# The Digital Archive Process in Relation to the Creation of Medieval Manuscripts

CONNOR RESETAR
STUDENT SNAPSHOT SYMPOSIUM 2024

Image Bologna, ca. 1180 | SBB, Msc.Can.13, fol. 69. https://www.staatsbibliothek-bamberg.de/en/historical-collections/manuscripts/

# INTRO: DIGILAB AND ME

- Start working at DigiLab as an imaging assistant.

- Really love the calm environment and repetitive tasks of the job.

- Learn about Medieval Monks in a history course.
  - What do monks love? Calm environments and repetitive tasks…
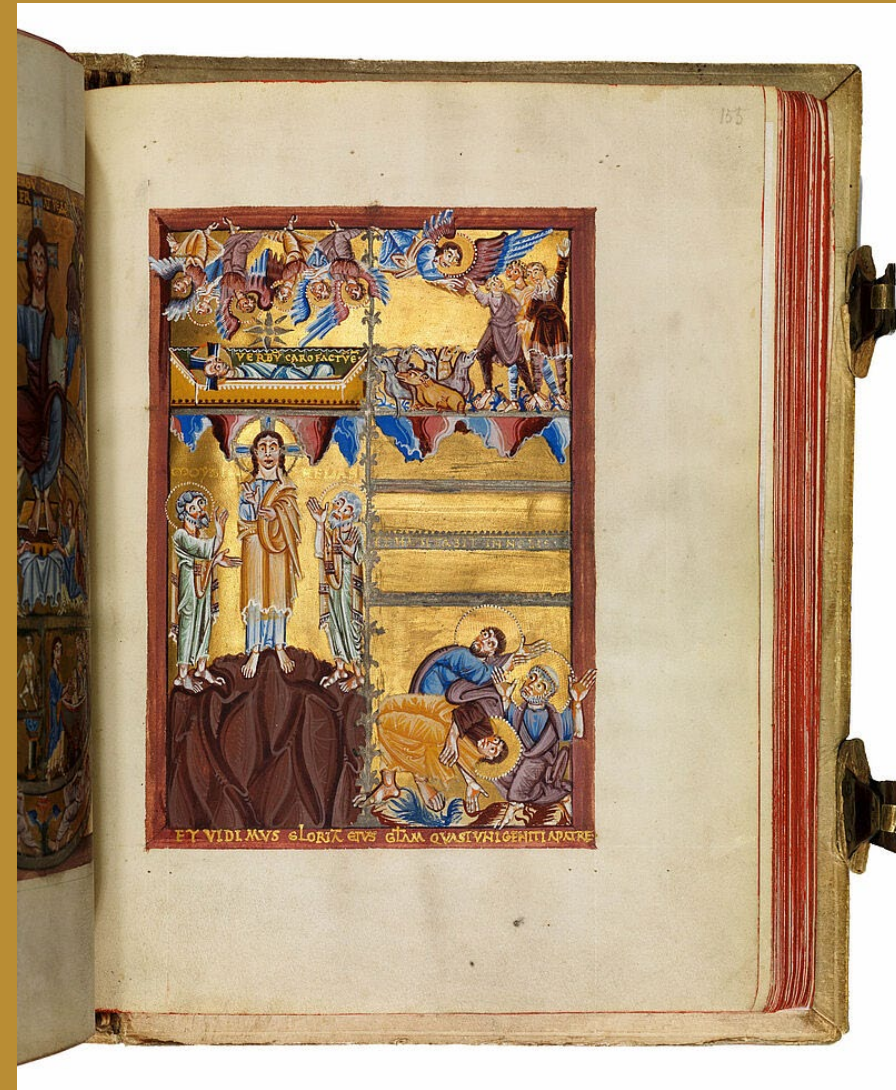
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- AM I A MONK?!!?

# WHAT DO MONKS DO?

- Create Manuscripts!
  - First ever books (debatably).
  - Created for a specific audience.
  - Took significant time and resources.
  - Features reflect the desires of the reader who ordered it.



Cologne, 2nd quarter of the 11th century | SBB, Msc.Bibl.94, fol. 155r

# HOW ARE WE SIMILAR?

## Workflow and Processing Tutorials [edit]

### Initial Steps [edit]

- Workflow Documentation
  - Project to Digitize from Partners
  - Scanned From Partners Workflow
  - Ongoing Serials
  - Project Documentation
- Name and organize files
- Standards by Item
- Item Scanning Sequences
- Magick Filenames
- Microfilm Scanning Workflow
- Workflow for Scanning & Processing Books with an Opticbook

### Processing [edit]

- Batch Create Folders and Rename Files
- Processing Books with Scan Tailor v.0.9.10rc1
- Books: Integrating Oversized Pages
- How to copy CDs and DVDs
- How to Sort Files for OCR
- Resources to learn color theory and correction
- How to rename files with Bridge Recipes

### Special Features in Photoshop [edit]

- Use Color Select
- Create Actions
- Create Keyboard Shortcuts
- Set Classic Crop
- Stitching
- How to Take out Moire
- How to Photo Merging

### Troubleshooting [edit]

- Handling Pages with Overlays

# DOCUMENTATION

- Left – Screenshot of the Digital Projects Unit Wiki

  - Detailed instructions of workflows, often with pictures accompanying

- Right – The "Bamberg Schreiberbild"

  - manuscript page that illustrates the manual steps of production of a medieval book

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# THE PROCESSES

Some broad connections.

# PREPARATION

- Manuscript:
  - Work with patron or institution to understand their needs

# PREPARATION



- Manuscript:
  - Work with patron or institution to understand their needs

- Lab:
  - Managers organize projects with partners

# PREP THE PAGES

- Manuscript:
  - Make parchment
  - Cut out the pages
  - Mark rule lines on the page

# PREP THE IMAGES

- Manuscript:
  - Make parchment
  - Cut out the pages
  - Mark rule lines on the page

- Lab:
  - Scan the images
  - Process the images

# WORDS AND WRITING

- Manuscript:
  - Write the text
  - Correct the text
  - Decorate the text

# WORDS AND WRITING





- Manuscript:
  - Write the text
  - Correct the text
  - Decorate the text

- Lab:
  - OCR – Write the text
  - Metadata – describe the text



## Fields

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Title** | 3 | Citation | 3 |
| Creator | 2 | Relation | 1 |
| Contributor | 4 | Collection | 1 |
| Publisher | 1 | Institution | 1 |
| Date | 1 | Rights | 0 |
| Language | 1 | Resource Type | 1 |
| Description | 2 | Format | 1 |
| Subject | 7 | Identifier | 3 |
| Primary Source | 1 | Degree | 0 |
| Coverage | 3 | Note | 1 |
| Source | 0 | Meta | 6 |

# FINISHING

- Manuscript:
  - Bind the book
  - Ready for use!

# FINISHING

- Manuscript:
  - Bind the book
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- Lab:
  - Upload to the Portal
  - Ready for use!



## The Portal to Texas History

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# MEDIEVAL BOOK REPOSITORIES

- Similarity:
  - Books had unique identifiers that could be listed in catalogues

- Differences:
  - Chained libraries
  - Curses

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# CONNECTED ACROSS TIME

- The monk Eadberct wrote:
  - **"Three fingers write, but the whole body toils"**

# CONNECTED ACROSS TIME

- The monk Eadberct wrote:
  - **"Three fingers write, but the whole body toils"**
- A text I sent to my friend while working:

October 23, 2023, 10:37 AM

losing my mind at the lab rn

my tummy hurts and im not being very brave about it

# SOURCES

- Bamberg State Library, Opera varia mit sogenanntem Bamberger Schreiberbild - Staatsbibliothek Bamberg Msc.Patr.5, fols 1v. https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bvb:22-dtl-0000025604

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