The Normans in Sicily | Royal Art and Architecture

'The tiraz workshop was an important vehicle for the spread of figurative repertoires.'

The establishment of the tiraz workshop, a royal atelier for the production of precious artefacts and fabrics near the Royal Palace, was an important vehicle for the spread of figurative repertoires and manufacturing techniques in Islamic culture.

- **Name:** Pair of inscriptions
- **Dynasty:** Fatimid / Norman
- **Details:** Regional Gallery of Sicily, Abatellis Palace, Palermo, Italy
- **Justification:** A pair of elegant inscriptions using naskhi characters in white marble, porphyry and serpentine, thought to originate from the Royal Palace.

- **Name:** Fragment of wooden ceiling
- **Dynasty:** Mid-12th century Norman
- **Details:** Regional Gallery of Sicily, Abatellis Palace, Palermo, Italy
- **Justification:** This fragment of wooden ceiling, probably from the Royal Palace, is richly decorated with geometric and plant motifs and is closely linked to similar Fatimid pieces found in Egypt.

- **Name:** Mosaics in the Ruggero Room at the Royal (or Norman) Palace
- **Dynasty:** Between 1131 and 1154 Norman
- **Details:** Palermo, Italy
- **Justification:** The iconography used in the decorative mosaics in this room show a clear Persian influence, in particular the images of pairs of facing animals.