In the history of the illustrated prayer book, the St. Albans Psalter could be likened to the big bang, which was followed by a period of rapid pictorial inflation. The remaining twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries are filled with an exponentially increasing number of prayer books with picture cycles of ever-expanding ambition. In some of these books, pictures become independent of prayers, and it is this phenomenon, the independent picture cycle in late medieval books intended for prayer and meditation, on which this lecture will focus.

The lecture will be followed by a book presentation (presented by Prof. Dr. Jan Van der Stock – Illuminare, Centre for the Study of Medieval Art) and reception.

Registration is required. Please send an email to marleen.reynders@kuleuven.be before 23th May 2014.