



October 2020
pp. 144, 17x24 cm, bross.
ISBN: 9788833137018 | € 35,00

COLLANA
I libri di Viella. Arte

Cover: Entry into Jerusalem, Missel,
Méjanes Library, Aix-en-Provence, MS
11 (Rés. MS 35), fol. 254, 1423 (©
Bibliothèque Méjanes Aix-en-Provence).

Viella Libreria editrice
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Step by Step Towards the Sacred

Ritual, Movement, and Visual Culture in the Middle Ages

edited by Martin F. Lešák, Sabina Rosenbergová, Veronika Tvrzníková

The articles published in this volume aim to contribute to the art historical debates on the role of visual culture within medieval rituals and how the latter were experienced bodily. The studies focus on the essential importance of movement within medieval religious practice and its impact on production, conception, perception, and use of artistic objects and architecture in the Middle Ages. At their core is the moving body, individual or collective, which enters into dialogue with the surrounding architectural or urban space, artefacts, and images, thus awakening their sacred potential with each and every step. Shifting attention to the movement of the worshipers and the objects themselves, this book wishes to instigate further discussion on various medieval visual cultures.

Martin F. Lešák is a PhD student at the Department of Art History of Masaryk University in Brno and at the CESCUM at the University of Poitiers. He is writing a dissertation on the relation between monumental decorations created in the 8th- and 9th-century Rome and the stational liturgy of the city.

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