



The brother Haggadah

Marc Michael Epstein, Raphael Loewe, Jeremy Schonfield

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208 pages

Revue de presse

Magnificent. --Jewish Renaissance Présentation de l'éditeur

The Haggadot commissioned by wealthy patrons in the Middle Ages are among the most beautifully decorated Hebrew manuscripts, and The 'Brother' Haggadah - so-called because of its close relationship to The Rylands Haggadah in the collection of the John Rylands Library, Manchester - is one of the finest of these to have survived. Created by Sephardi - or southern - artists and scribes in Catalonia in the second quarter of the 14th century, it sets out the liturgy and sequence of the Passover Seder, a ritual feast by which Jewish families give thanks for the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt as described in the Book of Exodus. This finely produced facsimile edition begins with an introduction by medieval scholar Professor Marc Michael Epstein, who sets out the background to the Passover and provides an analysis of the manuscript's iconographic scheme. Following are essays on the provenance of The 'Brother' Haggadah by Ilana Tahan, head of the Hebrew and Christian collections at the British Library, and on the Shaltiel family, former owners of the manuscript, by Hebrew scholar Eliezer Laine. The book also contains a translation of the poems and commentary in the manuscript by the late Raphael Lowe, former Goldsmid Professor of Hebrew at University College London, and a translation of the Haggadah liturgy. Biographie de l'auteur Professor Marc Michael Epstein teaches at Vassar College and is acknowledged as one of the greatest medieval scholars in the world. His most recent book, *The Medieval Haggadah: Art, Narrative, and the Religious Imagination*, was selected by the Times Literary Supplement as one of the best books of 2011.

Raphael Loewewas Goldsmid Professor of Hebrew at University College London and Honorary Fellow of St John s College, Cambridge.

Jeremy Schonfieldis Mason Lecturer and Supernumerary Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies.

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