Royal Manuscripts: The Genius of Illumination is the British Library’s first major exhibition to focus on the Library’s Royal collection, a treasure trove of illuminated manuscripts associated with and collected by the kings and queens of England between the 9th and 16th centuries. The exhibition features manuscripts that are among the most outstanding examples of decorative and figurative painting from this era to survive in Britain today.

In connection with the exhibition, the Library will host a two-day international conference with eighteen speakers, each focusing on a different aspect of the Royal collection, including readers, scribes, genealogy, style, law, legend and history.

The research for this exhibition has been funded by a grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. Student bursaries generously supported by AMARC.

**Speakers**

- **Jade Bailey**, PhD candidate, University of Bristol, An Icon of Anglo-French Kingship? The Portrayal of Charlemagne in Text and Image in Royal 15 E. vi
- **Dr Alixe Bovey**, University of Kent, Royalty and the Smithfield Decretals
- **Lieve De Kesel**, PhD candidate, University of Ghent, A perfect match between Flanders and England: Flemish miniatures for the first Tudor King
- **Dr Olivier de Laborde**, Paris, The first manuals of English history: Two late-13th-century genealogical rolls of the kings of England in the Royal Collection
- **Dr Ilya Dines**, Visiting Scholar, History faculty, University of Cambridge, The Bestiary and its Role in Medieval Education
- **Erin K. Donovan**, PhD candidate, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, A Royal Crusade History: Livre d’Eracles and Edward IV’s exile in Burgundy
- **Sonja Drimmer**, PhD candidate, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University, A Manuscript of Horapollo’s Hieroglyphica and the Quest for a Royal Patron
- **Professor Anthony Edwards**, Professor of Textual Studies, Department of English and Creative Writing, De Montfort University, Leicester, William Forrest, Scribe and Poet
- **Professor Matthew Fisher**, Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of California, Los Angeles, The Harley Scribe and Royal History Writing
- **Erin K. Donovan**, PhD candidate, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, A Royal Crusade History: Livre d’Eracles and Edward IV’s exile in Burgundy
- **Dr Maud Pérez-Simon**, Maître de Conférences, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3, Alexander under the Brush of the Harvard Hannibal: A Study of Royal MS 20 B. xx
- **Professor Lucy Freeman Sandler**, Helen Gould Sheppard Professor of Art History, Emerita, New York University, The Lumere as lais and Its Readers: Pictorial Evidence from British Library Royal 15 D. ii
- **Sara Torres**, PhD candidate, Department of English, University of California, Los Angeles, Romances of Dynasty in the Talbot Shrewsbury Book

**Keynote speakers:**

- **Michael Wood**, The Story of a Book (Cotton Galba A. xvii), 12 December 6:30–7:45
- **John Goodall**, The English Castle, 13 December 6:30–8:00

120 places for these public lectures will be reserved for conference delegates.

Monday 12 December

- 9:30 Registration
- 10:00 Programme begins
- 17:30 Reception
- 20:00 Delegate dinner (limited to 50 delegates; charge applies)

**Registration fees:**

- £50
- £45 AMARC members
- £25 Students
- £30 optional delegate dinner on Monday 12 December. Limited to 50 delegates

(Includes admission to the public lectures on 12 and 13 December for the first 120 delegates, otherwise £7.50 admission/£5 concessions. Tea, coffee and sandwich lunches included)

Tuesday 13 December

- 10:00 Programme begins

**Keynote speakers:**

- **Professor Dorothy Kim**, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Vassar College, How Matthew Paris Visualized the East in Royal 14 C. vii
- **Professor Lucy Freeman Sandler**, Helen Gould Sheppard Professor of Art History, Emerita, New York University, The Lumere as lais and Its Readers: Pictorial Evidence from British Library Royal 15 D. ii
- **Sara Torres**, PhD candidate, Department of English, University of California, Los Angeles, Romances of Dynasty in the Talbot Shrewsbury Book

To register contact the British Library Box Office

[www.bl.uk/whats-on/events/dec11/index.html](http://www.bl.uk/whats-on/events/dec11/index.html)