

Reference Code MS 20 (formerly MS 020)

Repository: Georgia Room, Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System, 823 Telfair Street, Augusta, Ga 30901

Title: Illuminated Manuscript

Date: 1500-1550

Extent: 1 oversized folder containing a single parchment or vellum folio (four pages) sheet measuring 49 cm x 70 cm. Hand lettered front and back. It constitutes a folio from an unknown codex. See attached.

Name of Creator: Mrs. Emily Remington, founder and director of the Augusta Choral Society (1950-1976).

Administrative/Biographical: The manuscript was donated to the Augusta Public Library on December 4, 1963. Mrs. Remington bought the manuscript, along with others like it, from a vendor at the Toledo Cathedral, in Toledo, Spain, in the summer of 1963. The vendor informed Mrs. Remington the manuscript was designed and hand-lettered on parchment in 1609 by monks at the Cathedral of Toledo Spain.

In 2015, it was decided to have the illuminated manuscript further analyzed to determine its origins. Mr. Robert Hester, music historian and graduate of Augusta University took on the task of seeking experts in the field of illuminated manuscripts. Michael Noone, Chair of the Music Department at Boston College; Charles Edwin Puckett, dealer in antique manuscripts; and Phil Barber of Cambridge, Massachusetts, who specializes in fine paper collectables, all agreed the library's manuscript did not originate in Toledo, Spain.

Mr. Plunkett judged the manuscript to be of Italian origin, based on the four-line staves and the style of the calligraphy. He dates it from 1500-1550.

Michael Noone dismissed the assertion of the manuscript being created in Spain, claiming five-line staves were used in Toledo manuscripts, as were all such manuscripts produced throughout Spain.

See MS 20 Analysis of Illuminated Manuscript.

Conditions governing access: Restrictions under supervision of library staff.

Related Resources:

Michael Noone and Graeme Skinner, "Toledo Cathedral's Collection of Manuscript Choirbooks: A Preliminary Report and Checklist," *Notes: Quarterly Journal of the Music Library Association*, Second Series, Vol. 63, No. 2 (December 2006): 289-328.

Barbara Drake Boehm, *Choir of Angels: Painting in Italian Choir Books, 1300-1500* (New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2009).

Charles Edwin Plunkett, "Antique Dealers," *International Organization of Antiques Dealers*, <http://www.antiquescouncil.com/antiques/index.php?page=out&id=49>

MS 20, Folder 1:

Psalm 69, verse 4

Liber Usualis, page 299

Thursday at Compline

Avertantur retrorsum et erubescant, qui volunt (cogitate) mihi mala.

Let them be turned backwards and put to shame that wish me evil.

Psalm 71, verses 12 and 1 [fragment]

Liber Usualis, page 638

Maundy Thursday

Matins in the 2nd Nocturne

Liberavit Dominus pauperem a potente, et inopem, cui erat adjutor. Deus, iudicium.

Shall deliver the poor from the mighty; and the needy, whose sign was to help him. God, justice.

Psalm 72, verse 8

Liber Usualis, page 639

Maundy Thursday

Matins in the 2nd Nocturne

Cogiaverunt et locuti sunt nequitiam; iniquitatem in excelso locuti sunt.

They have thought and spoken wickedness; violence against loftily.

Psalm 72, verse 1 [fragment] and Psalm 142, verse 4 [fragment]

Liber Usualis, pages 640 and 1743

November 2 at Compline[?]

Quam bonus, in me turbatum est cor meum.

How good is [it that?] my heart within me is troubled.