



BEATUS OF LIÉBANA CODEX OF SAN PEDRO DE CARDEÑA

*“Unique and unrepeatable first edition, strictly limited to 987
numbered and authenticated copies”*



Incipit explanatio supra scripte hystorie.

Et quintus angelus tuba cecinit et
Quidi stellam de celo cecidisse in

terram. Vna stella corpus est multarum
 cadentium p peccata: sic p iob dicitur:

Obscurentur stelle caligine et? S talle
 quippe huius noctis caligine tenebrant.
 quando et hi qui magnis iam virtu
 tibus splendent adhuc de obscuri
 tate culpe. aliquid retinentes sustinent.

Sic namq: no nulli qui ante humanos
 oculos uelud magnis opibus lucent.

sed quia nec ipsa opa a mundo corde
 no prodeunt. capti in occultis cogi
 tationibus noctis huius tenebris obscu
 rantur. & una sepe ea que mundo cor
 de no faciunt etiam opa amittunt. que
 bona intentione no faciunt. & p hoc
 magis cecantur ope p qd illuminari po
 tuerant. Quia g nox preualere pmitti
 tur quando et int bona opa cordis in
 tentio minime mundat. Dicit recte.

Obscurentur stelle caligine et? idest con
 tra eos qui ante humanos oculos quali

Beatus of Liébana

CODEx OF THE MONASTERY OF SAN PEDRO DE CARDEÑA

Museo Arqueológico, Madrid • Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Biblioteca Zabálburu y Basabe, Madrid



last copies

- The *San Pedro de Cardena Beatus* is the work of two miniaturists and one of the most lavish, artistically elaborate and finest quality codices in its stemma (Family II, branch B).
- Its 51 extant miniatures are extremely beautiful and a reflection of the skill, subtlety and meticulousness of the artists who illustrated the commentary by Beatus. The entire manuscript is characterised on the one hand by elaborate and delicate representations of figures, and on the other, by the vivid and intense colours of the grounds, all lavishly embellished with gold leaf.
- The *San Pedro de Cardena Beatus* was delivered to the Museo Arqueológico Nacional in 1871 incomplete. In this identical reproduction, M. Moleiro has brought together for the first and only time, all the surviving, dispersed fragments of this spectacular Beatus.

- Year: c. 1175-1185.
- Size: $\pm 445 \times 300$ mm.
- 290 pages, 2 columns, 36 lines.

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▲ The Oviedo Cross, f. 1B

► The four angels restraining the four winds, f. 7A

gis intelligenda ē. Aliqñdo enim ab origi-
ne passionis. aliqñdo medio tñe. Aliqñ-
do de sola ip̃a nouissima p̃sina. Aut n̄
m̃lto dicitur re capitulat. Tam fixum
seruat. ut a sexto recaptulet. Nunc g̃
descripto sexto ad originē redit. et capi-
tulat eadē breuit atq; alit̃ dicturus.

Expliat explanatio. Inap̃t̃ hystoria. iiii.
angelis uentorum.

Et post hec uidi. iiii. ang̃los stan-
tes in. iiii. angulos t̃re. tenentes

quatuor uentos terre. ne flarent in
t̃ra neq; in mare neq; in ullam arborē.
Et uidi alium ang̃m̃ ascendentem ab
hortu solis habentem signum dī uiuē-
tis. Et clamauit uocē magna quatuor
ang̃lis. quibus data ē potestas ledere t̃rā
et mare dicens. Ne leseritis t̃rā. neq;
mare. neq; arbores. donec signemus
seruos dei ñri in frontibus eorum.

Expliat hystoria. ia.

