

## RESEARCH SUMMARY

### A PROPOSAL FOR AN ICONOGRAPHIC READING OF THE IMAGES THE MINIATURES OF SCIVIAS - HILDEGARD VON BINGEN

Its focus is the study and comprehension of the meaning and symbolic language within Scivias' miniatures.

The main results of the research can be summarized as follows:

- Scivias is a unified representation, one great *Affresco*;
- the details of each illumination guide us to a symbolic connection between the images: colors, forms, figures, as well as - the frames and backgrounds of the images - are all decipherable elements;
- the miniatures are two-dimensional representations of reality, by looking with a new perspective, the images can be projected into three-dimensional forms;
- numbers, forms, colors, sound-waves which function as a background to images in this manuscript;
- all of the observations can be organized according to the seven ancient liberal arts, Trivium and Quadrivium: Grammar to explain iconographic symbols; Rhetoric to explain the logical connection between elements; Dialect to explain the construction of hidden images; and Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy and Music are a description of the elements.

The contemplation of the images that accompany the written work, Scivias, by Hildegard von Bingen, in our opinion, not only help to interpret the texts they refer to but shows that images are in and of themselves, messages that illuminate the Word. In this manner, the patterns on which the images are so intensely built come to light.

## PUBLICATION

The research is published in two volumes by SKIRA. The extracts of Scivias have been translated by Michela Pereira. The two volumes will be printed in English and Italian. The first volume "Hildegard von Bingen. A Journey into the images" will be released in April 2019.

### FIRST VOLUME "Hildegard von Bingen. A Journey into the images" – Illustrations and Structure:

- A brief portrait of Hildegard;
- The description of how Scivias is composed;
- The reproduction of the original illuminations accompanied by explanatory tables with a summary of each of the vision's contents and a legend that allows one to easily identify the iconographic details within the miniatures including the meaning as described by Hildegard;
- The last part is a thematic/iconographic guide which correlates diverse miniatures as a means to highlight the presence of similar and repeated aspects of the images, and also presents a study on colors, the frames, and a description with a three-dimensional reconstruction of the Salvation Building and of the Virtues.

### SECOND VOLUME "A Journey beyond the images" – Evaluation of the research and specific results:

- the research/study process;
- the process that guided the reconstruction of the three images;
- the three complex images that emerge from a three-dimensional analysis;
- selected details within the miniatures.

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