

Stained Glass

Part 1

History and How it Was Made

The term **stained glass** refers to coloured [glass](#) as a material and to works created from it. Throughout its thousand-year history, the term has been applied almost exclusively to the windows of churches and other significant religious buildings. Although traditionally made in flat panels and used as windows, the creations of modern stained [glass artists](#) also include three-dimensional structures and [sculpture](#). Modern vernacular usage has often extended the term "stained glass" to include domestic [lead light](#) and [objets d'art](#) created from [foil glasswork](#) exemplified in the famous lamps of [Louis Comfort Tiffany](#).

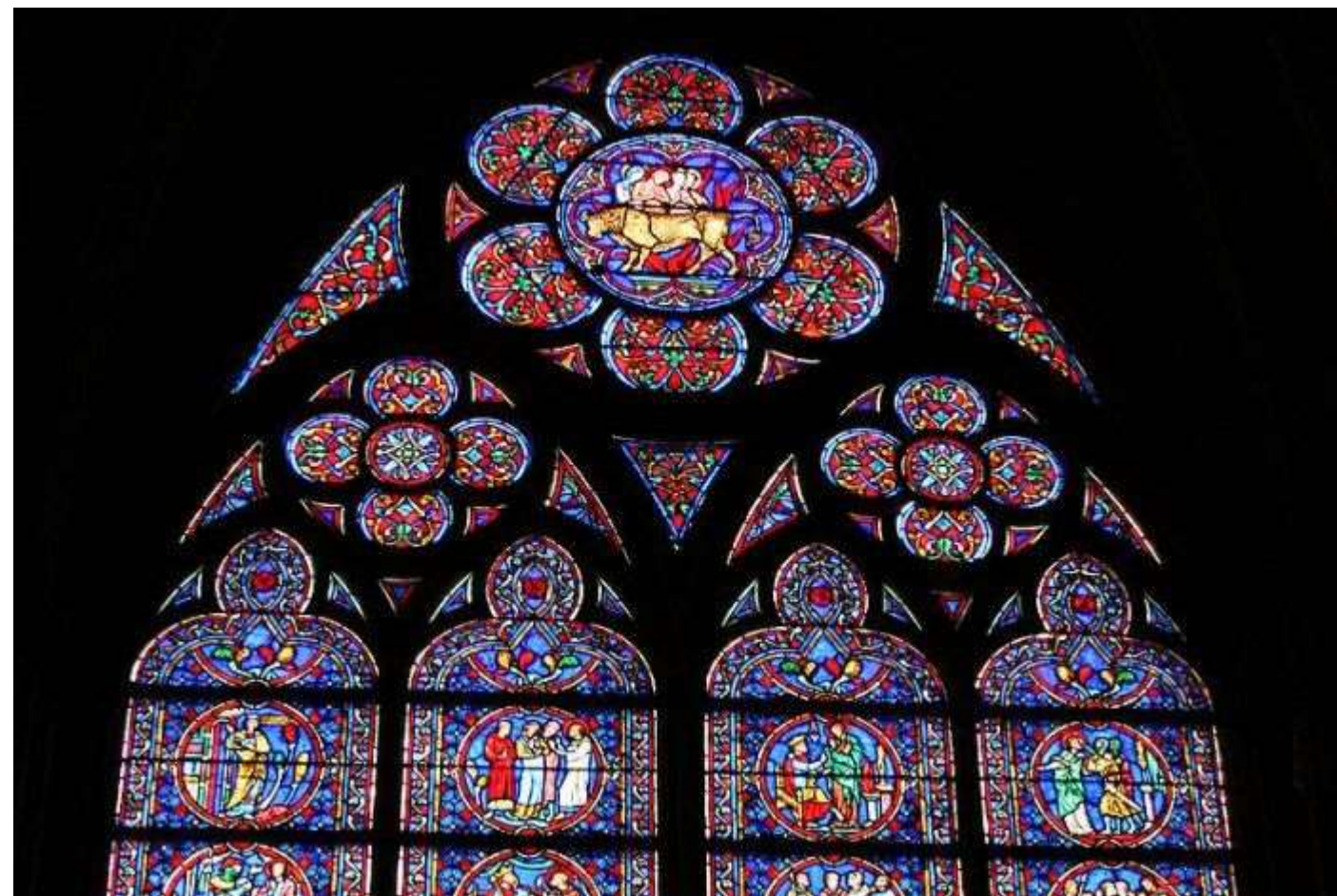
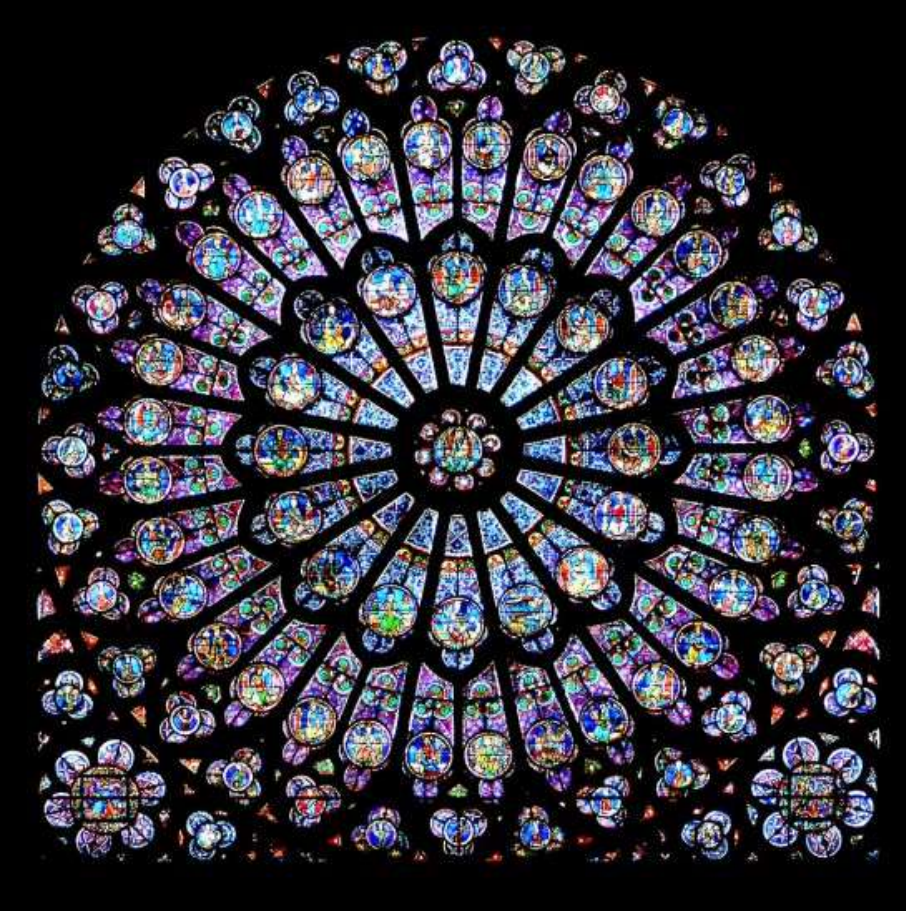
As a material *stained glass* is glass that has been colored by adding [metallic salts](#) during its manufacture, and usually then further decorating it in various ways. The coloured glass is crafted into *stained glass windows* in which small pieces of glass are arranged to form patterns or pictures, held together (traditionally) by strips of lead and supported by a rigid frame. [Painted](#) details and yellow [stain](#) are often used to enhance the design. The term *stained glass* is also applied to windows in [enamelled glass](#) in which the colors have been painted onto the glass and then fused to the glass in a kiln; very often this technique is only applied to parts of a window.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rkoEqFHhELA> (8 mins)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5NOrG888CI> (4 mins)

Notre Dame de Paris

Notre Dame's Famous Stained-Glass Windows Appear to Survive Fire.
... According to the Catholic News Agency, **the west rose** is the oldest of the windows, created in 1225, and was the largest rose window in the world at that time. The north and south rose windows were created around 1250-1260.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-hNH7JcSNVc>

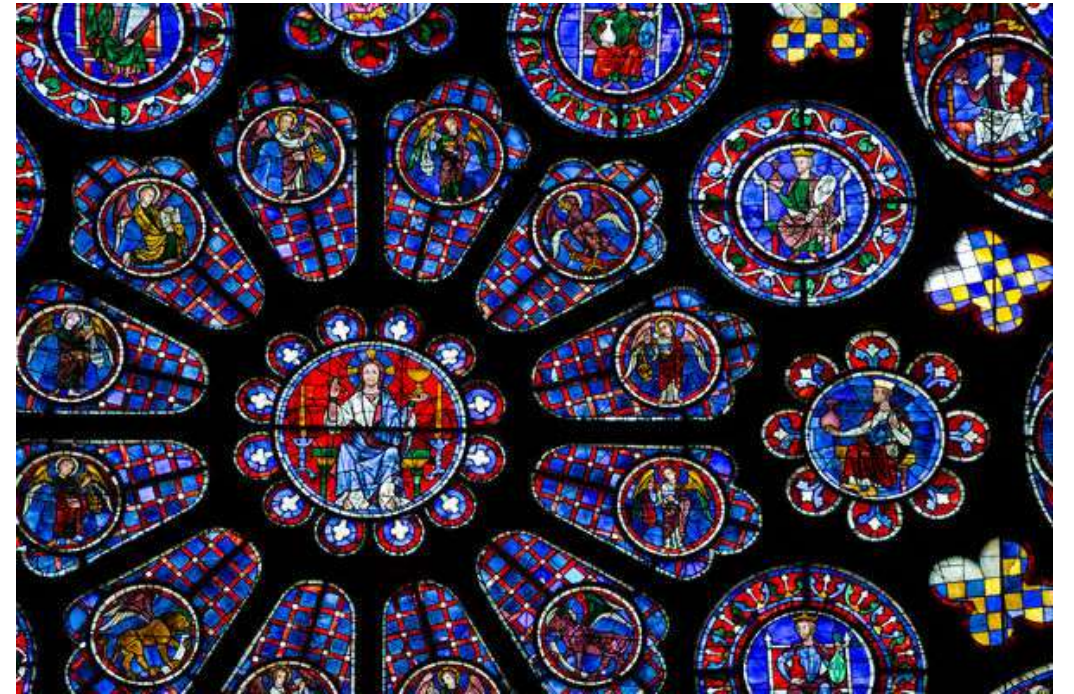
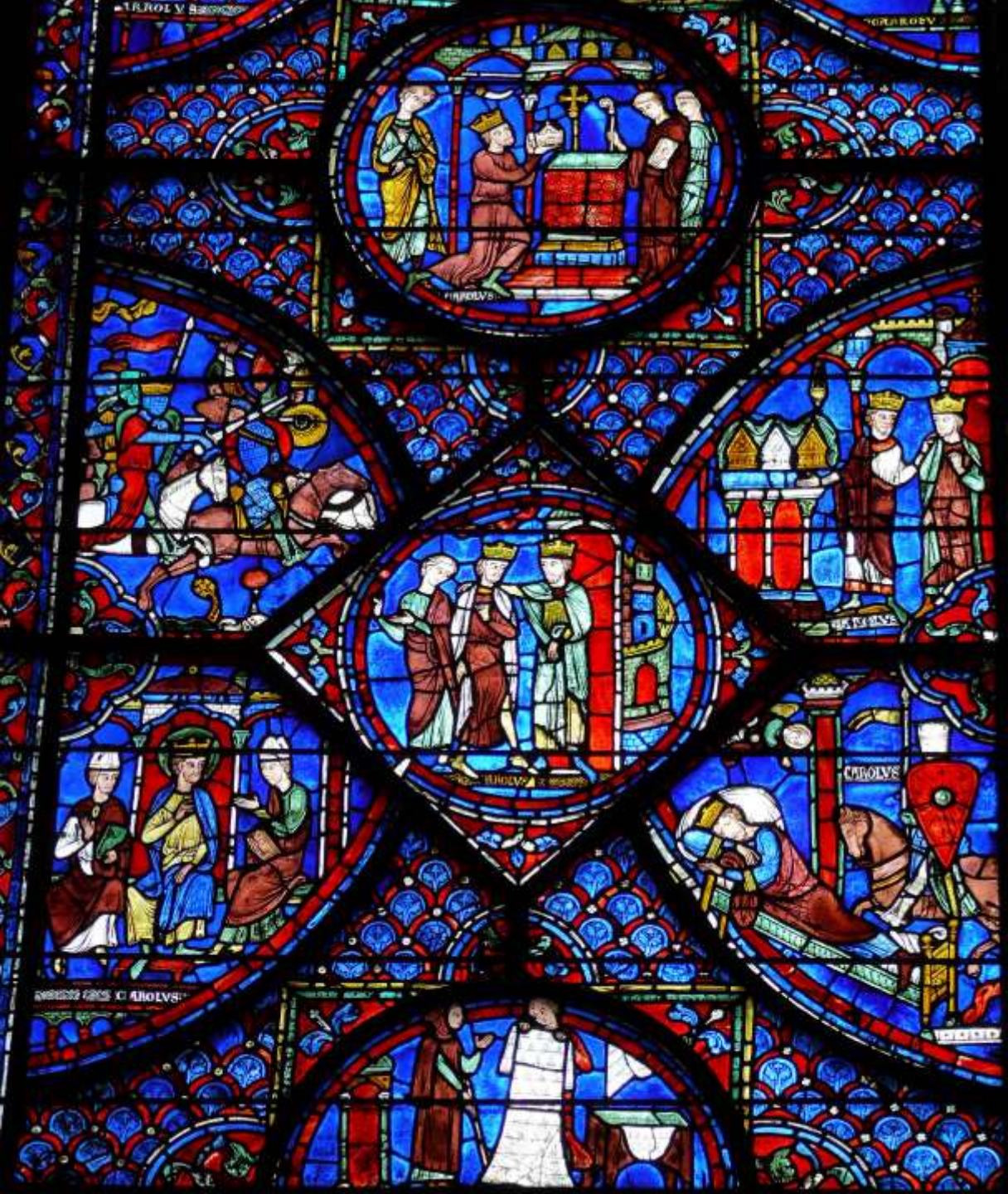


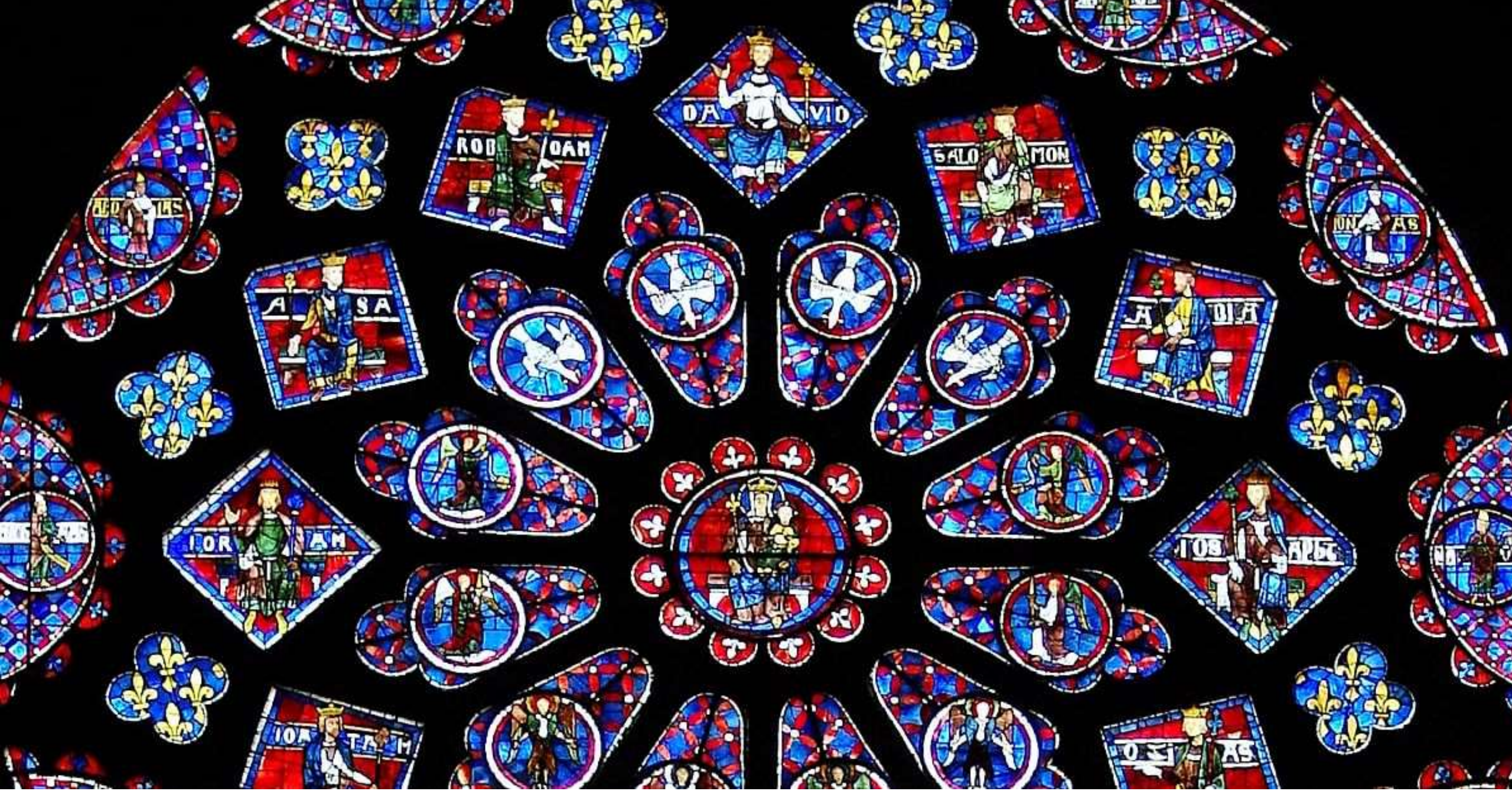


Chartres

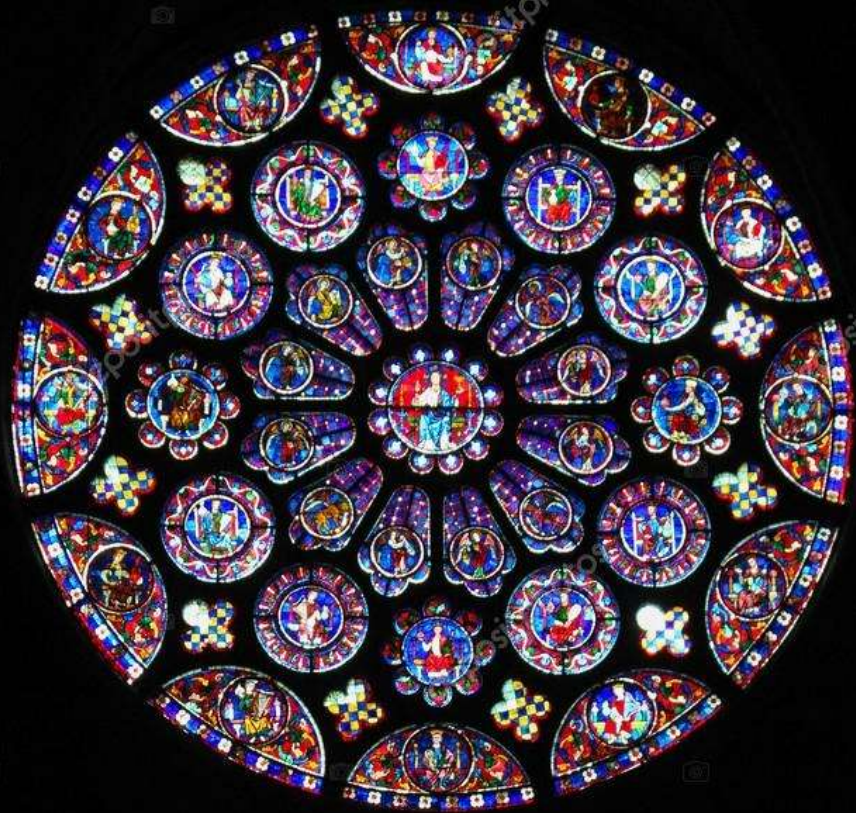
The stained glass windows of Chartres Cathedral are held to be one of the best-preserved and most complete set of medieval stained glass, notably celebrated for their colors, especially their cobalt blue.

- <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/early-europe-and-colonial-americas/medieval-europe-islamic-world/v/chartres-cathedral> (18 mins--start at 13 mins)









Sainte-Chapelle

Described as the “jewel of the Rayonnant Gothic period,” Paris' stunning **Sainte-Chapelle** was built in the 13th century by King Louis IX. Initially intended to house precious relics, Sainte-Chapelle is particularly renowned for its collection of 15 windows. Measuring nearly 50 feet in height, each monumental window depicts a sparkling interpretation of a biblical scene rendered in gem-like tones and impressive detail. In addition to these vertical masterpieces, the medieval chapel is also celebrated for the rich tracery and kaleidoscopic colors of its rose window.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=828f2Tlojvc>







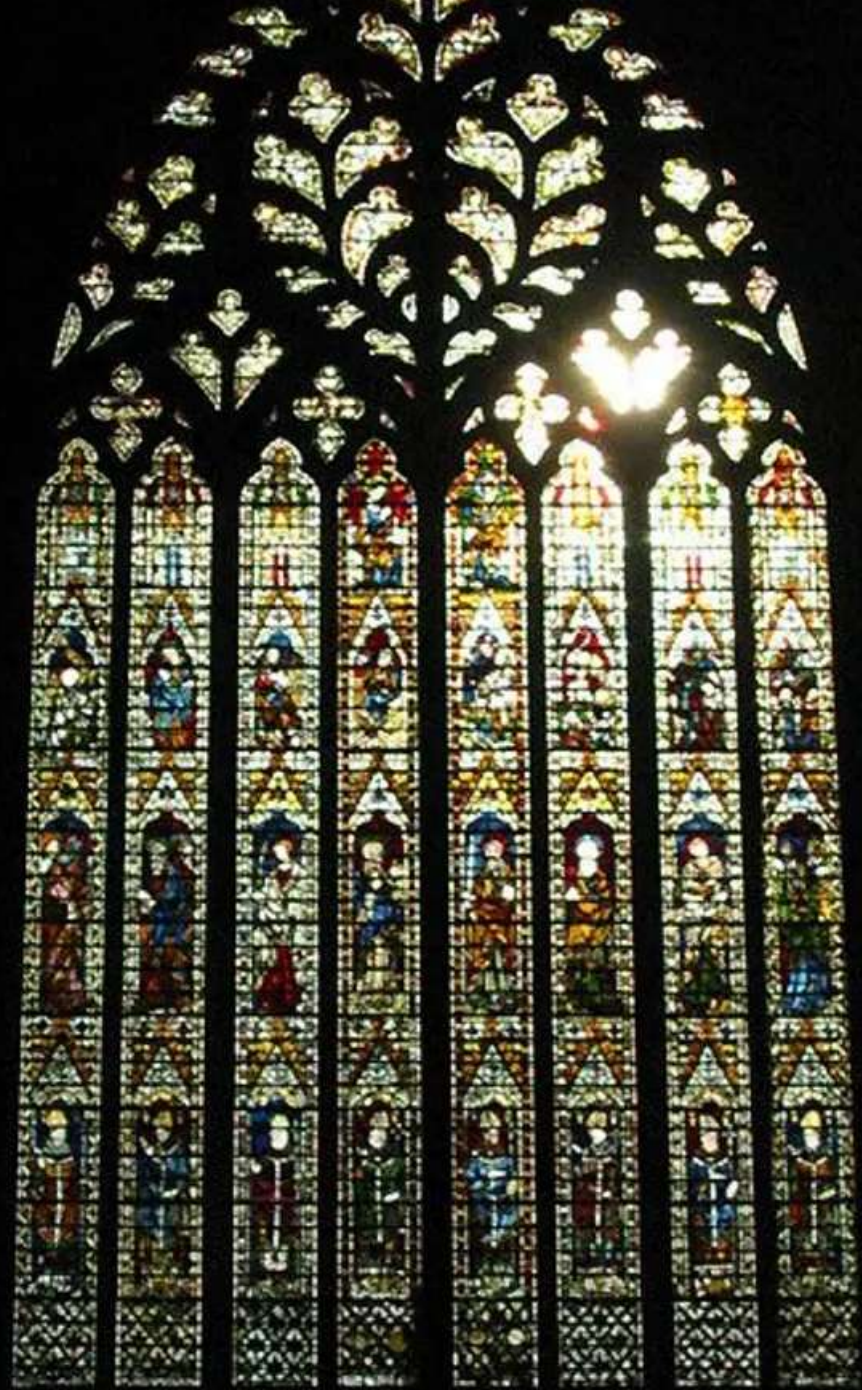
York Minster, 15th Century

One of the greatest of all European cathedrals, this Gothic masterpiece of northern England incorporates a giant east-facing window that is the largest expanse of stained glass anywhere before the modern era. Designed by John Thornton (the first named artist in British history), it features at its heart an intense depiction of the coming apocalypse. It's currently undergoing repairs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBAYLtiauuY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTlecKqcl2Q>

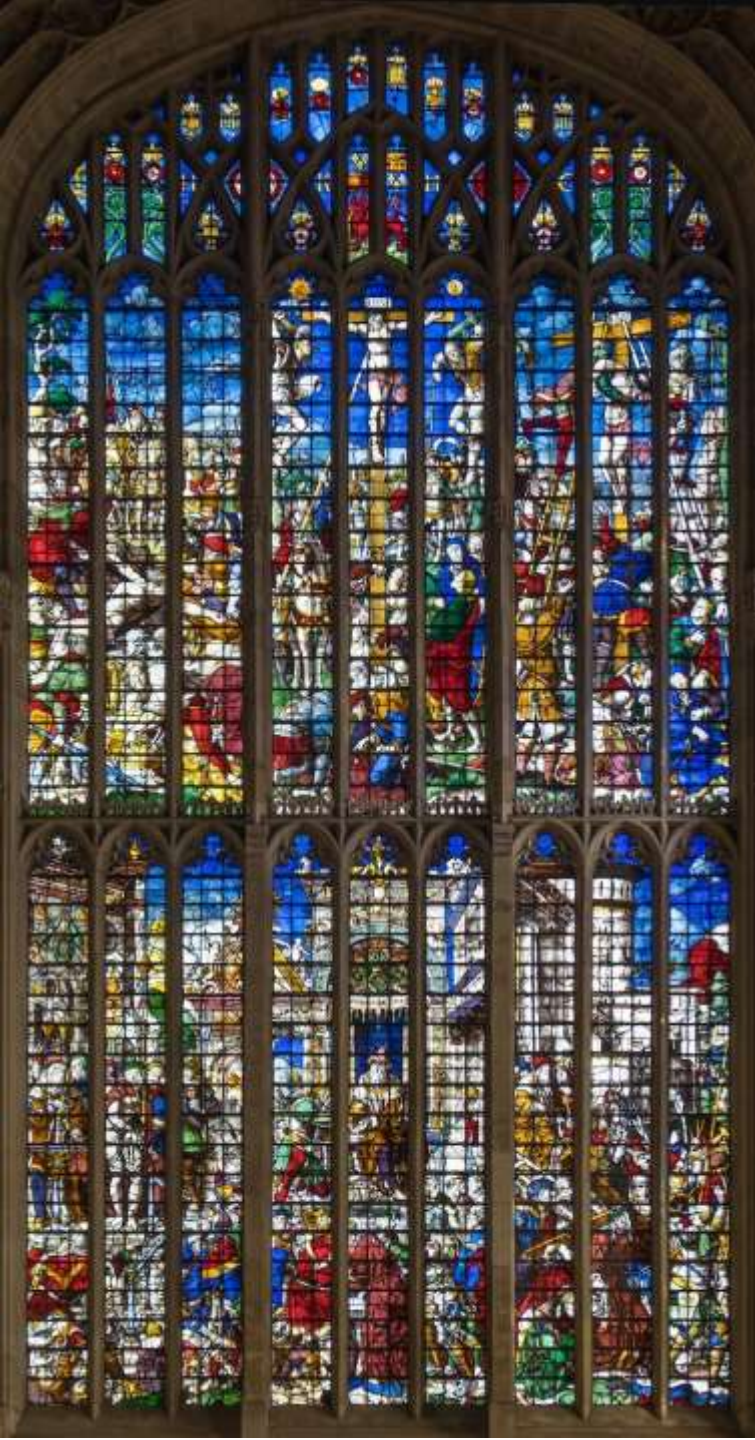





King's College Chapel

Throughout the late 15th and early 16th centuries, a beautiful Gothic chapel was erected in the University of Cambridge's King's College. In addition to mesmerizing fan vaulting and a painting by [Baroque](#) master Peter Paul Rubens, **King's College Chapel** is famous for its treasure trove of narrative windows. The iconography featured in the splendid panes incorporates both religious and royal motifs and illustrates the artistic advancements of England's late Gothic period.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=isP3lspL644>





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Nasir al-Mulk Mosque

The **Nasir al-Mulk Mosque**, a 19th-century place of worship in Shiraz, Iran, is a breathtaking example of [Islamic architecture](#). Featuring a façade decorated with a row of ornamental stained glass windows, the “[Pink Mosque](#)” offers worshippers a sunlit spectacle every day at dawn: as the morning light shines through the panes, it illuminates the interior's rose-colored tiles and patterned Persian carpet with an enchanting array of vivid colors.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MftslAXP2il&t=1s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWRkhKNCdOI>





La Sagrada Família

Designed by master of *modernisme* [Antoni Gaudí](#) in the late 19th century, [La Sagrada Família](#) is one of Barcelona's most famous destinations. On top of its whimsical towers and mesmerizing mosaics, the ever-growing church is known for its fantastic stained glass windows. Capturing the “expressivity and grandeur” of Gaudí's vision, the multicolor windows range in shape and color scheme, making the basilica's avant-garde interior even more eye-catching.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=43DoArF9hgl> (no)











Palau de la Música Catalana, Barcelona

Completed by Catalan Art Nouveau architect Lluís Domènech i Montaner in 1908, this steel-framed concert hall boasts a stained-glass skylight featuring a three-dimensional depiction of the sun. Named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997, the music hall contains countless other artworks, including the busts of Anselm Clavé and Beethoven that flank the stage.

William Morris

King Arthur and Sir Lancelot, 1862

Stained glass went into decline during the Renaissance, when the techniques we now call “Gothic” came to be seen as naive if not barbarous. It wasn’t until the 19th Century that artists began to look afresh at the medium.

William Morris, an innovative designer and a radical socialist, executed not only religious scenes but secular commissions like King Arthur and Sir Lancelot for the Gothic Revival buildings of the day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZDruSH2cRL4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgbTlj-w63A> (good)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzljEGe_vuw (no words)

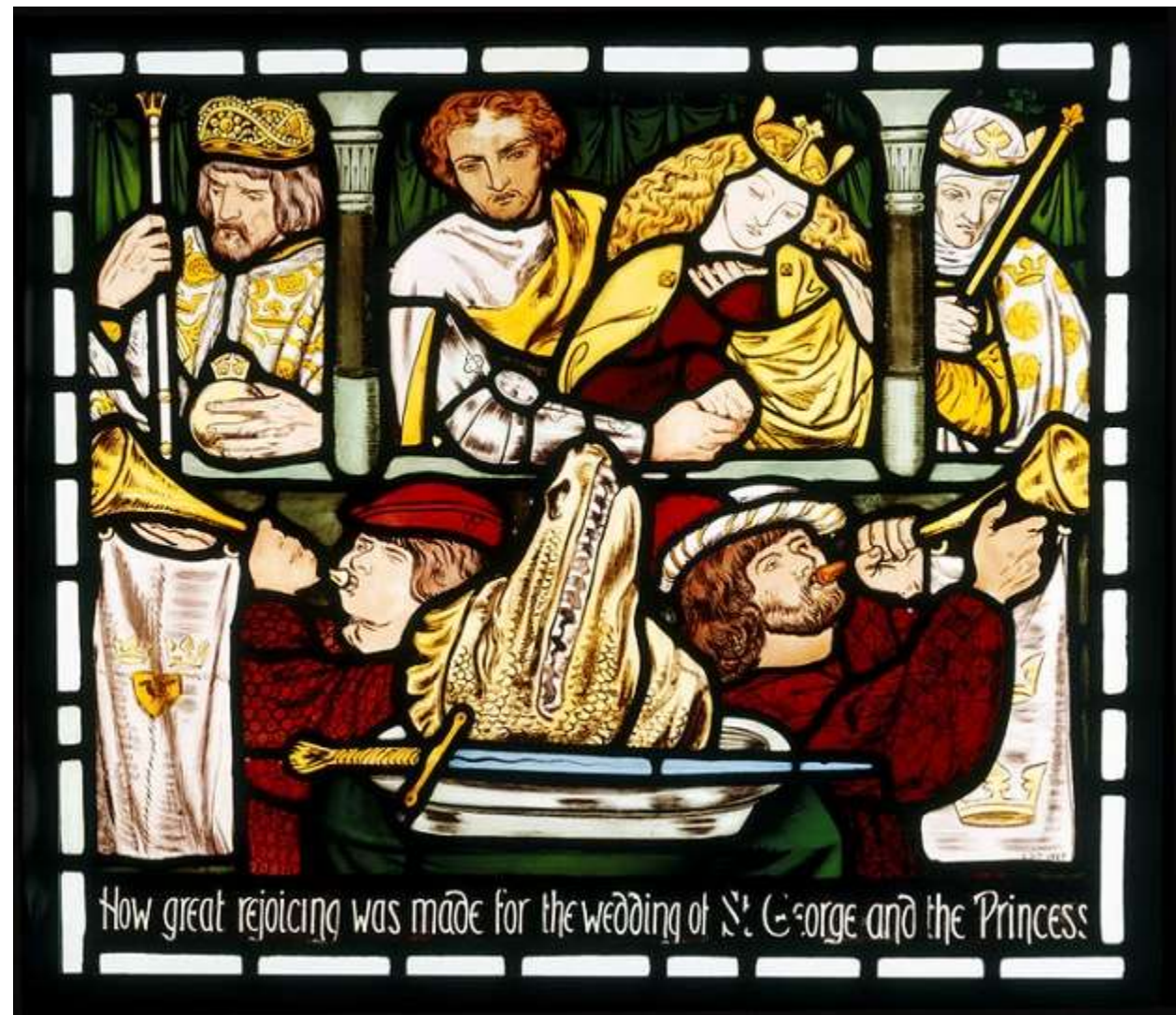


MAGNUS ARTURUS REX
POTENTISSIMUS ANGLIAE



DOMINUS LANCELOT DU LAC
EQUES INVICTUS





John La Farge (1835-1910)

John La Farge was an American artist whose career spanned illustration, murals, interior design, painting, and popular books on his Asian travels and other art-related topics.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8ACV -YptA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8ACV-YptA)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3utVDLWWxi4>







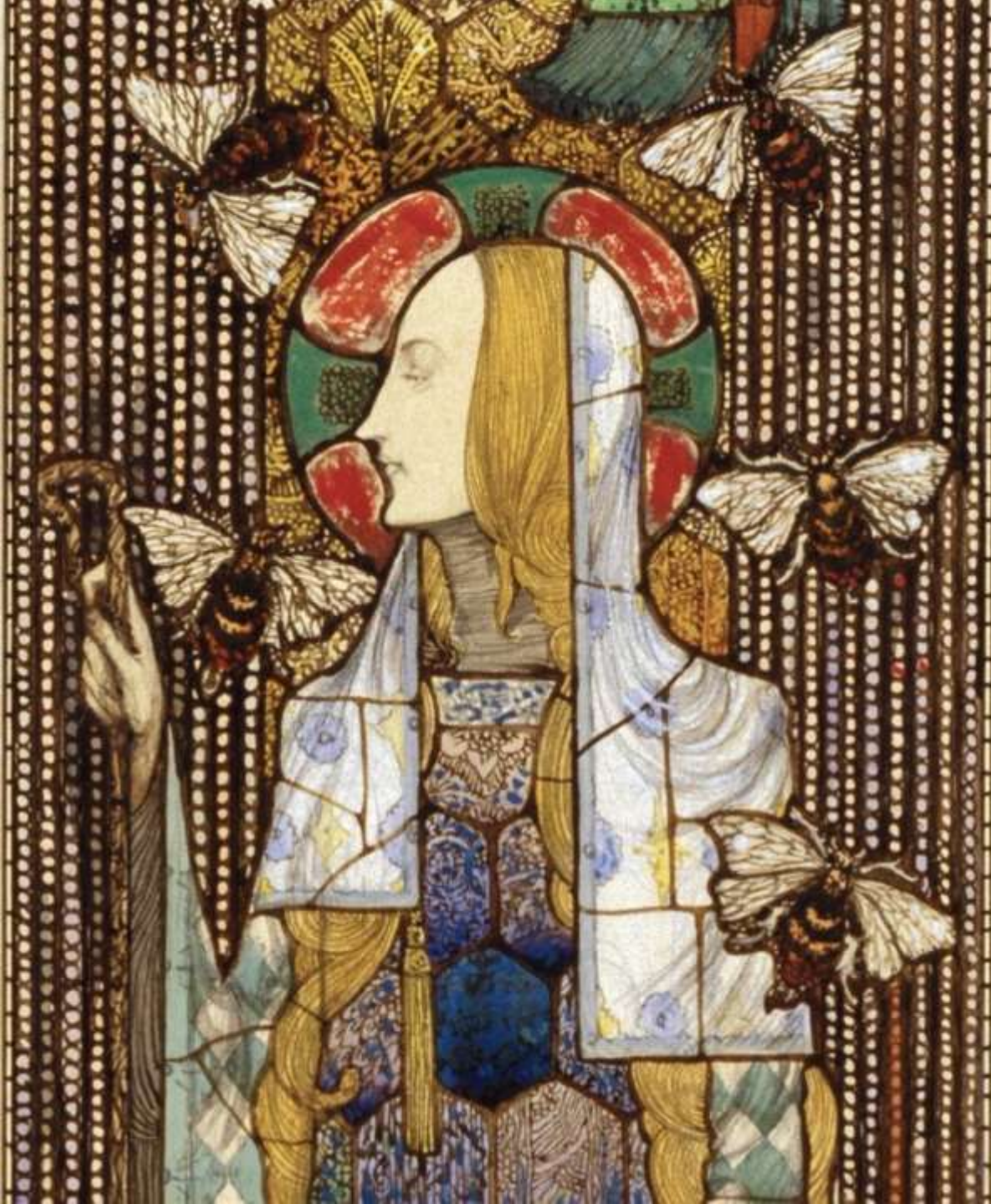


Henry Patrick Clarke (1889-1931)

Henry Patrick Clarke was an Irish stained-glass artist and book illustrator. Born in Dublin, he was a leading figure in the Irish Arts and Crafts Movement. His work was influenced by both the Art Nouveau and Art Deco movements. His stained glass was particularly informed by the French Symbolist movement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A6dkzINdShk> (4 mins)









Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848-1933)

Louis Comfort Tiffany was an American artist and designer who worked in the decorative arts and is best known for his work in stained glass. He is the American artist most associated with the Art Nouveau and Aesthetic movements.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpMVFDjhPXM&t=17s>
(5 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=miRPN9xnMJo>
(Mystery Window)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JRyTdWz83c> (NL)











Clara Driscoll (1861-1944)

Clara Driscoll of [Tallmadge, Ohio](#), was head of the [Tiffany Studios](#) Women's Glass Cutting Department (the "Tiffany Girls"), in [New York City](#). Using patterns created from the original designs, these women selected and cut the [glass](#) to be used in the famous lamps. Driscoll designed more than thirty Tiffany lamps produced by Tiffany Studios, among them the Wisteria, Dragonfly, Peony, and from all accounts her first — the Daffodil.

https://m.facebook.com/watch/?v=2147661835275557&_rdr

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYPd9-H13HQ> (dragonfly lamp)





Agnes Northrop (1897-1953)

Agnes Northrop was the only truly independent woman designer Louis Comfort Tiffany employed. In spite of her prominent role at the time, few windows, until recently, have been attributed to her, and her significance has been long overshadowed by Tiffany himself and by other women in his employ. Northrop, under Tiffany's aegis, introduced wholly new subjects to stained glass—landscapes and gardens—for both religious and domestic settings, and designed some of the most memorable windows to emerge from Tiffany Studios.

<https://www.artic.edu/exhibitions/9536/landscape-in-light-the-tiffany-window-at-the-art-institute-of-chicago>
(good)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rB0oIIQazPU>



Hartwell Memorial Window







Grand Hotel in Mexico City

This 1899 upmarket department store with a soaring Tiffany-stained-glass ceiling in the lobby was transformed into a luxury hotel in anticipation of the 1968 Olympic Games. The ceiling, which evokes the country's Mesoamerican heritage with a lively palette of turquoise and gold, was designed by French artisan Jacques Gruber and also features a Louis XV-style chandelier.



The Grossmunster

The Grossmunster is an 11th-century Protestant church in Zurich, Switzerland. While the church was built in the Romanesque style—an approach known for its thick walls and subsequently small windows—it boasts a beautiful selection of stained glass. These spectacular windows were added in the 20th and 21st centuries, and include striking pieces by Pop Art icon Sigmar Polke.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZvuT1HMYPo>





Frank Lloyd Wright

America's first great architect believed in the total unity of the design of a home, and that included not only the building and the furnishings but the windows as well. Directly inspired by the Arts and Crafts movement of Morris and others, Wright's Prairie style sought to create an organic, seamless architecture through abstract glass compositions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fw3jxQrQSQY>

