

CONTENTS



PREFACE 9

INTRODUCTION 11

I

ICONOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION & INTERPRETATION

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS 15

DESCRIPTION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION 21

Panel I. *Tristram and the Dragon* 21

Panel II. *Isalde's Discovery of the Sword* 25

Panel III. *Tristram and Isalde* 31

Panel IV. *Isalde's Attempt on Brangain's Life* 35

Panel V. *The Abduction of Isalde* 39

Panel VI. *Tristram and Orgain's Shield* 43

Panel VII. *Tristram and Lancelot* 49

II

THE BRUSSELS TRISTAN TAPESTRIES IN CONTEXT

HISTORICAL CONTEXT 55

History of the Set 55

The Collalto and the Assertion of Status: A Retrospective 59

LITERARY CONTEXT 63

Literary Tradition of the Myth of Tristan 63

Reception of the Tristan Theme in Sixteenth Century Literature 63

ICONOGRAPHIC CONTEXT 69

Iconographic Tradition of the Myth of Tristan 69

Reception of Tristan as Serial Wall Decor before the Brussels Set 69

III

THE BRUSSELS TRISTAN TAPESTRIES AS ARTIFACT

Dating the Style of the *Brussels Tristan Tapestries* 83

The *Brussels Tristan Tapestries* as Pictorial Narrative 95

BY WAY OF CONCLUSION

The Brussels Tristan Tapestries and the Tristan Corpus 99

APPENDICES

Appendix I: City Marks and Weaver Monograms 103

Appendix II: Kieslinger Testimony (14 October 1948) 107

NOTES 109

WORKS CITED 131

ABBREVIATIONS 139

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS 141

PHOTOGRAPHIC CREDITS 143

GENERAL INDEX 145