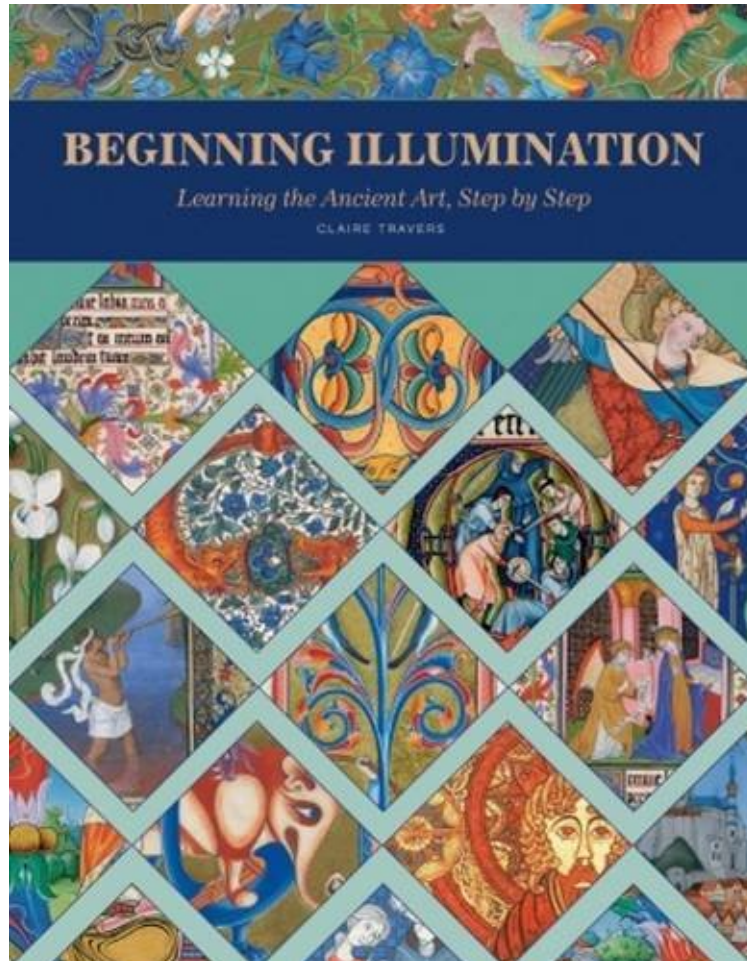


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## Beginning Illumination: Learning the Ancient Art, Step by Step

*Claire Travers*

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**Claire Travers : Beginning Illumination: Learning the Ancient Art, Step by Step** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beginning Illumination: Learning the Ancient Art, Step by Step:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy John CushworthAn excellent introduction very good for me as an absolute beginner1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book for historic artists of medieval manuscript formats!!! Must have!By MGreeneSo very glad this book was translate from French to English so that those of us in the US are able to enjoy and learn from these wonderful text notes. Author Travers covers how to paint illuminations in the same process and method that our historic medieval artisan predecessors did, using the same materials that they used. She also have a nice chapter to preparing and working with parchment and vellum, often left uncovered by other authors. Each chapter has samples and step-by-step guidelines so you can replicate the tasks yourself. If you wish to learn now historic manuscript book pages were illuminated, the tools and materials used and

how to prepare them, this is the book for you. *Beginning Illumination* is just what it says, a beginning for those wanting to learn a historic style of manuscript illumination, a bit on vellum, pens, pigments and painting; and it may aid in leading some to seek a more lengthy academic treatise on historical techniques. Already quickly becoming an art historian and historical reenactors handbook for illuminators, even as Marc Drogan's book on 'Medieval Calligraphy' is a standard on scripts.<sup>5</sup> of 6 people found the following review helpful. Great for beginning to intermediate illuminators  
By Tim A  
Great book for beginning illuminators. Gives a good overview of techniques to apply gesso for building, make paint with pigments, layer colors, and take a project from pencil to finish. I liked the examples of colors from Medieval pigments. While certainly not exhaustive of period or modern techniques and materials, it's a great starting point.

This photo-filled guide offers you all the information you need to begin the fascinating ancient art of illumination, and then to improve your skills. A short history of the art, including photos of some of the world's great medieval masterpieces, gives you context, and then you're introduced to the materials and basic techniques. First learn the proper ways of preparing your parchment, selecting pigments, gilding, and using color. Next, the five steps of illuminating are clearly taught in detail, step by step. By learning to create friezes, detailed human faces, flourishes, creatures such as dragons and elephants, and much more, you'll discover a skill that has crossed the centuries. Today, illumination can be used to add a special flair to diplomas, invitations, family trees, or a memorable event like a wedding, a birthday, or an anniversary.

About the Author  
Claire Travers has been a craftsperson in illumination since 2001. Fascinated by medieval techniques and following ancient recipes of Theophilus, Dimier, and Cennino Cennini, she composes with a focus on accuracy and honesty. Travers exhibits her work and offers courses.