

# AHIS 330: MEDIEVAL ART HISTORY

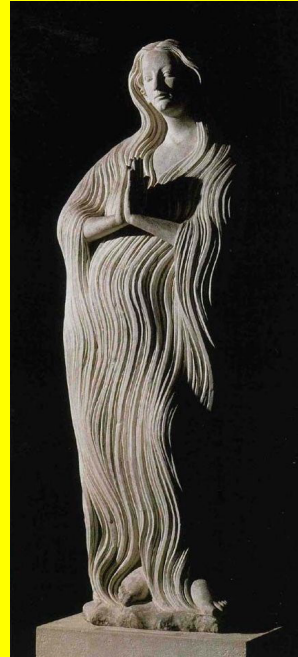
## THE WORK OF SCULPTURE, 1150-1500

Spring 2024

Section 11930

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:50 AM (WPH 204)

Professor Luke Fidler ([lfidler@usc.edu](mailto:lfidler@usc.edu))



*Left: Statue of St. Maurice, Magdeburg Cathedral (ca. 1240 CE)*

*Right: Statue of Mary Magdalene, Collégiale Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption, Écouis (ca. 1313 CE)*

**Course Description:** The medieval world was full of sculpted objects. Bubbles of three-dimensional blood erupted from carved and painted martyrs in church interiors, designed to provoke the spectator's disgust and awe; towering stone statues presided over public markets, proclaiming principles of rule and law; delicately worked ivories showed wondrous worlds in miniature. This course examines the sculptural production of the medieval west from the teeming fury of Romanesque portals to the late Gothic masterpieces of Adam Kraft and Tilman Riemenschneider (ca. 1150-1500 CE). Inspecting a range of minuscule, monumental, and portable objects in diverse media, we will chart shifting approaches to embodiment, matter, motion, form, gender, space, and style. In addition to honing our skills of looking at and writing about sculpture in general, we will develop a critical vocabulary for describing medieval sculptural work in particular. Readings will include primary sources (in translation) and key works of art historical scholarship; we will, where possible, draw on the resources of Los Angeles collections to study objects in person.



USC Dornsife

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