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MS 667

Southern France, 1504

**Artelouche de Alagona, *Fauconnerie***

ff. 1r-50v [facsimile leaf: space for a miniature] S'ensuit ung petit libre fait et composé [f. 1v:] par missier Artalouche de Alagonne, seigneur de Meirargues, cosillier et chamberlain du roy de Cicille, conte de Prouvence, lequel tracte de toutes manieres d'oiseaux de proye ... et premierement des aultours, tersoux et esparviers, pource qui sont au condicion plus noble que les aultres, dont il parlera ci apres par ordre cellon les degrés de ung chascun. *Et premierement des austours.* Austour et tersol naissent au [f. 2r, beginning of original manuscript:] region chaulde a la rayson de la challeur est secheresse ... § Item ce doyvent donner toutes les fois et tous les VIII jours une cure de couton et aux mues tous les XV jours et aux sors tous les XX jours. § Deo gracias. § *Cy finist le libre Artelouche, lequel a esté escript et illuminé par moy, Vincent Philippon, l'an de grace mil CCCC et quatre.*

Artelouche de Alagona (s. XV<sup>med</sup>), *Fauconnerie*. See about this work A. Smets, "The Falconry Treatise of Artelouche de Alagona", in S. Obermaier, ed., *Tiere und Fabelwesen im Mittelalter* (Berlin, 2009), pp. 55-77. The text was printed several times between 1567 and 1628.

Parchment, ff. III (paper) + II (parchment) + 50 + II (parchment) + III (paper), 180 x 120 mm. F. 1 is a replacement for the missing original first leaf, which probably had a miniature on its recto; its text is a modern facsimile made after the manuscript in the Bibliothèque nationale de France, copied by the same scribe. A large hole in the lower margin of f. 40 and original repairs (sewing) in the lower margin of ff. 38 and 44. Defective outer lower corners ff. 29 and 38.

I<sup>8</sup> (-1, replaced with a facsimile; ff. 1-8), II-IV<sup>8</sup> (ff. 9-32), V<sup>10</sup> (ff. 33-42), VI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 43-50). Signatures of the type "a1-a4" in red ink.

Pricking in the outer margin and ruling in red ink for one column of 20 lines (22 lines f. 1) below top line, c. 95 x c. 70 mm. Ruling type 13.

Copied by one hand (except f. 1) in Gothica Cursiva Formata (Bastarda). The scribe is Vincent Philippon from Avignon, who lived in Arles in 1521 (*Colophons* 18458-18459). Other manuscripts copied (and illuminated) by him are Arles, Bibliothèque municipale, MS 133 (dated 1521, *CMD France*, v. 6, p. 35 and pl. CLIX), Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, MS fr. 2005 (dated 1509 and containing the same text as the present manuscript), and New Haven, Beinecke Library MS 162 (made in Camargue, dated 1502 and containing the same text as the present manuscript). Calligraphic extensions of the letters in the upper and lower margin (on f. 48r ending in a monstrous animal's head).

Purplish red headings. Paragraph marks in liquid gold on an alternately red and blue square background. 2- or 3-line, exceptionally 4-line plain initials in liquid gold (Capitalis) on an alternately red and blue square background. Space for a full-page miniature above two lines of text was provided on the facsimile page f. 1r. A few small pictures in the outer margins: a bird and a quadruped (uncoloured), on f.11r; an erased (?) picture of a bird, on f. 14r; a drum (“tabourin”), on f. 18r; a pointing hand, on f. 18v; a full-page picture, showing a falcon surrounded by the branding-irons for the cauterization of various ailing body parts, on f. 45r; the pertaining captions to the latter picture are written in red ink on banderoles. The picture is introduced on the preceding page by a heading in red: “§ Cy voyés la maniere et portrecture des caulterres et fers que ce donnent a l’oiseau”.

French binding s. XX: red-brown morocco over cardboard, the turn-ins gold-tooled; red-brown watered silk endleaves. Spine with five raised bands and gold-tooled inscriptions “LE / LIBRE / ARTELOUCHE” and “1504”.

On f. I v engraved bookplate of Henri Gallice (1854-1930). On f. II r engraved bookplate of Marcel Jeanson (1885-1942) with the device “Utrumque legere iucundum” and the handwritten shelfmark “MS. 115.”. His sale, Monaco, 1987, lot 42. Purchased 1987 from H.P. Kraus on the Edwin J. Beinecke Fund.

*Bibliography:*

A. Smets, B. Van den Abeele, “Manuscrits et traités de chasse français du Moyen Age. Recensement et perspectives de recherche”, *Romania*, 116 (1998), pp. 316-367 (340).

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