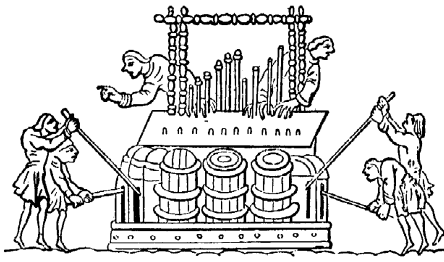


UTRECHT PSALTER -



Carolingian book dating from c820, now held at the Utrecht University Library (Ms. 32). It probably came from the Abbey of Hautvilliers near Rheims, possibly brought by Ethelwold from Fleury b984 and held at Reculver Abbey, then Winchester, then Canterbury, where it was copied some time in the early 11thc by monks at Christ Church. The *UP* contains all 150 psalms and 16 canticles, each illustrated by pen drawings which precede the text and reflect some aspect of their content. It was probably a choir book, and would have been placed on a lectern from which several monks could chant. The drawing linked with Psalm 149 (150) portrays an unusual form of hydraulis. It shows two organists, two or three plinths (presumably each with its own pignus), two sets of very similar pipe arrangements, and four pumps. If not sheer fantasy, albeit with some historical basis, then it may show either a late development of the hydraulis or may copy an earlier iconography (Byzantium 5thc or 6thc - Peter Williams). The relationship of this to the *two brothers of concordant spirit* in [Wulstan's](#) poem about the [Winchester](#) organ is striking, but the speculation which has arisen from this drawing exceeds that applied to almost any other from this era, and includes some erroneous interpretations. Other organ-relevant references in the *UP* are for Psalms 69 (70), and 150 (151). The *UP* formed a basis for copies such as that now at the British Museum (Harley MS 603), copied at Saint Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury c1010-20.