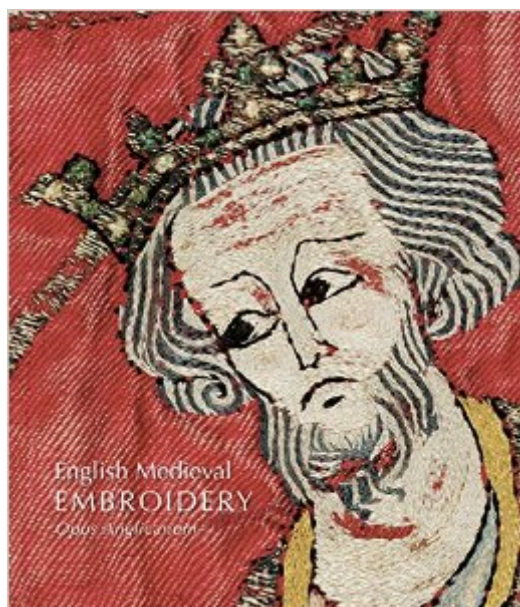


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English Medieval Embroidery: Opus Anglicanum



Synopsis

In medieval Europe, embroidered textiles were indispensable symbols of wealth and power. Owing to their quality, complexity, and magnificence, English embroideries enjoyed international demand and can be traced in Continental sources as *opus anglicanum* (English work). This sumptuously illustrated book draws on new research and detailed photography to offer an introduction to their design, production, and use. Essays by leading experts explore the embroideries' artistic and social context, while catalogue entries examine individual masterpieces. Medieval embroiderers lived in a tightly knit community in London, and many were women who can be identified by name today. Comparisons between their work and contemporary painting challenge modern assumptions about the hierarchy of artistic media. Contributors consider an outstanding range of surviving examples, highlighting their exquisite craftsmanship and exploring the world in which they were created.

Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press (October 18, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300222009

ISBN-13: 978-0300222005

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.6 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Best Sellers Rank: #329,285 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Textiles & Costume #166 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Embroidery #329 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Textile & Costume

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