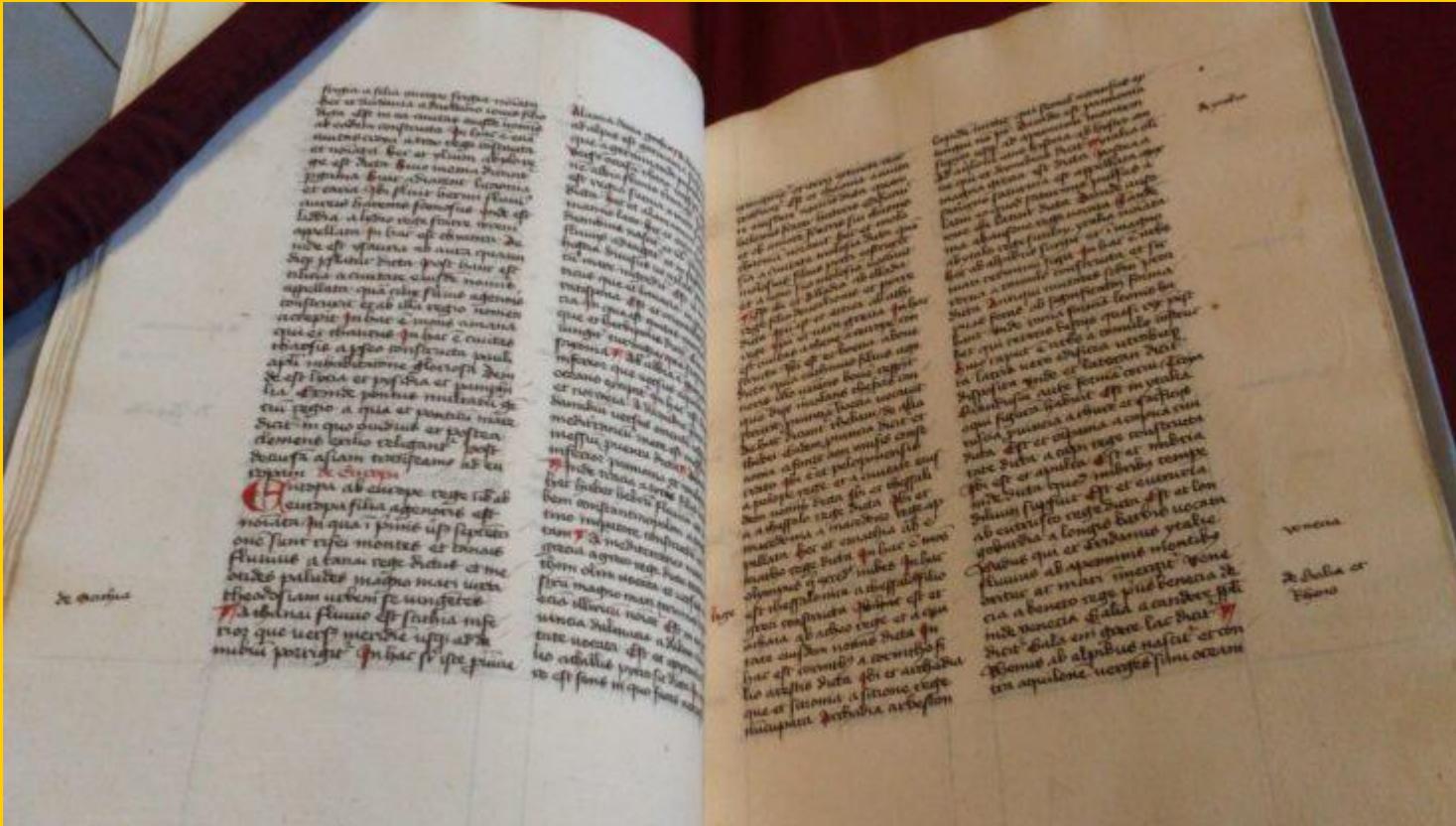




The Manuscript Context of the *Imago mundi* and the Question of Genre



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Defining 'Europe' in Medieval European Geographical Discourse

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The project will show how the *Image of the World*, one of the most influential texts in European intellectual history which described the world as it was known (or imagined), contributed to the development of the idea of Europe.

The project has two primary objectives:

- to understand the medieval geographical definition of Europe
- to establish how this definition spread in the period 1110–1500

The project will examine the descriptions of Europe in the geographical section of *Imago mundi*, an encyclopedic text written in Latin in the twelfth century, and in its medieval European vernacular translations. In addition, it will address the issue of how the description of Europe might have changed in the course of transmission across linguistic, cultural and political boundaries, by including vernacular texts loosely based on the *Imago mundi*, as well as texts that constitute translations in the conventional sense of the word.

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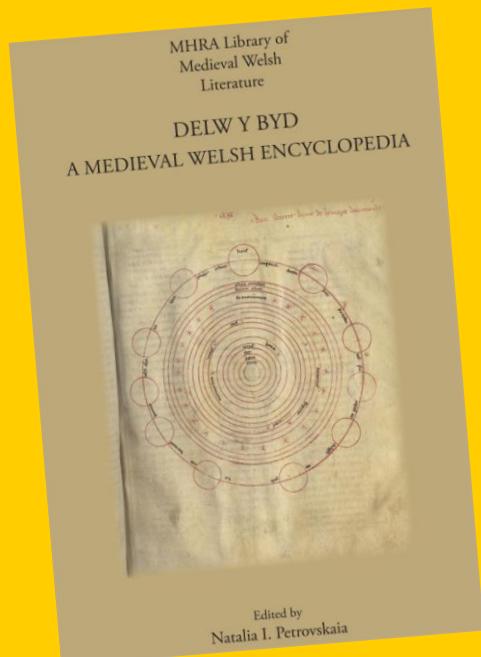
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‘Any discussion of medieval encyclopedias must begin by defining terms, because “encyclopedia” is not a medieval word.’ – Michael Twomey, ‘Middle English Translations of Medieval Encyclopedias’, p. 331

‘No study of premodern encyclopedism can begin without acknowledging one intractable problem. The word *encyclopedia* is not classical or medieval; it is a coinage of the Renaissance.’ – Mary Franklin-Brown, *Reading the World*, p. 8



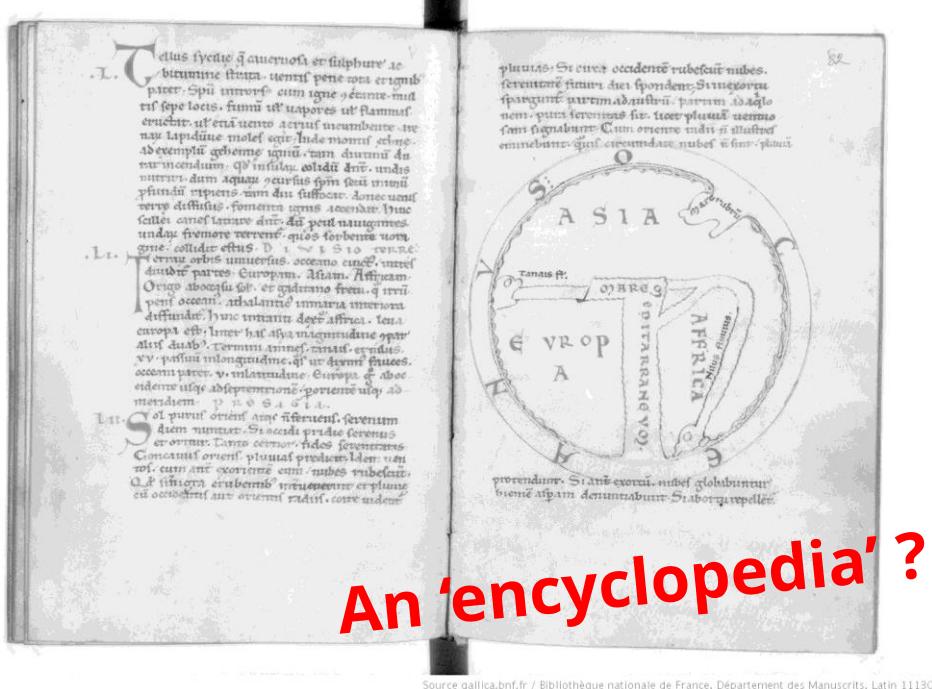
Genre
vs
convenient label

‘Le plus grand encyclopédiste du Moyen Age est le troisième des fondateurs, l’Espagnol Isidore de Séville (vers 570-636)’

– Le Goff, Jacques, *L’Europe est-elle née au Moyen Age?*, p. 31



Imago mundi



Source gallica.bnf.fr / Bibliothèque nationale de France. Département des Manuscrits. Latin 11130

'Encyclopedias such as Honorius of Autun's *Elucidarium* and his *Imago mundi*, Alexander Neckam's *De naturis rerum*, and Bartholomeus Anglicus's *De proprietatibus rerum* were regularly found in monastic and cathedral libraries...' – Kellie Robertson, *Nature Speaks*, p. 354 n. 12

'Medieval books of encyclopaedic proportions were called by the Latin words *speculum*, *imago mundi*, *de proprietatibus rerum*, *elucidarium*, *compendium*, *thesaurus*, *liber floridus*, or their vernacular equivalents. These terms suggest a cornucopia of knowledge contained between two covers. But despite the pretence of completeness expressed in such titles, the medieval encyclopaedia, like its modern counterpart, was intended as a prolegomenon to further study, not as a self-contained education.' – Michael Twomey, 'Towards a Reception History of Western Medieval Encyclopedias', p. 340

Honorius Augustodunensis (ca. 1090- ca.1130/40)

•1110, 1123, 1133, 1139

•3 Books

Book I : Space

Book II: Time

Book III: History



Utrecht University

Imago mundi family of texts

about

Images of the World

Manuscripts Database of the Imago Mundi tradition

A circular manuscript illustration depicting a world map. The map shows continents in blue and green, with various landscapes including forests, fields, and bodies of water. There are also several small figures and buildings, such as castles and towns, scattered across the map.

? Search

Language Country of origin Current country

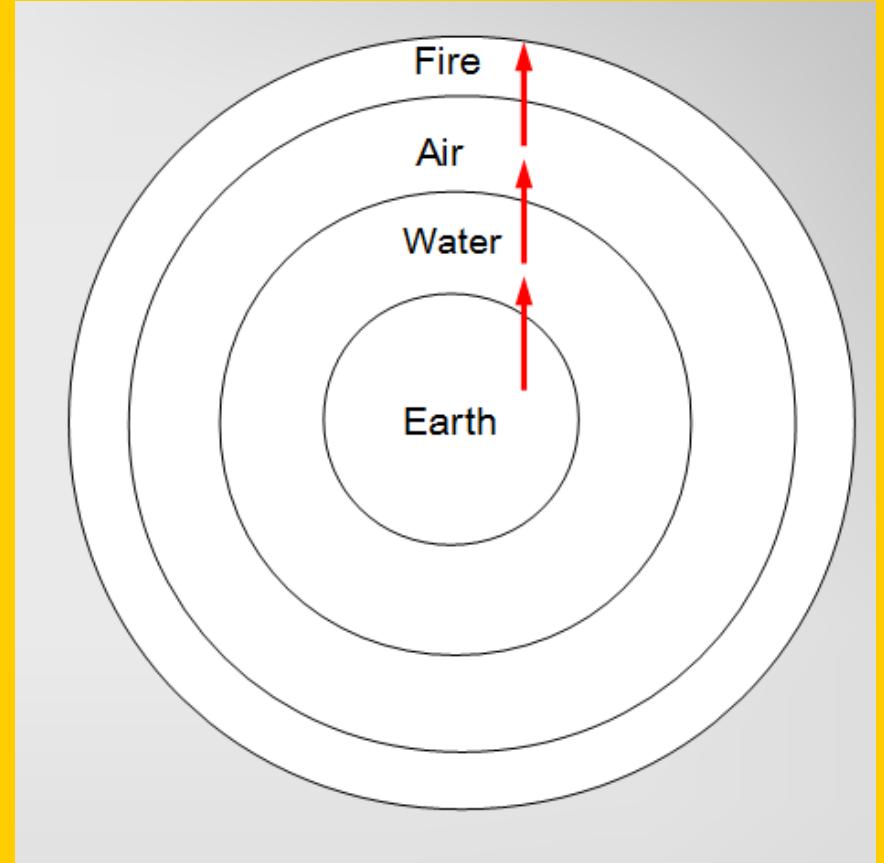
date from date until Reset Filters



Imago mundi I.3: 'De elementis'

Ex his terra ut puta gravissima imum, ignis ut
puta levissimus supremum optinet locum, alia
duo medium, quasi quoddam soliditatis
vinculum, quorum aqua gravior terrae
proximum, aer levior igni proximum possidet
locum.

- Valerie I. J. Flint, ed., *Honorius Augustodunensis. Imago Mundi*, Archives
d'histoire doctrinale et littéraire du Moyen Âge 49 (Paris: Vrin, 1983), p. 50



'Out of these, the earth, holds the lowest place as it is the heaviest, and fire the lightest holds the uppermost place; the other two hold the middle place, like some bond of solid matter, of which the water being heavier occupies the place which is closest to the earth, [and] the air being lighter has a place closer to the fire'

(my translation)



Overview

The "Images of the World" Manuscripts Database of the Imago Mundi Tradition is part of the 3-year research project *Defining 'Europe' in Medieval European Geographical Discourse: the Image of the World and its Legacy, 1110-1500*, funded by *the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)* under the *Innovational Research Incentives Scheme VENI*. The project commenced on February 1, 2017, at *The Institute for Cultural Inquiry (ICON), Faculty of Humanities* at Utrecht University.

The database includes over 350 manuscripts containing the Imago Mundi of Honorius Augustodunensis and its vernacular adaptations. Manuscripts containing fragments, extracts, and extensive quotations in compilations are also included. Vernacular texts loosely based on the Imago mundi, as well as texts that constitute translations in the conventional sense of the word are included in the database. (For a full list of texts currently included, see below).

The database is intended both a tool for researchers interested in the Imago Mundi tradition and a way of presenting the results of the Defining Europe project. One of the goals of the project is to establish how the medieval geographical definition of Europe as found in the Imago Mundi spread in the period 1110-1500. The dissemination of Honorius's text through Europe is thus a central interest of the database. The manuscript catalogue presented in the database is thus complemented by an interactive map, permitting the user to track the historical locations of individual manuscripts (where known).



Manuscript contexts of the *Imago mundi*

- . Other works by Honorius, works by Anselm (when mis-attributed to Anselm), etc.
- . Historiographical texts (particularly with Book III)
- . Geographical texts: *Itinerarii*, descriptions of the Holy Land (particularly with Book I)
- . Bede, Thomas of Cantimpre (*de nat. r.*), and other encyclopaedic works
- . In one case (Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, 113, s. XIII), attr. To Anselm and follows a compendium of Aristotle
- . Religious works, devotional works.



Example 1: London, British Library, Royal 12 C xix (s. xiii)

IM (extract) at ff. 1r.-24v

X Imago Mundi	
	Overview Details Historical locations Images
date from	1200
date until	1210
current location country	United Kingdom
current location town	London
address current location	96 Euston Rd, London NW1 2DB, United Kingdom
place of origin country	United Kingdom
place of origin town	Central or Northern England
chapters	Book I.1-2
incipit	Mundus dicitur...; Prima estas in exordio sui...
explicit	None
attributions of author	None
decorations	None
content	Genesis II.1-17 ff.2r-2v; Etymologies XII.i, vii (Isidore of Seville) ff.3r-4r; Sermo qualiter peccator deo placare valeat ff.4-5v; Bestiary ff.6r-94v; Etymologies XIV.i, ii, iii-v (Isidore of Seville) ff.94v-100r; Semon on allegory ff.100r-102v; Medical recipes in French ff.102v-108r; Medical recipes in Latin ff.108v-112r.
bibliography	Two East Anglian Picture Books: A Facsimile of the Helmingham Herbal and Bestiary and Bodleian Ms. Ashmole 1504, ed. by Nicholas Barker (London 1988) 5; F. Saxl and H. Meier, Catalogue of Astrological and Mythological Illuminated Manuscripts of the Latin Middle Ages , vol. 3, Manuscripts in English Libraries, Parts 1 and 2, (London 1953) 197; Nigel Morgan, Early Gothic Manuscripts, 2 vols, A Survey of Manuscripts Illuminated in the British Isles, 4 (London 1982-1988) I: 1190-1250, no. 13; Ron Baxter, Bestiaries and Their Users in the Middle Ages (Stroud 1998) 100, 110, 117-24, 147, 170. Digital access: http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/Viewer.aspx?ref=royal_ms_12_c_xix_f001r
notes	The manuscript (with the exception of the latin medical recipes on ff.108v-112r) is a direct copy of the Worksop Bestiary, New York, Pierpont Morgan Library, M. 81



Example 2: Melk, Stiftsbibliothek, 248 / 168, D 23 (ca. 1200)

X Imago Mundi - version Christianus

IM at ff. 1r.-24v

	Overview	Details	Historical locations	Images
date from	1200			
date until	1200			
current location country	Austria			
current location town	Melk			
address current location	Abt-Berthold-Dietmayr-Straße 1, 3390 Melk, Austria			
place of origin country	Austria			
place of origin town	Melk			
chapters	None			
incipit	None			
explicit	None			
attributions of author	None			
decorations	None			
content	De gradibus humilitatis et superbiae (Bernardus Claravallensis) ff.25r-41v; Apologia ad Guillelmum abbatem (Bernardus Claravallensis) ff. 41v-48v; sermons of Hugo de Sancto Victore ff.48v-49v; sermones (Drogo OSB) ff.50r-55v; Sermo "Ad solvendum" (ps. Bernardus Claravallensis) ff.55v-57v; De gratia et libero arbitrio (Bernardus Claravallensis) ff.57v-69v; passages from Hieronymus ff.70r-71r; De praecepto et dispensatione (Bernardus Claravallensis) ff.71r-84v; Epistola 42 De moribus et officio episcoporum (Bernardus Claravallensis) 84v-94r			
bibliography	Vinzenz Staufer, Catalogus codicum manu scriptorum, qui in bibliotheca monasterii Mellicensis O.S.B. servantur I. (Vienna 1889) 265 f; V. Flint, 'Honorius Augustodunensis "Imago Mundi"', Archives d'histoire doctrinale et littéraire du moyen âge 57 (1982) 7-153, 21-22; Christine Gläßner, Inventar der Handschriften des Benediktinerstiftes Melk, Teil 1: Von den Anfängen bis ca. 1400, unter Mitarbeit von Alois Hädinger. Katalog- und Registerband (Wien 2000) 134-137. Digital access: http://manuscripta.at/diglit/AT6000-248/1/thumbs			
notes	None			



Vienna, Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, 813 (s. xiii-xiv)

X Imago Mundi

IM at ff. 76v-130r

	Overview	Details	Historical locations	Images
date from	1240			
date until	1400			
current location country	Austria			
current location town	Vienna			
address current location	Josefsplatz 1, 1015 Wien, Austria			
place of origin country	Autria			
place of origin town	Aggsbach			
chapters	None			
incipit	None			
explicit	None			
attributions of author	None			
decorations	None			
content	Expositio orationis dominicae ff.1v-51r; Tractatus super Job (Petrus Blesensis) ff.52r-73r; Quatuordecim hexametri latini de virtutibus, qui recto lecti totidem votiorum sensa exprimunt f.74v; De miseria humanae conditionis (Innocentius III) ff.131r-164r; De animabus ff.164v-167r; De pascha domini ff.167r-169v; Exempla de Beata Maria Virgine ff.169v-174v; Genealogia Bibliae (Petrus Pictaviensis) ff.175r-186r.			
bibliography	Tabulae codicum manu scriptorum, praeter graecos et orientales in Bibliotheca Palatina Vindobonensi asservatorum. Edidit Academia Caesarea Vindobonensis. Vol. I: Cod. 1-2000. (Wien 1864) 137; Franz Unterkircher, Inventar der illuminierten Handschriften, Inkunabeln und Frühdrucke der Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek. Teil 1: Die abendländischen Handschriften (Museion. Veröffentlichungen der Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek, N.F. II,2,1). (Wien 1957) 26; Paul Uiblein, 'Zum Katalog der datierten Handschriften in lateinischer Schrift in Österreich', Scriptorium 25 (1971) 84-96: 93, 95.			
notes	None			



London, British Library, Arundel 123 (s. xiv)

x Imago Mundi

IM at ff. 24-33

	Overview	Details	Historical locations	Images
date from	1300			
date until	1400			
current location country	United Kingdom			
current location town	London			
address current location	96 Euston Rd, London NW1 2DB, United Kingdom			
place of origin country	?			
place of origin town				
chapters	Book I (without De Signis and De Coelo)			
incipit	None			
explicit	None			
attributions of author	None			
decorations	None			
content	Geographia universalis (Isidor of Sevilla) ff.5-22; Quaedam de orbis dimensione -ex Prisciano in Cosmographia (Priscianus, Caesareensis) ff.22v-24; Romances and fabulous histories ff.33-43; Alexander Magnus, Rex Macedonum f.43; De vita et morte Alexandri Magni liber fabulosus (Aesopus, Phryx) ff.43-71; Epistola ad Alexandrum de sanitate servanda, a Joanne Hispalensi translata (Johannes Hispalensis) ff.71v-73; De rege Alexandro et origine ejus ex libro Hermeri de dictis philosophorum (Hermerus) ff.71v-81v; Quaedam philosophorum dicta (Hermerus) ff.81v-95; Responsa ad queestioncular Imperatoris Hadriani f.95.	<i>Regimen sanitatis Salernitanum</i>		
bibliography	Catalogue of the Manuscripts of the British Museum. New Series. I. The Arundel Manuscripts (London 1834) 29.			
notes	None			



Graz, Universitätsbibliothek, Ms 303 (s. xv)

X Imago Mundi	
	Overview
	Details
	Historical locations
	Images
date from	1420
date until	1420
current location country	Austria
current location town	Graz
address current location	Universitätsplatz 3a, 8010 Graz, Austria
place of origin country	Austria
place of origin town	St. Lambrecht
chapters	Book III
incipit	De origine mundi. Non arbitror infructuosam seriem temporum...
explicit	... Marcus evangelium scripsit
attributions of author	None
decorations	None
content	Legenda aureau sive historia Lombardica (Jacobus de Voragine) ff.1r-324v; Decalogus summorum pontificum ff.325r-326v; Provinciale ff.326v-335r; Indulgeniae lucranda in clesis urbia Romae ff.335r-336r; De situ et mirabilibus Hierosolymorum ff.336r-338r; Regimen sanitatis ad regem Aragoniae (Arnoldus de Villanova) ff.345r-360r; Dieta (Thaddaeus Florentinus) ff.360r-361r; verse (Arnoldus de Villanova) ff.361v-362r; Pharetra fidei contra Judaeos (Theobaldus de Saxonia) ff.362r-369r; De erroribus Iudeorum (Theobaldus de Saxonia) ff.369r-375r; Disputatio adversus Judaeos, anonymo interprete (Anastasius Sinaita) ff.375r-380r; De articulis fidei et ecclesiae sacramentis (Thomas de Aquino) ff.380r-388r; Expositio orationis dominicae (Thomas de Aquino) ff.388r-391r; Expositio super symbolum apostolorum (Thomas de Aquino) ff.391v-406r; Meditaciones (Ps. Bernardus Claravallensis) ff.406r-417v.
bibliography	Othmar Wonisch, 'Die St. Lambrecht-Grazer Handschriften', Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen 35 (1918) 64-72, 68.
notes	Note in catalogue: 'Vgl. Frag UB 550, 143b' - ?!

IM at ff. 338r-345r

*Delw y Byd*

Oxford, Bodleian Library, Rawlinson B 467 (ss. xiv/xv)

X Delw y Byd - version B

Overview Details Historical locations Images

**Extracts
at ff. 70v-72v**

date from	1390
date until	1410
current location country	United Kingdom
current location town	Oxford
address current location	Broad St, Oxford OX1 3BG, United Kingdom
place of origin country	United Kingdom
place of origin town	Wales
chapters	Book I.38-41, 59-63.
incipit	?
explicit	?
attributions of author	None
decorations	None
content	Medical treatises including Llyvyr y Meddyginaethau.
bibliography	W. D. Macray, Catalogi codicorum manuscriptorum Bibliothecæ Bodleianæ...viri munificentissimi Ricardi Rawlinson, J.C.D., codicum...complectens (Oxford 1862-1900) 693; Alexander Falileyev, 'Delw y Byd Revisited', <i>Studia celtica</i> 54 (2010) 71-78; Natalia Petrovskaia, 'Delw y Byd: une traduction médiévale en gallois d'une encyclopédie latine et la création d'un traité géographique', <i>Études Celtiques</i> 39 (2013) 257-277; Natalia Petrovskaia, Medieval Welsh Perceptions of the Orient (Turnhout 2015) 9-10. Digital access: https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/inquire/p/3daa9236-fc9c-400e-a66e-1996243ae068
notes	None



Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. 668 (ca. 1350-1400)

X Imago Mundi

Overview Details Historical locations Images

IM at ff. 100-104r

date from	1350
date until	1400
current location country	Austria
current location town	Admont
address current location	Kirchplatz 1, 8911 Admont, Austria
place of origin country	Austria
place of origin town	Admont
chapters	Book I
incipit	Ad instructionem rusticorum... Mundus dicitur...
explicit	None
attributions of author	None
decorations	None
content	Liber de arte fidei christianaee ff.1r-7r; Definitiones communium vocabulorum ff.7r-10r; Summa de sacramentis ff.10r-28r; Summa de divinis officiis (Johannes Beletti) ff.28r-71v; Tractatus de dispensationibus (Johannes de Deo) ff.71v-88r; Flores decretorum ff.88r-100r; Summa metrica de rebus ecclesiastibus ff.104r-128.
bibliography	Wilhelm Wattenbach, 'Reise nach Österreich in den Jahren 1847, 1848, 1849', Archiv der Gesellschaft für ältere deutsche Geschichtskunde 10 (1851) 426-693, 643; Jakob Wichner, Catalogus codicuum manu scriptorum Admontensis (handschriftlich) (Admont 1888) 257;
notes	None



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- Twomey, Michael, 'Towards a Reception History of Western Medieval Encyclopedias in England before 1500', in P. Binkley, ed., *Pre-Modern Encyclopaedic Texts: Proceedings of the second Comers Congress, Groningen, 1–4 July 1996* (Leiden: Brill, 1997), pp. 329–362