

JUGGLING THE MIDDLE AGES

Connecting the Culture of the Middle Ages and the Present

Exhibition

OCTOBER 15, 2018 through FEBRUARY 28, 2019



“Juggling the Middle Ages” will focus on a medieval tale known often as *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame* or *Our Lady’s Tumbler*. The exhibit will follow the story from its rediscovery by scholars in the 1870s to its modern interpretations

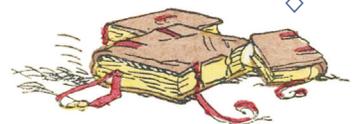
in children’s books. Through its exploration of the many incarnations of the tale, the exhibit will encourage viewers to reflect on the role of the Middle Ages in the fashioning of modern European and American identities through architecture, art, music, and other media.

The “Juggling the Middle Ages” exhibition will be complemented by public lectures, a musical performance, and family-focused events, such as readings by authors of children’s literature.

Books for Children and other Youngsters

Once upon a time, there lived a humble juggler, Barnaby by name, who was skillful but suffered every winter from poverty. One day he met a monk, who persuaded him to enter a monastery. All the brethren had exceptional skills to exercise on behalf of Mary, but the juggler felt he had nothing worthy to offer. Finally, he had the notion to juggle copper balls and knives before the altar of the Virgin in the chapel. The others caught him in the act and deemed his behavior madness, but when they saw the Mother of God descend to soothe him, they realized that he was blessed.

Dumbarton Oaks is proud to present three reproductions of beautiful books created during the Medieval revival in the early to mid-twentieth century. *The Little Juggler*, *The Juggler of Notre Dame*, and *Our Lady’s Juggler*, as well as a coloring book with reproductions of many of the illustrations in these and other recreations of the tale.



For more information and updates please visit

jugglingthemiddleages.com