

For centuries, societies diverse in culture and religion have had in common a timeless craft: Illumination, the union of words and pictures with paint and precious metals, for documents as varied as a Koran, a Hebrew haggadah, a New Testament manuscript, Indian romance, and medical treatises.

THE WORKS OF ELLEN FRANK

and the Ellen Frank Illumination Arts Foundation revitalize, create and exhibit illuminated art, using historic and literary traditions to combine art and social justice and thereby promote global peace and understanding.

Hanukkah Illuminated: Day 6

Cover Page

22 k gold leaf, egg tempera; master calligraphy on hand-made Japanese paper
17 in x 11 in

Texts within the page:

Margin: An enraged King Antiochus commandeered his bravest General, Lysias, and summoned mercenaries from all his kingdoms and islands in the sea to conquer the Maccabees once and for all.

In rondelle (10th Century 6) upper left (micrography): When the sun shone on the shields of gold and brass the hills were ablaze and gleamed like flaming torches.

In elephant blanket (micrography): The Seleucids maddened their fighting elephants with the juices of mulberries and grapes.





Judah
and his
brothers
and their
followers
camped
on a
hillside
overlooking
the battle-
field at
Beth-
Zechariah,
a few miles
southwest
of Jerusalem.

The
Seleucids
sounded their trumpets,
and the King's men
spread out on the
high hills, and
some others
on the plains.
They were
ready to
march,
steadily and in

Judah
and his

Lion Page

22 k gold leaf, egg tempera; master calligraphy on hand-made Japanese paper
17 in x 11 in

Texts within the page:

Upper right column: Judah and his brothers and their followers camped on a hillside overlooking the battlefield at Beth-Zechariah, a few miles southwest of Jerusalem

In hillside left: The Seleucids sounded their trumpets, and the King's men spread out on the high hills, and some others on the plains. They were ready to march, steadily and in good order.

In lion, symbol of Eleazar (*carmina figurata*): Judah and his followers were greatly outnumbered. Without the armor or swords they needed, the Maccabees fearlessly advanced. When the battle ended they had crushed the Seleucid Greeks who fled across the plains to the sea.

Surrounding the eagle, symbol of Judah (micrography): Judah and his men set fire to the Seleucid camps. They seized all manner of royal plunder – gold and silver and cloth dyed blue and sea purple and other royal riches.

In left margin, over wolves (Lord Byron): The Assyrians came down like a wolf on the fold, and his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold. And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea when the blue waves roll nightly on deep Galilee.



IMPACT In summary, *Hanukkah Illuminated: A Book of Days*

- Affirms the universal spiritual and historical significance of the Hanukkah holiday
- Introduces the public to the little-known tradition of Hebrew illuminated manuscripts
- Ensures the survival of illuminated manuscripts by creating a contemporary manuscript in English that integrates original art and new visual iconography with historical texts, digressions and commentary.

EXHIBITION World Premiere at
Museum of Biblical Art (MOBIA)
New York, NY
June - October 2013

Rare Book Library
The Jewish Theological Seminary
New York, NY
October 2013 - July 2015

O'Silas Gallery 10th Anniversary
Concordia College
Bronxville, NY
September - October 2015

Temple Adas Israel
Sag Harbor, NY
August - September 2015

MATERIALS The artwork is illuminated in 22 k gold leaf and powdered pigments with text in master calligraphy on handmade Japanese paper.

Interpretation of original iconography upon request.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT IMPORTANT?

Hanukkah Illuminated: A Book of Days is the first gold-illuminated manuscript to tell the story of Hanukkah. Devoted to the transformative power of art, *Hanukkah Illuminated* combines illuminated paintings with both historical and original text. It chronicles the struggle for religious freedom in a contemporary voice while celebrating and reviving the great tradition of Hebrew illuminated manuscripts.

Hanukkah Illuminated moves from war to peace, from the darkness of oppression to a transcendent light of peace and world harmony. It offers insight and hope to a worldwide audience of all ages and faiths for generations to come.

COMPOSTION

Hanukkah Illuminated: A Book of Days is comprised of 4 illuminated pages with master calligraphy by Karen Gorst. *Hanukkah Illuminated* may include *The Book of Judith*; *Hanukkah Illuminated* and *The Book of Judith* may be shown as a collection or separately. (17 in x 11 in)

Darkness (Carpet page), hand-illuminated in 22 k gold and silver leaf on classic English vellum (24 in x 18 in)

Light (Carpet page), hand-illuminated in 22 k gold and silver leaf on classic English vellum (24 in x 18 in)

Hanukkah Illuminated: A Book of Days, includes eleven study pages hand-illuminated in 22 k yellow, moon, white gold leaf and egg tempera on Egyptian papyrus.

Surprise Page

22 k gold leaf, egg tempera; master calligraphy on hand-made Japanese paper.
17 in x 11 in

Texts within the page:

Greek in tents: An excerpt from the Greek source text from I Maccabees.

Death vs Violence: Instead of showing death and violence, this page includes riderless horses; the spears are in an X pattern suggesting the cancelling out of violence.

Bottom: The battle was ferocious.



All who heard
the multitude marching
and the clanking of
their arms, trembled
Each elephant was
stationed with a
thousand men behind,
armed with coats of
mail, and with brass
helmets on their heads;
five hundred horsemen
preceded
each
beast;
they went
with it
and never left it.

But the Maccabees
were brave and
did not flee

Eleazar saw an elephant taller
than the rest and wearing the
royal colors. Courageously he
ran into the fray to reach it; he killed
men right and left and they parted before
him on both sides. He stabbed the
elephant beneath, and killed it; but
it fell to the ground upon him
and he died.

And there lay the rider distorted and pale,
With the dew on his brow and the rust on his mail;
And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,
The lances unlifted, the trumpets unblown.

Victory Page

22 k gold leaf, egg tempera; master calligraphy on hand-made Japanese paper.

17 in x 11 in

Texts within the page:

In towers, upper left – (carmina figurate): Atop the elephants were wooden towers, strong and covered; they were fastened on each animal with special yokes; and on each were four armed men and an Indian driver.

Right elephant, second from top, in blanket (micrography): The mighty Seleucids advanced

Left, next to eagle: All who heard the multitude marching and the clanking of their arms, trembled. Each elephant was stationed with a thousand men behind, armed with coats of mail, and with brass helmets on their heads; five hundred horsemen preceded each beast; they went with it and never left it.

Under eagle: But the Maccabees were brave and did not flee

In elephant's blanket (carmina figurate; micrography): Eleazar saw an elephant taller than the rest and wearing the royal colors. Courageously he ran into the fray to reach it; he killed men right and left, and they parted before him on both sides. He stabbed the elephant beneath, and killed it; but it fell to the ground upon him and he died.

Over dead lion, page bottom (Lord Byron): And there lay the rider distorted and pale, With the dew on his brow and the rust on his mail; And the tents were all silent, the banners alone, The lances unlifted, the trumpets unblown.





ELLEN FRANK, Ph.D.

Artist, scholar, and writer, Ellen Frank’s many awards in painting, book design, and scholarship include a Fulbright Fellowship, National Endowment for the Arts, Ford Foundation Fellowship, Pollock-Krasner Award in Painting, New York State Council on the Arts, and a New York Foundation for the Arts grant.

Dr. Frank studied art history and connoisseurship at Yale University, the Courtauld and Warburg Institutes, and holds an interdisciplinary doctorate in English Literature and the Visual Arts from Stanford University.

Dr. Frank was Assistant Professor of English Literature at UC Berkeley where she co-designed and created the first interdisciplinary major “Literature and the Visual Arts”; she was guest Associate Professor at Barnard College and Rutgers University, visiting professor at School of Visual Arts and Tyler School of Art. Her first book, *Literary Architecture: Essays Toward a Tradition* (University of California Press), was awarded the New York Institute for Graphic Arts 50 Best Books, Ronce & Coffin Club Design Award, and “Best Book in 50 Years” by University of California Press.

ABOUT EFIAF

In 2005, Dr. Frank founded Ellen Frank Illumination Arts Foundation, Inc., (EFIAF), a 501(c) (3) non-profit global initiative dedicated to the transformative power of art to build a culture of understanding. As artistic director, Dr. Frank has trained artist-interns from more than 25 countries, uniting scholars and experts to work on its joint creations.



ELLEN FRANK
ILLUMINATION ARTS
FOUNDATION, Inc.