

A MEDIEVAL MINIATURE

- IMAGE PRINTED ON NOTECARDS FOR LARGESS -

This is my first attempt at creating a miniature manuscript painting. As such, the materials are not purely period and I have simply attempted to re-create a period design. In the future, I plan to expand my creativity and use period examples to inform my own designs.

My project was based on the idea of creating an image that could be copied and printed on notecards, which will be presented to the Baron & Baroness of the Flame to gift as they see fit. I wanted the image to reflect various aspects of the SCA, to be something general that everyone could enjoy, and to reflect my 14th century persona. The original image was obtained from the book, *A History of Illuminated Manuscripts*.

Description of original image from *A History of Illuminated Manuscripts* (De Hamel 2006:10):

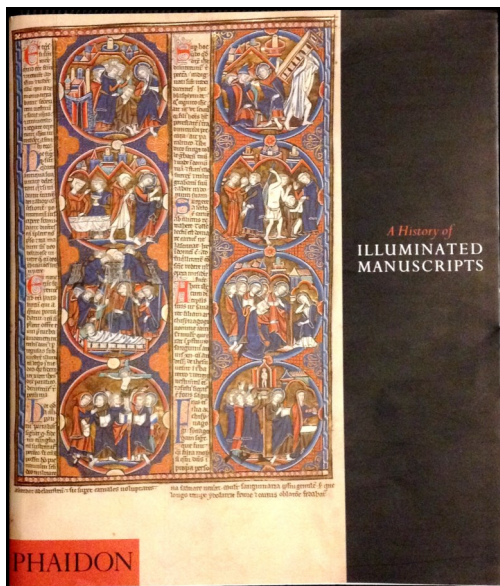
**Malibu, J. Paul Getty Museum,
MS. Ludwig XV.5, folio 148r, detail**

The *Roman du Bon Chevalier Tristan* is a prose romance about the knights of King Arthur. The miniature here shows Tristan leading a maiden into the forest where they find King Arthur held prisoner by two knights at the foot of a tower. The manuscript was made probably in Paris, c. 1330, for a wealthy secular patron.

I chose the image because it depicts a story that most people are familiar with and it fit within the 14th century period. Finally, the subject and details reflect the notion of The Dream.

Source:

De Hamel, Christopher. 2006: *A History of Illuminated Manuscripts*. New York: Phaidon Press Limited.



A History of Illuminated Manuscripts



The original image featured in *A History of Illuminated Manuscripts*

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The original document would have had a base of parchment or vellum. As a beginner, I used a medium-weight paper as a base. Instead of period pigments, I used black India ink and the following colors of gouache: Titanium White, Ivory Black, Cadmium Red, Phthalocyanine Blue, and Cadmium Yellow Light. I had a simple palate and mixed colors as necessary to achieve my desired results. My image was hand-drawn with pencil without using any tracing techniques. Next, I applied base coats of gouache and added more layers of gouache for dimensional effects. I used black India ink for outlines since the original has black outlines throughout the image. Instead of using period gold leaf for my first project, I used Antique Gold Brush 'n Leaf. My final touches were the white highlights (using white gouache) decorating the background, border, and clothing. I have included images that show the progression of my miniature:

