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An interesting Spanish rug in a fifteenth century painting.

Welcome, [Filiberto Boncompagni](#).

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April 19th,
2012, 07:36
PM

#1

[Pierre Galafassi](#)

Members

Join Date: Oct
2009
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An interesting Spanish rug in a fifteenth century painting.

Hi all,

The 1494 painting below (FIG 1) features a successful limb transplant, but, next to surgeons it might be interesting for rug experts too. The field motif shows a clear Renaissance influence. The palette, in particular the reddish beige (or dullish orange) can be seen in several extant sixteenth century Spanish rugs.

IMHO the border still has an Islamic flavor, but I would rather not start a «Kufic»-type polemic here. 😊

FIG 1. Master of Los Balbases, 1495, Sts. Cosmas' and Damian's miracle, detail. Welcome Library.



The following pictures show examples of extant Spanish rugs in which the Mujedar tradition is in part superseded by Renaissance influences.

FIG 2. Spanish. Sixteenth century. 549X283.MIAQ

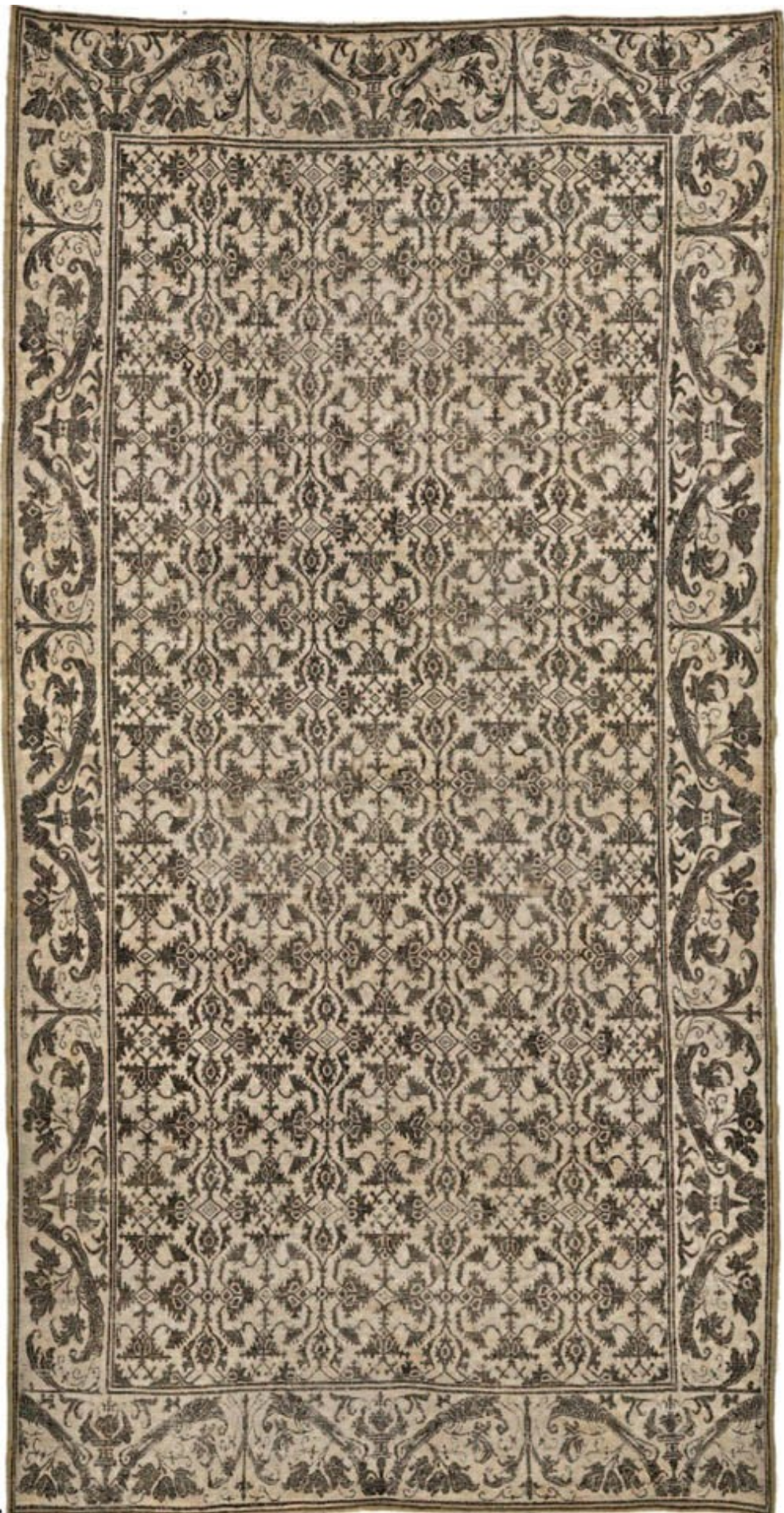


FIG 3. Spanish, probably Alcaraz, fragment. Sixteenth century.



FIG 4. Spanish, probably Cuenca. Sixteenth century. MNAD



FAQ:

What on earth are «Balbases» ?

Answer: I don't have a clue, but «Los Balbases» is a Spanish village, once fief of a Genoan military luminary fighting for the King of Spain: Ambrogio Spinola. (Wikipedia dixit)

Mujedar ?

Answer: When the Spanish «Reconquista» started, the population of «Al Andalus» (initially meaning most of the Iberian peninsula) had already adopted Islam. The Reconquista was nearly complete by 1370 (leaving in Muslim hands only the small and weak Nasrid kingdom of Granada which was annexed too in 1492). Spain had to integrate and slowly re-christianize this large Muslim population. Even in the north of Spain a large percentage of farmers and artisans were Mujedar (Muslim or former Muslim). For us ruggies it is interesting to remember that the main centers of rug weaving (Chinchilla, Alcaraz, Cuenca,...) were in Christian hands nearly two centuries before the fall of Granada, but rugs were still woven by Mujedars.



November 20th, 2012,
11:36 AM

#2

[jamesbernal](#)

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These Spanish rugs look so beautiful and they seem to be of good material and quality. Are these Spanish rugs available all over the world?



November 20th, 2012,
01:25 PM

#3

[Steve Price](#)

Administrator

Join Date: May 2008
Posts: 52



Hi

First, welcome to Turkotek. Would you be good enough to send me (sprice@vcu.edu) your full name? I'd like to change your user name to your full name. That way, it will display on your posts. We don't permit anonymous or pseudonymous posting (see paragraph atop this page). It happens very often with newcomers, so nobody gets very exercised about it. But we do like to put things on track.

Thanks.

Steve Price



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