



LECTURE BY
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APPROACHES TO THE MEDIEVAL CODEX AND ITS COMPLEXITY

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ABSTRACT: A manuscript is not only the privileged vehicle for the transmission of ancient and medieval culture: it is also a dynamic cultural artefact, in which the immaterial intellectual dimension interacts with the materiality of the object, in various and complex ways. A holistic approach has been developed in recent decades. Its goal is to reconstruct, as far as possible, the entire “life cycle” of a book (involving changes in its original structure, changes of ownership and changes of use), the contexts and dynamics of its production and circulation, the general manufacturing principles and the peculiarities of the different book cultures.