

## FACT SHEET

**Exhibition** *Apocalypse Then: Medieval Illuminations from the Morgan*

**Dates** **March 23 through June 17, 2007**

**Summary** In this exhibition, the Book of Revelation, in all of its complexity, is seen through the eyes of some of the greatest medieval illuminators. Drawn entirely from the Morgan's renowned collections, the show celebrates the completion of a facsimile of the Morgan's "Las Huelgas" Apocalypse and also includes examples from Spanish, French, Flemish, and Russian traditions.

**Content** The "Las Huelgas" Apocalypse is the largest and latest (1220) of a five-hundred-year series of medieval illuminated commentaries on the Apocalypse by the monk Beatus of Liébana. The series is considered Spain's most important contribution to medieval manuscript illumination. Visitors to the exhibition will have the rare opportunity to view fifty of the Las Huelgas miniatures because the manuscript was disbound for the preparation of the facsimile; the leaves will be displayed in their original order.

The exhibition also includes one of the earliest surviving illuminated manuscripts in the Spanish tradition. Written and illuminated by Maius about 945 in the famous tower scriptorium of the monastery of San Salvador de Tabara, it is the most important Spanish illuminated manuscript in the United States.

The Anglo-Norman Apocalypse cycle originated during the second quarter of the thirteenth century and is represented by a manuscript that was made in London (ca. 1250). Owned by the Morgan, it is considered to be among the earliest examples of this tradition. Also on view is an independent French cycle created for the great bibliophile Jean Duc de Berry (ca. 1415). It was illustrated by an anonymous artist who is named the Master of the Berry Apocalypse, after this manuscript. Two Flemish examples from the second half of the fifteenth century are also included in the exhibition.

A large group of Apocalypse manuscripts was produced in Russia from the sixteenth to the very early twentieth centuries, some having cycles of seventy-two miniatures. Two profusely illustrated examples, in Old Slavonic, will be on display. One dates from the eighteenth century; the other was one of the last made.

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<b>Organization</b>	The exhibition is organized by William M. Voelkle, Curator and Department Head, Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts, The Morgan Library & Museum.
<b>Education and Programs</b>	The Morgan offers a number of special programs held in conjunction with its exhibitions. For more information, please contact the Education department at (212) 590-0333.
<b>About the Morgan</b>	A complex of buildings in the heart of New York City, The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today it is a museum, independent research library, musical and performing arts venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. Nearly a century after its founding, the Morgan maintains a unique position in the cultural life of New York City and is considered one of its greatest treasures. With the 2006 opening of its expanded campus, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano, the Morgan reaffirmed its role as an important repository for the history, art, and literature of Western civilization from 4,000 B.C. to the twenty-first century.
<b>Hours and Location</b>	Tuesday to Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.  The Morgan is located 225 Madison Avenue between 36 and 37th streets, New York City.
<b>Admission</b>	Adults \$12; children (under 16) \$8; seniors (65 and over) \$8; students (with current ID) \$8; free to members and children 12 and under (must be accompanied by an adult). Admission is free on Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission to the McKim rooms is without charge during the following times: Tuesday, 3 to 5 p.m.; Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 4 to 6 p.m. Admission is not required to visit the Morgan Shop.
<b>General Information</b>	<b>(212) 685-0008</b> or <b><a href="http://www.themorgan.org">www.themorgan.org</a></b>

*For further information please contact Sandra Ho, Communications and Marketing department, (212) 590-0311, or at [media@themorgan.org](mailto:media@themorgan.org).*