

Pigment Analysis of Ethiopian Manuscripts

OBJECT INFORMATION	EXAMINATION AND ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES	FOLIO (R= recto, V= verso)	WRITING INKS			ILLUMINATIONS																		
			Black	Red	Others	Underdrawing	Blind ruling for illumination	Black	Blue 1	Blue 2	Grey	Red 1	Red 2	Red 3	Flesh	Yellow 1	Yellow 2	Orange	Green 1	Green 2	White 1	White 2	Brown	
Walters Art Museum, W.836, codex, early 14th century	Visual examination, XRF, and FORS	1R	Carbon based (not analyzed)	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	Indigo	Yes	Carbon based	Indigo	None	No data	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	No data	Orpiment	None	None	None	Copper based (likely verdigris)	No data	Exposed parchment	None	Vermillion/cinnabar and iron earth
		4R																			Copper green and orpiment			
		6R										No data	No data											
		123V										Copper green and orpiment												
Walters Art Museum, W.839, double-sided leaf, late 14th century	XRF, Raman, and FORS*	R	None	None	None	Indigo	Yes	Indigo (for black)	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	Lead white, vermilion/cinnabar, and orpiment	Orpiment	None	None	Copper based	Copper based and orpiment	Exposed parchment	Lead white	No data	
		V	None	None	None	Indigo	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	No data	No data			
Walters Art Museum, W.840, single-sided leaf, late 14th–early 15th century	Visual examination	V	None	None	None	Indigo	Yes	Carbon based (?)	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion (?)	None	None	Exposed parchment	Orpiment	None	None	Verdicut (?)	Not reported	Exposed parchment	None	None	
Walters Art Museum, W.838, bifolio, 14th–early 15th century	Visual examination	2R				None	Yes	Carbon based (?)	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion	None	None	None	Orpiment	None	None	Verdigris	None	Exposed parchment	None	None	
J. Paul Getty Museum, Ms. 89, single-sided leaf, late 14th–early 15th century	Raman** (")	V				Indigo (?)	Yes (limited)	Not reported	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion	None	None	Not reported	Orpiment	None	None	Not reported	None	Not reported	None	None	
Morgan Library and Museum, M.828, codex, 1400–1401	XRF and FORS	10V	Not analyzed	Not analyzed	Not analyzed	Indigo	Yes	Carbon based	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	Vermillion/cinnabar, lead white, orpiment, and iron earth	Orpiment	None	Vermillion/cinnabar and orpiment	Verdicut	Verdigris	Exposed parchment	Lead white (flesh tones)	Iron earth and lead white	
		11R																						

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			Black	Red	Others	Underdrawing	Blind ruling for illumination	Black	Blue 1	Blue 2	Grey	Red 1	Red 2	Red 3	Flesh	Yellow 1	Yellow 2	Orange	Green 1	Green 2	White 1	White 2	Brown	
Walters Art Museum, 36.9, liturgical fan, late 15th century	Visual examination and FORS	Panel 2																						
		Panel 6	None	Vermilion (?)	None	Indigo	Yes (all panels)	No data	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar and white (unidentified)	Orpiment	None	None	Vergaut	verdigris	Exposed parchment	No data	None	
		Panel 12																						
J. Paul Getty Museum, Ms. 105, codex, 1480–1520	Raman** ("")	6R										No data										Not reported	Lead white and gypsum	
		7R	Not analyzed	Not analyzed	None	Indigo (?)	Yes	Indigo	Indigo	No data	None		None	None	Vermillion and lead white	Orpiment	None	Vermillion and orpiment	Vergaut	None		None	None	
		10R										Vermillion										Lead white		
Church of St. George, Maywayni Monastery, Maywayni 041, codex, 18th century	Raman and FTIR** (Tomaszewski et al. 2014)	Inserted 15th-century miniature (blank on verso)	Not analyzed	Not analyzed	None	Indigo (?)	Yes	Carbon based and chalk	Indigo and chalk	None	None	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	Earth pigment and vermilion	Organic yellow	None	None	Vergaut	None	Exposed parchment	None	Earth pigment and vermilion	
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 2012.301, sønsul, 15th century	XRF and FORS	Four panels	None	None	None	Indigo (?)	Unknown	Carbon based	Indigo	None	None	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None		Not reported	Orpiment	None	Vermillion/cinnabar and orpiment	Verdigris	Vergaut	Exposed parchment	None	Iron earth
Peabody Essex Museum, E67892, sønsul, 15th–early 16th century	XRF and FORS	Five panels	None	None	None	Indigo (?)	Yes	Carbon based	Indigo	None	Indigo and orpiment (little)	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	Not reported	Orpiment	None	None	Vergaut	None	Not reported	None	None	
J. Paul Getty Museum, Ms. 102, codex, 1504–1505	Raman, in situ XRD** ("")	19V		Not reported		Indigo (?)	Yes	Indigo	Indigo	Indigo and lead white	None	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	None	None	Orpiment	None	Vermillion and anhydrite	Vergaut	No reported	Not reported	Anhydrite	Not reported	
Walters Art Museum, W.850, codex, early 16th century	Visual examination (all), XRF, and FORS (only on 60V & 61R)	2V																						
		61R	Carbon based	Vermillion/cinnabar	None	Indigo	Yes (limited)	Carbon based	Indigo	Indigo and lead white	None	Vermillion/cinnabar			Lead white and vermilion/cinnabar	Orpiment	None	Vermillion and orpiment	Vergaut	None	Exposed parchment	Lead white (flesh tone)	None	
		60V																						

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			Black	Red	Others	Underdrawing	Blind ruling for illumination	Black	Blue 1	Blue 2	Grey	Red 1	Red 2	Red 3	Flesh	Yellow 1	Yellow 2	Orange	Green 1	Green 2	White 1	White 2	Brown
Walters Art Museum, W.927, double-sided sansul leaf, 16th century	XRF, Raman, and FORS	R	None	Vermilion (?)	None	Vermilion/cinnabar (?)	Yes (extensive)	Indigo	None	None	Indigo and lead white	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	None	Lead white, vermilion/cinnabar, and iron earth	Orpiment and iron earth	None	None	Vergaut	None	Exposed parchment	None	None
		V																					
Walters Art Museum, W.928, double-sided sansul leaf, 16th century	Visual examination	R	None	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar (?)	Yes (extensive)	.		.			.		.		.		.		Exposed parchment	.	.
		V																					
Walters Art Museum, W.929, double-sided, sansul leaf, 16th century	Visual examination	R	None	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar (?)	Yes (extensive)	.		.			.		.		.		.		Exposed parchment	.	.
		V																					
Bibliothèque nationale de France, MS Eth. Abb. 114, codex, second half of 17th century	Raman** (Wion 1999)	Not reported	Not analyzed	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	Not reported	Not reported	Carbon based	Indigo	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	None	Vermilion and white pigment (unidentified)	Orpiment	None	None	Organic green	None	Exposed parchment	None	Vermilion and carbon black
Brown University Library, Ms. Ethiopic 14--, codex, ca. 1730	XRF** (+)	10v	Iron-gall ink	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	Not reported	Not reported	.		.		Vermilion/cinnabar	Organic red	.	Vermilion and calcium-based white	Orpiment	Gold	Vermilion and orpiment	Copper based (malachite)	Vergaut	Exposed parchment	Calcium based (gyppum)	.
Walters Art Museum, W.835, codex, late 17th century	FTIR**, XRF, and FORS	60R	Not analyzed	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	Carbon based (?)	None	Carbon based (?)	Smalt	None	Indigo and anhydrite	Insect-origin lake (like kermes or lac)	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	Calcium-based white, vermilion/cinnabar, and orpiment	Orpiment	Orpiment and white (anhydrite)	Vermilion and orpiment	Copper green	None	Exposed parchment	Anhydrite	No data
		None							Indigo and lead white	None													None
Biblioteca statale del Monumento nazionale di Grottaferrata, Crypt. Aet. 7, codex, 17th century	MSI and FORS** (Master's thesis)	Not reported	Carbon based	Cinnabar	None	Not illuminated	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

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			Black	Red	Others	Underdrawing	Blind ruling for illumination	Black	Blue 1	Blue 2	Grey	Red 1	Red 2	Red 3	Flesh	Yellow 1	Yellow 2	Orange	Green 1	Green 2	White 1	White 2	Brown		
Walters Art Museum, 36.10, sønsul, late 17th century	Visual examination, XRF, and FORS	2V	Not analyzed	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	None	None	None	Indigo	None	Carbon-based black and black anhydrite	Vermilion	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar, anhydrite, and orpiment	Orpiment	None	None	Vergaut	None	Exposed parchment	Anhydrite	None		
		3R									None														
		3V									Carbon-based black and black anhydrite														
Melikian Collection, Melikian 389, codex, 1770s	Visual examination, XRF, and FORS	3R	Carbon based	Vermilion/cinnabar	Vergaut (indigo and orpiment)	Carbon-based black (?)	None	Carbon based	None	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	Insect-origin dye (like kermes or indian lac)	None	None	None	None	Vermilion and orpiment	None	Vergaut	None	Calcium based	None	Vermilion/cinnabar and iron earth
		6R																							
		8R							None				Insect-origin dye (like kermes or indian lac)	No data	None	None		None	None	None	None	None	None		
		17R							None				Insect-origin dye (like kermes or indian lac)												
University of Warsaw Library, Ms 1, Nr akc. 3510, codex, 18th–19th century	Visual examination, IR spectroscopy, Raman, SEM-EDS** (Liszewska and Tomaszewski 2016)	Not reported	Carbon based	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	Not reported	.	.	.	.	Organic red and earth pigment	None	None	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
University of Warsaw Library, Sygn. 3649, scroll, 19th century	Visual examination, IR spectroscopy, Raman, SEM-EDS** (Liszewska and Tomaszewski 2016)	R	Carbon based	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	.	.	.	.	.	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	None	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
Walters Art Museum, W.845, scroll, 19th century	Visual examination, XRF, and FORS	R	Carbon based	Vermilion/cinnabar	Organic and lead white	None	None	.	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar	Iron earth and orpiment	None	None	None	Organic (flavonoid type)	None	None	None	None	Exposed parchment	None	None		
Walters Art Museum, W.947, scroll, 19th or 20th century	Visual examination, XRF, and FORS	R	Carbon based and iron-gall ink	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	None	None	Carbon based	Indigo	None	None	Vermilion/cinnabar	None	None	None	Organic (flavonoid type) and iron earth	None	None	None	None	Exposed parchment	None	None		

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			Black	Red	Others	Underdrawing	Blind ruling for illumination	Black	Blue 1	Blue 2	Grey	Red 1	Red 2	Red 3	Flesh	Yellow 1	Yellow 2	Orange	Green 1	Green 2	White 1	White 2	Brown	
Walters Art Museum, W.954, scroll, 19th or 20th century	Visual examination, XRF, and FORS	R	Carbon based	Iron earth	None	None	None	No data	Indigo and verdigris	None	None	Iron oxide red	None	None	None	Organic (flavonoid type)	None	None	None	None	None	Exposed parchment	None	None
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.06, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported			Not reported		None	Organic yellow	None	None	Green earth	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Hematite	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.62, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported	Smalt	None			Not reported		None	Organic yellow	None	Chrome orange	Not reported		Not reported	Not reported	Organic	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.18, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported	Indigo	None		Vermillion	None		None	Not reported		None	Not reported		Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.21, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Vermillion	None		None	Organic yellow	None	None	Organic	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.22, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported	Indigo	None		Vermillion	None		None	Not reported		None	Not reported		Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.44, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Vermillion	None		None	Organic yellow	None	None	Copper green, green earth	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 72.1995.2.66, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Vermillion	None		None	Organic yellow	None	None	Orpiment + organic (indigo)	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.25, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Vermillion and red lead	None		None	Orpiment	None	None	Green earth	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.64, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported	Indigo	None		Vermillion and red lead	None		None	Chrome yellow	None	None	Not reported		Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.34, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Hematite (iron oxide)	None		None	Organic yellow	None	None	Organic	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	None	
Musée du quai Branly, 73.1995.2.17, scroll, 19th century	XRF and XRD** (Richardin et al. 2006)	R		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported		Not reported			Not reported		None	Organic yellow	None	None	Orpiment + organic blue (indigo)	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	None	

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			Black	Red	Others	Underdrawing	Blind ruling for illumination	Black	Blue 1	Blue 2	Grey	Red 1	Red 2	Red 3	Flesh	Yellow 1	Yellow 2	Orange	Green 1	Green 2	White 1	White 2	Brown
Archivio storico dell'Emilia Romagna, no. 642, scroll, 19th–20th century	IRR, FTIR, and IBA** (Vadrucci et al. 2023)	R	Carbon based and iron-gall ink	None	None	Not reported		Carbon based and iron-gall ink		Not reported		Earth pigment and organic	None	None	Not reported	None	Not reported		Not reported		Exposed parchment		None
Archivio storico dell'Emilia Romagna, no. 643, scroll, 19th–20th century	IRR, FTIR, and IBA** (Vadrucci et al. 2023)	R	Carbon based and iron-gall ink	None	None	Not reported		Carbon based and iron-gall ink		Not reported		Cinnabar and earth pigment	None	None	Not reported	None	Not reported		Not reported		Exposed parchment		None
Archivio storico dell'Emilia Romagna, no. 644, scroll, 19th–20th century	IRR, FTIR, and IBA** (Vadrucci et al. 2023)	R	Carbon based and iron-gall ink	None	None	Not reported		Carbon based and iron-gall ink		Not reported		Cinnabar and earth pigment	None	None	Not reported	None	Not reported		Not reported		Exposed parchment		None
Archivio storico dell'Emilia Romagna, without number, scroll, 19th–20th century	IRR, FTIR, and IBA** (Vadrucci et al. 2023)	R	Carbon based and iron-gall ink	None	None	Not reported		Carbon based and iron-gall ink		Not reported		Cinnabar and earth pigment	None	None	Yellow ochre	None	None		Not reported		Exposed parchment		None

*Analysis performed by former Walters Conservation Scientist Dr. Glenn Gates. **Analytical information collected from internal reports and publications. (") Karen Trentelman, Internal Analytical Reports on Ethiopian Gospel, 1480–1520 (Ms. 105) analyzed March 2010, and Ethiopian Gospel, 1504–1505 (Ms. 102), Technical Studies Research Laboratory, Getty Conservation Institute. Catherine Patterson, Internal Analytical Report on Ethiopian Gospel leaf, late 14th–early 15th century (Ms. 89) analyzed September 2015, Technical Studies Research Laboratory, Getty Conservation Institute. (+) Michele Derrick, Analytical Report, Ethiopian Illuminated Manuscript "Miracles of the Virgin Mary" (Ms. Ethiopic 14–) from the Brown University Library (NEDCC Job #13.215P), Scientific Research Laboratory, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston [4/10/2014].