

YALE UNIVERSITY  
BEINECKE RARE BOOK AND MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY  
MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE MANUSCRIPTS

MS 1010

Italy, s. XV<sup>in</sup>

Guido da Pisa, *Fiorita d'Italia*

ff. 1r-38v [onde viene che oggi non sono così] // virtuosi come furono anticamente? Rispondo et dichò che questo procede da duy diffecti. L'uno è ch'egli anno lassato lo exercitio dell'arme et non curano più honore et sonno dati a tucte quale cose che <fanno> il huomo infeminire, cioè ad avaritia et al luxuria ... [*Della seconda factiga d'Erchule. R. VI*] ... venne a combattere con luy et combattendo galliardamente l'uccise, et morto che l'hebbe lo scorticò et il // [corio si buttò in spalla].

Guido da Pisa O. Carm. (s.XIV<sup>1</sup>), *Fiorita d'Italia*, incomplete due to loss of leaves at the beginning, in the middle and at the end. The text present in our manuscript approximately corresponds to the edition by L. Muzzi, *Fiore d'Italia* (Bologna, 1824), pp. 8-194, but there are notable differences, as a comparison between the chapter headings of both versions shows. While the edition presents a continuous numbering of the chapters (in our manuscript called "robriche"), here they are divided over three books. The Table of Contents of Book I and the beginning of the text are missing, but it consists of 43 numbered chapters followed by a series of chapters without headings; the Book corresponds to chapters I-LVI of the edition and deals principally with the histories of Moses and Job. The Table of the second Book (ff. 25v-26r) mentions 32 chapters, approximately corresponding to chapters LVII-LXXXVI of the edition; it begins with the reign of Saturn in Italy but treats essentially Graeco-Roman mythology up to the description of the Labyrinth. The Table of the third Book (ff. 36v-37r: *Capitoli del terzo libro*) mentions 17 chapters, approximately corresponding to chapters LXXXIX-CXIII of the edition and dealing principally with the Twelve Labours of Hercules. Here the differences between the edition and our manuscript, the text of which ends in the description of the second Labour (chapter 6), are very considerable. About the author, see *Dizionario biografico degli Italiani*, v. 61 (2003), pp. 411-417; about the work, pp. 414-415.

Paper, ff. 38, 260 x 135 mm. Leaves are missing before f. 1, after f. 10 (see marginal note in a s. XVIII/XIX hand on f. 10v: "Mancano le pagine che doveano seguitare"; they contained the end of chapter 22, chapters 23 and 24, and the beginning of chapter 25 of Book I), and at the end. At the bottom of f. 36v there is a note in the same hand: "Dopo questa pagina deve seguirne quella che è stata posta nel frontispizio per prima al segno simile a questo" (follows a reference mark; the same mark is now found at the top of f. 37 r).

I<sup>??</sup> (??; ff. 1-10), II-III<sup>12</sup> (ff. 11-34), IV<sup>??</sup> (ff. 35-38). Horizontal catchwords in the center on ff. 22v and 34v.

Rake ruling for two columns of 38 lines below top line, the horizontal lines traced in light brown ink, the vertical ones in lead. Ruling type 41.

Copied by one hand in Italian Gothica Hybrida Libraria with looped *d* (a form of Mercantesca).

Red headings, chapter numbers and stroking of majuscules; the latter form of decoration is missing on many pages. Headings and chapter numbers are missing ff. 18v-25v, i.e. the final part of Book I. Tables of Contents in red. Space and guide letters for 2-line initials were provided, but no initials were executed.

Quarter binding s. XIX: marbled paper and parchment over cardboard. Green morocco title label with gold-tooled inscription: "STORIA D'ITALIA – MANUSCRIPT. SAEC. XV".

Christies' sale, London, 20 Nov. 2002, lot 19. Purchased on the fund given by the estate of Edwin J. Beinecke in honor of Herman W. Liebert.