The visual aspects of the Old English gloss to the *Eadwine Psalter*

The *Eadwine Psalter* is a mid-twelfth century manuscript made in Christ Church, Canterbury, roughly a hundred years following the Norman Conquest. This historical background is evident in its linguistic layer: it is a tripartite, display manuscript, containing the three Latin versions of the psalter: *Gallicanum* (with an Anglo-Norman gloss), *Romanum* (with an Old English gloss) and *Hebraicum* (with a Latin gloss). The *mise-en-page* has been for a long time interpreted as being reflective of the socio-political circumstances following the Conquest – the Old English gloss is believed to be inferior to the Anglo-Norman one (Webber 1992). Moreover, although the Old English gloss is among the precious few complete Old English psalter glosses that have survived until today, due to its numerous, heavy corrections in the first 77 psalms, it was for a long time deemed useless from the perspective of historical linguistics.

The present paper discusses the results of the analysis of the numerous (almost 2000 in total) corrections found in the first 50 Psalms, in order to gain an insight into various ways in which corrections to the gloss – as one of the manuscript's visual aspects – can provide new insight into the inter-relationships of its languages and offer a new interpretation of its *mise-en-page*. It is proposed that the corrections to the gloss are indeed a valuable source of not only linguistic information, but that they can also shed some light on non-linguistic controversies surrounding the Old English gloss to the *Eadwine Psalter*, such as the cultural dynamics surrounding the Psalter's production.

Selected references

Primary sources

Cambridge, Trinity College, R. 17. 1 (987). Tripartitum psalterium Eadwini (Eadwine Psalter), http://sites.trin.cam.ac.uk/james/viewpage.php?index=1229

Harsley, Fred. 1888. Eadwine Canterbury Psalter. London: N. Trübner and Co.

Pulsiano, Phillip. 2001. Old English Glossed psalters. Toronto: London: The Pennsyl-vania State University Press.

Secondary sources

Brown, George Hardin. 1999. "The Psalms as the Foundation on Anglo-Saxon Learning", in: Nancy van Deusen (ed.), *The Place of the Psalms in the Intellectual Culture of the Middle Ages*. New York: State University of New York Press, 1-24.

Broün, Michelle P. 2003. "House style in the scriptorium. Scribal reality and scholarly myth", in: Catherine E. Karkov and George Hardin Brown (eds.), *Anglo-Saxon Styles*. Albany: State University of New York Press,131-150.

Caie, Graham D. 2008. "The manuscript experience: what medieval vernacular manuscripts tell us about authors and texts", in: Graham D. Caie and Denis Renevey (eds.), *Medieval Texts in Context*. London: Routledge, , 10-27.

Caie, Graham D. and Denis Renevey (eds.). 2008. *Medieval Texts in Context*. London: Routledge.

Cubitt, Catherine. 2009. "Religion and belief 900-1100: the institutional church", in: Pauline Stafford (ed.), *A companion to the early Middle Ages: Britain and Ireland c. 500-1100.* Oxford: Blackwells, 376-394.

Da Rold, Orietta. 2006. "English Manuscripts 1060 to 1220 and the Making of a Re-source", in: Literature Compass 3: 750-766.

van Deusen, Nancy (ed.). 1999. *The Place of the Psalms in the Intellectual Culture of the Middle Ages*. New York: State University of New York Press.

Faulkner, Mark. 2012. "Rewriting English Literary History 1042 – 1215", in: Literature Compass 4: 275-291.

Gibson, Margaret, T.A. Heslop, and Richard W. Pfaff (eds.), *The Eadwine Psalter. Text, Image, and Monastic Culture in Twelfth-Century Canterbury*. London: The Pennsylvania State University Press

Pulsiano, Philip. 1989. "The Scribes and Old English Gloss of the Eadwine's Canterbury Psalter", in: Proceedings of the PMR Conference 14 (1989): 223-260.

Stafford, Pauline A. 2009. *A companion to the early Middle Ages: Britain and Ireland c. 500-1100*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Swan, Mary and Elaine Treharne (eds.). 2006. *Rewriting Old English in the twelfth century*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Toswell, M. Jane. 2014. *The Anglo-Saxon Psalter*. Turnhout: Brepols.

Treharne, Elaine. 2012. *Living Through Conquest. The Politics of Early English, 1020-1220.* Oxford University Press.

Webber, Teresa. 1992. "The Script", in: Margaret Gibson, T.A. Heslop, and Richard W. Pfaff (eds.), *The Eadwine Psalter. Text, Image, and Monastic Culture in Twelfth-Century Canterbury*. London: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 13-24.