Larissa Rasinger, A girdle book in Vienna's Schottenstift newly discovered for research (p. 428–434)

The Vienna Schottenstift possesses a girdle book, still unknown to scientific research, despite 23 extant originals and several hundred artistic representations of girdle books so far having been recorded. The girdle book of the Schottenstift (Vienna, Schottenstift, Library, 17.i.53) is about 112 x 75 x 30 mm, the elongated leather binding in addition measures a further 148 mm, ending in a woven leather knot. This specimen contains a Diurnale monasticum, printed in 1515 in Venice by Lucantonio Giunta on behalf of the Viennese publishers (and brothers) Lukas and Leonard Alantsee. This specimen of the book features fine decorations (gilt edging, book fittings) and therefore fits perfectly into the environment of the Benedictine abbey of the Schottenstift influenced by humanism – which also has a girdle book in its emblem, as girdle books were visible statements of wealth, learning and intellectual curiosity.

Keywords: Vienna, Schotten Abbey; girdle book; codicology

Schlagworte: Wien, Schottenstift; Beutelbuch; Kodikologie