

2.2.1 Early Medieval Painting Vocabulary

Byzantine Empire	Also known as the Eastern Roman Empire; it was a part of ancient Rome that was split into its own territory and lasted from AD 293 to 1453, almost 1,000 years longer than the Western Roman Empire.
Byzantine style	The art and architecture created during, or inspired by, the Eastern Roman Empire. The style is characterized by Greek, Roman, and Christian influences; it is considered the first style to feature abstract art.
medieval	Related to the Middle Ages, which lasted from approximately the 5th to 16th centuries AD.
Greco-Roman	A term used to refer to the combined influences of ancient Greece and ancient Rome, usually on art and architecture.
illuminated manuscript	A popular book style from the Middle Ages in which detailed drawings accompany the words. It was primarily used to communicate Christian teachings.
symbolism	The practice of using an object to represent something else, usually something invisible like an ideal or emotion.
Book of Kells	A book created in 9th-century Ireland that combines Christian teachings with local culture. It is the most famous existing example of an illustrated manuscript.
iconoclasts	People who believe imagery interferes with religious worship and therefore advocate the destruction of religious images.