arri/page/n47/mode/2up?view=theater>

The Royal Horticultural Society has wonderful botanical resources from all eras.

https://collections.rhs.org.uk/?_gl=1*1ledodb*_ga*NDk2MDAyMjkyLjE2OTI0MTkzNDc.*_ga_X9Q3NCQ40M*MTY5MjQxOTM0Ny4xLjEuMTY5MjQxOTU2Mi4wLjAuMA..*_fplc*Y3lrOFdwUnAyMiUyRmZMQ2prWGFVMUp0MkRvJTJGMzR3VjNkNHJvSDBtOTV6dyUyRlF5a2xQdzFQV1E4b0Vxb2JCNHRmVzY2YnQIMkZkcEQ4RzhZUXU1V3hnV2glMkJKJTJC OFFKVzZSYTVrcXgySHJSN1JRU0oyczRQVmh0RXJscjV4ZTFHVjdRJTNEJTNE

Entire manuscript of a 15th Century book of hours:

<https://images.is.ed.ac.uk/luna/servlet/view/group/36>

Bible Historiale - entire manuscript from the University of Edinburgh:

[https://collections.rhs.org.uk/?
_gl=1*1ledodb*_ga*NDk2MDAyMjkyLjE2OTI0MTkzNDc.*_ga_X9Q3NCQ40M*MTY5MjQxOTM0Ny4xLjEuMTY5MjQxOTU2Mi4wLjAuMA.*_fplc*Y3lrOFdwUnAyMiUyRmZMQ2prWGFVMUp0MkRvJTJGMzR3VjNkNHJvSDBtOTV6dyUyRlF5a2xQdzFQV1E4b0Vxb2JC NHRmVzY2YnQIMkZkcEQ4RzhZUXU1V3hnV2glMkJKJTJCOFFKVzZSYTVrcXgySHJSN1JRU0oyczRQVmh0RXJscjV4ZTFHVjdRJTNEJTNE](https://collections.rhs.org.uk/?_gl=1*1ledodb*_ga*NDk2MDAyMjkyLjE2OTI0MTkzNDc.*_ga_X9Q3NCQ40M*MTY5MjQxOTM0Ny4xLjEuMTY5MjQxOTU2Mi4wLjAuMA.*_fplc*Y3lrOFdwUnAyMiUyRmZMQ2prWGFVMUp0MkRvJTJGMzR3VjNkNHJvSDBtOTV6dyUyRlF5a2xQdzFQV1E4b0Vxb2JC NHRmVzY2YnQIMkZkcEQ4RzhZUXU1V3hnV2glMkJKJTJCOFFKVzZSYTVrcXgySHJSN1JRU0oyczRQVmh0RXJscjV4ZTFHVjdRJTNEJTNE)

The University of Missouri library has some fabulous special collections, which are accessible to the public. Here's a rabbit hole for you to explore:

<https://library.missouri.edu/specialcollections/exhibits>

Examples from the University of Missouri's collection:

<https://muspeccoll.tumblr.com/post/122962293680/last-week-i-reblogged-juan-de-yciars-calligraphy>

<https://library.missouri.edu/specialcollections/exhibits/show/fragmenta-manuscripta/home>

<https://library.missouri.edu/specialcollections/exhibits/show/fragmenta-manuscripta/manuscript-decoration>

Album amicorum - a medieval friendship album:

https://images.is.ed.ac.uk/luna/servlet/detail/UoEwmm~2~2~41064~102091?qvq=q%3AAlbum%20Amicorum%3Bsort%3Awork_creator_name%2Cwork_shelfmark%2Cwork_source_page_no%2Cwork_title%3Blc%3AUoEwmm~2~2&mi=18&trs=767

The University of Aberdeen Bestiary:

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/bestiary/>

The St. John's Bible is arguably the most exceptional example of a modern take on medieval manuscript. Below is the official website, but one can easily find many images by simply googling or looking on Pinterest.

<https://saintjohnsbible.org/>

Arcabas - A town near Grenoble that features works by Jean-Marie Pirot-Arcabas that are very modern but inspired by medieval sacred texts:

<http://www.arcabas.com/accueil/index.php?lalangue=uk>

I've made Pinterest boards for you with various images you might like to refer to:

<https://www.pinterest.com/sharynsowell/modern-+-medieval-arcabas/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/sharynsowell/st-johns-bible/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/sharynsowell/medieval-manuscripts/>