

Chapter 16- Early Medieval Art

Hiberno-Saxon Art 6th to 8th century (British Isles)

Viking Art 8th-11th century (Scandinavia)

Carolingian Art 8th-9th century (France/Germany)

Ottonian Art 10th-11th century (Germany)

- Historians once thought of the thousand years between the fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance as the Dark Ages, the Middle Ages, or Medieval Period and mainly gave it a negative slant, and that art was unsophisticated or inferior. Even though that is not true, we still call this time period by these names.
- Fusion of Greco-Roman culture, Christianity, and the cultures of people to the north of the Alps
- Hibernia was the ancient name of Ireland
- Carolingian Art began under the ruler ship of Charlemagne who wanted to bring back the imperial qualities of Rome

Art Concepts:

- migratory, portable treasures, animal styles
- Horror Vacui and interlacing patterns
- Court of Charlemagne begins first of many European revivals of ancient Rome
- Ottonian-revives large sculpture and architecture

Reading:

- pg. 426 The Four Evangelists
 - Matthew =
 - Mark =
 - Luke =
 - John =

Vocabulary:

Cloisonne-(pg.423-424)

Westworks-

Chapter 16

N = name D = date (century) P/S = Period/Style A = artist or architect
 Pa = Patron L = original location C = context N = notes of importance

16-2



N:Purse Cover **D:**625 **P/S:**Early Medieval, Barbarian
A:unknown **Pa:**unknown Warrior Lord **L:**burial mound at Suffolk, England
C: -purse cover decorated with cloisonné-enamel plaques
 -kind of a blend of _____ and _____ process
 - _____ of frontal man inbetween two profiles of beasts
 -parallels the epic stories of the times, ex. Beowolf who conquers great beasts
 -in center are symmetrically balanced _____ attacking _____
 -upper middle- **interlacing** _____ **that turn into writhing animals**
 this is the definitive style of the Early Middle Ages of the _____, in fact the love of the intricate jewelry design worked its way into stone sculpture, painted manuscripts, architecture, and wood sculpture

16-3



N:Animal-Head Post from the Viking Burial Ship **D:**825 **P/S:**Viking
A:Unknown Viking **Pa:**Unknown Viking **L:**Oesburg, Norway
C: -also called Norsemen, _____ from the Scandinavian lands began to attack and plunder cities along the coasts of Western Europe
 -had large seagoing _____ that they sailed westward to Iceland, Greenland, and Newfoundland in North America, long before Columbus
 -They also began to _____ the cities in England, Ireland, France, & Russia,
 -very good woodcarvers
 - _____ form and interlace patterns

N: wooden

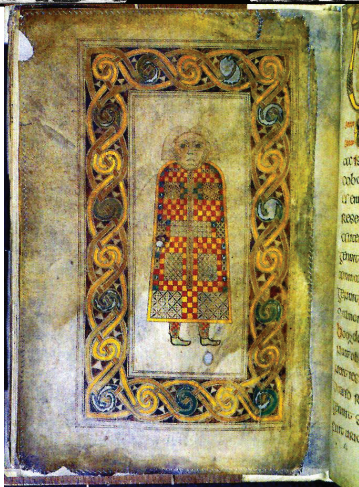
16-4



N:Wooden Portal of the Stave Church **D:**1060 **P/S:**Viking
A:unknown **Pa:**unknown **L:**Urnes, Norway
C: - _____ twisted patterns intertwining beautifully, extremely complicated
 deer in the bottom left corner, flexible plant stalks wrapping around
 -the deer is elongated and _____
 - by the 11th Century much of Scandinavia had become _____ but but Viking artistic traditions still persisted.

N: -wooden

16-5



N:Man (symbol of St. Matthew) **D:**680 **P/S:**Hiberno-Saxon
A:Unknown **Pa:**Unknown **L:**Iona, Scotland
C: - _____ books were highly treasured and the monks who moved to Ireland used the books to teach about the bible, and the Celts who were _____ viewed then with awe
 -this comes from a bible manuscript called the Book of Durrow and it fuses the _____ images with the interlacing abstract patterns that were found on Cloisssoné jewelry
 -note how Matthew has a _____ head, but _____ feet- example of _____

N: - a page from the *Book of Durrow*

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16-8



N: Chi-rho-iota page (Book of Kells) **D:** 800 **P/S:** Hiberno-Saxon
A: unknown Irish monastery **Pa:** unknown **L:** Irish monastery
C: -Gospel book written for display on a church altar, housed in elaborate metal box, and it was and is revered as the chief _____ of the western world
 -the letters XPI (Chi-rho-iota), which are the letters of _____ in Greek, dominate the page although *autem* (abbreviated into just an "h") and *generatio* appear at the bottom of the page- together they read "Now this is how the _____ of Christ came about."
 -the letters are transformed into _____ shapes of intricate designs that recall Celtic and Saxon metalwork
 -half humans are seen to the left of the first letter and many other animals and humans are seen when looking at it up close

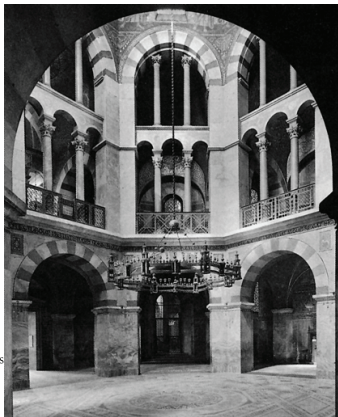
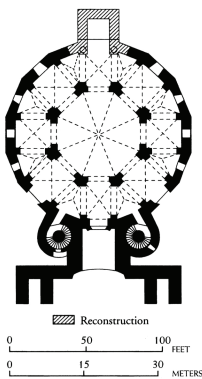
16-9



N: High Crosses of Ireland **D:** 900 **P/S:** Hiberno-Saxon
A: unknown **Pa:** unknown **L:** graveyards throughout Ireland
C: -preside over _____ grounds, monuments of stone, some as high as _____
 -the circle surrounding the arms of the cross is _____ in design
 -early designs had abstract interlaced patterns, while later examples had _____ themes displayed

N: Stone

16-16
16-17



N: Palatine Chapel of Charlemagne **D:** 800 **P/S:** Carolingian
A: unknown **Pa:** Charlemagne **L:** Aachen, Germany
C: -Charlemagne wanted to renew the imperial past so he tried to look to the _____-Christian sources to reinterpret their designs
 -He chose the basilica at _____ to imitate this chapel
 -The Carolingian conversion took a complex Byzantine prototype and gave it a more simple but _____ and clearer structural design
 -this style _____ the style called Romanesque

N:

16-22
16-24



N: St. Michael's **D:** 1000 **P/S:** Ottonian
A: Unknown **Pa:** Bishop Bernward **L:** Hildesheim, Germany
C: -has a double transept plan, tower groupings, and a westwork
 -enter from the _____

N: Doors with _____ panels, _____ high each side single cast of bronze, very difficult
 -panels on left side illustrate book of Genesis, beginning of _____ with Adam and Eve at the top down through to the murder of their son Abel by his brother Cain
 -panels on the right tells the story of the _____
 -together they tell the story of " _____ " and ultimate redemption