

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.
