

Art critique

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Art critique: illumination manuscript Illumination manuscript was an artistic style used to decorate handwritten books with silver or gold, miniature pictures, elaborate designs and brilliant colors. Different times had different styles and meanings of illuminated manuscripts. The Gothic and Romanesque define the actual elements or foundations of the illuminated manuscripts. The Romanesque period characterized with great focus on religion. The illuminated manuscripts of that time depicted great religious conviction. The artists used more decorations to show important religious figures and initials. In most cases, the illuminations covered greatest parts of the pages of Bibles (Gardner and Fred 19). The amount of illumination manuscripts was large to the extent of increasing the weight of Bible. The illuminated manuscripts of the time had brightly colored gold background. The decoration style limited to religion, and artists could only change by improving ability of the work to send more religious messages to people. The figures were flat and formed two dimensions and having draperies made to form geometric shapes.

The Gothic art such as those created by Simon Martini has few and small size texts in the pages. Large part of the Gothic manuscripts had gold, and rarely silver around the margins. The illumination during the Gothic period was moving from the Romanesque style that focused more on religious connotations. The Gothic manuscripts diversified and changed to catch up with the current events and environments. For instance, the Limbourg Brothers did a fantastic work by doing landscape painting (Gardner and Fred 33). The work was a sign of diversification of art to start appreciating the environmental phenomena.

Work cited

Gardner, Helen, and Fred S. Kleiner. *Gardners Art Through the Ages: A Concise Western History*. Boston: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2014. Print.