CrossKnit ~ Gauge as Rx'ed

Protected: Ordo Aegis Honoris

23 Friday Apr 2021

Posted by <u>Saroful</u> in <u>Uncategorized</u>

≈ Leave a comment

Award: Ordo Aegis Honoris

Barony of Three Mountains

Artist: Duchess Kaaren Håkonsdóttir

The inspiration for this scroll was the <u>Tyniec Sacramentarium</u>, a document produced between 1072 and 1075 in what is now <u>Tyniec</u>, Poland. I used pages 28-30 and 33 for inspiration; the former for the border ornamentation and the latter for layout. HL Tekla Myszkowa assisted with calligraphy. The hand in the original document varies between a miniscule and half uncial, and we chose half uncial for the sake of visual clarity.

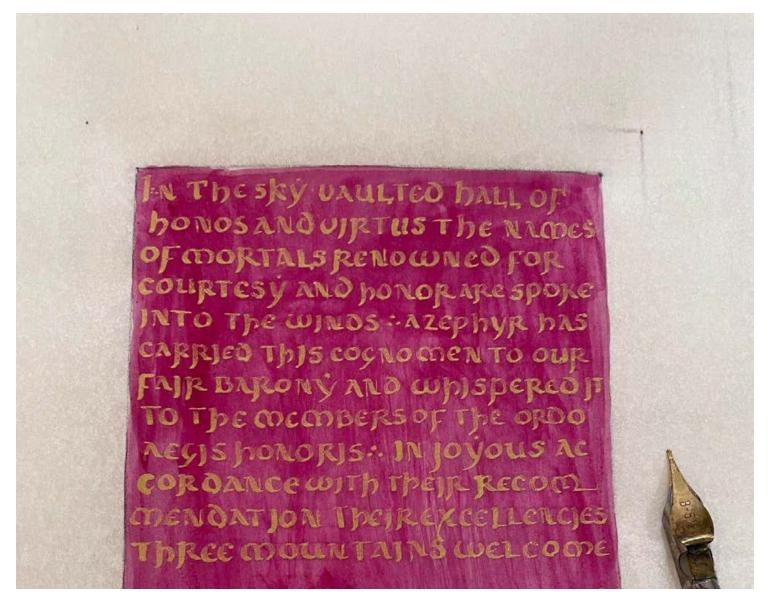


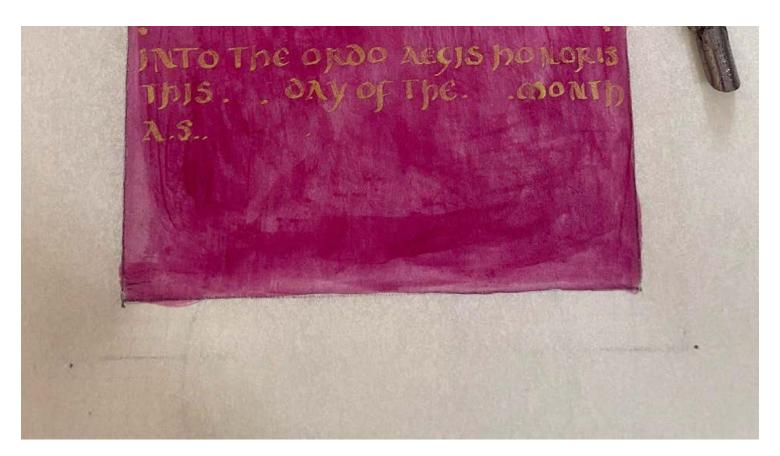




The materials used were gouache, ink, and gold ink on pergamenta.

The first step after laying out the cartoon was darkening the text area on the scroll. Although we matched the magenta carefully, the first attempt did not look as much like the original page as I had hoped. The sacramentarium is illuminated on both sides of the page, and most pages are darkened, so I tried darkening the "text" area on the back of the scroll and achieved a much better visual match to the inspiration page.

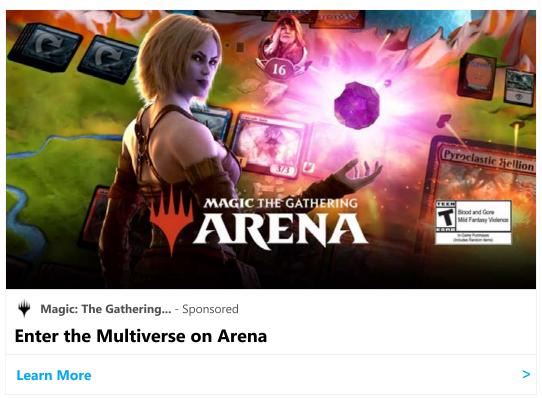




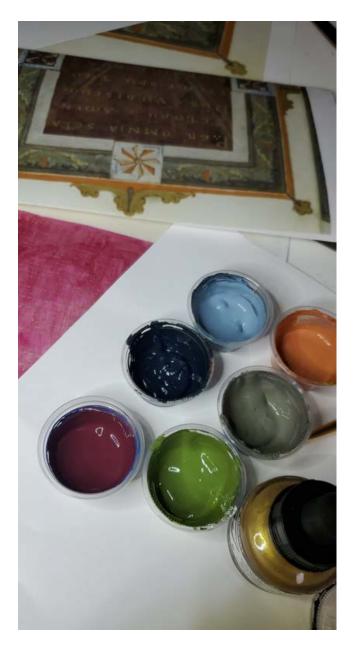








As you can see, in my first attempt at illumination, I tried to match the leaves on page 33 of the sacramentarium. After some effort and not a few curses I determined that my ability level did not match my ambition level and I regrouped with some assistance from Tekla to find a border design more suited to my aesthetic and skill. I settled on pp 28-30 because I had already prepared gouache in those colors as part of my original plan.



The work proceeded much more quickly once I had established a pattern for the background, and I am pleased with the result of combining the two pages from a single source. The gallery below contains process pictures.

Along the way, I discovered:

- 1) Don't start with finicky materials as a beginner; you already have a learning curve to overcome.
- 2) There is a very thin line between too dry (clumpy) and too wet (runny) gouache.
- 3) Don't try and paint tiiiiiny details when you haven't eaten! Low blood sugar = shaky hands = having to redo it later.
- 4) I'm not great at this, but with a lot of practice maybe I could be pretty good.
- 5) That micro itty bitty brush is not small enough and that flat edged brush is not flat enough. Buy good brushes.



