



THE HISTORY OF THE TAROT
AND THE CONTRIBUTION OF
PAMELA COLEMAN
SMITH

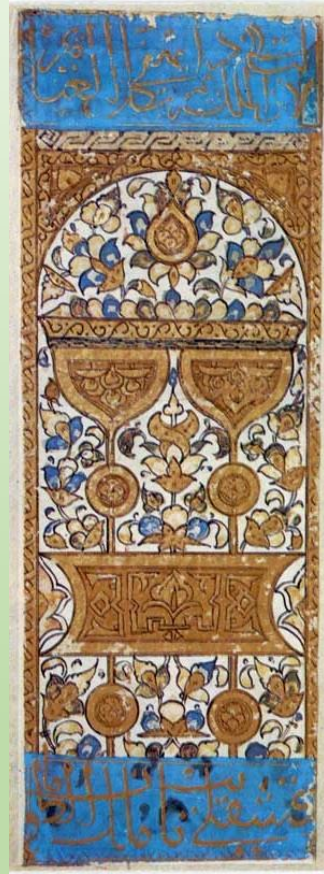
THE MAMLUK CARDS

- Originated in Persia
- Has 56 cards organised into four suits (Cups, Coins, Wands and Swords)
- 14 cards per suit from Ace to King

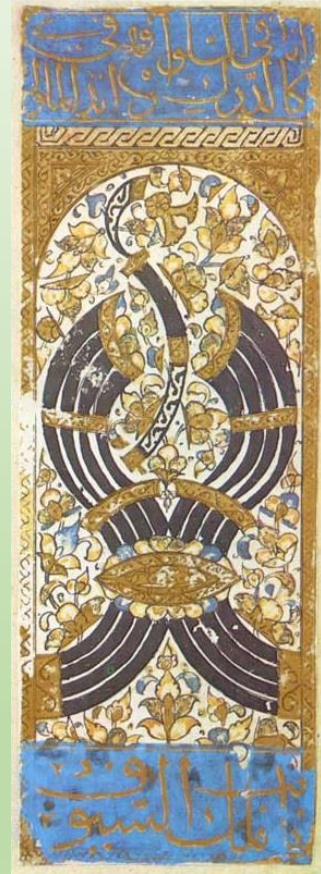
EXAMPLES OF THE MAMLUK CARDS



Coins



Cups



Swords



Wands

TRIONFI

- Originated in Italy
- Has 22 cards, numbered from zero to twenty one
- Each card has a unique name and motif

EXAMPLES OF THE TRIONFI



The Magician



The Moon



The Star

COMBINING THE DECKS

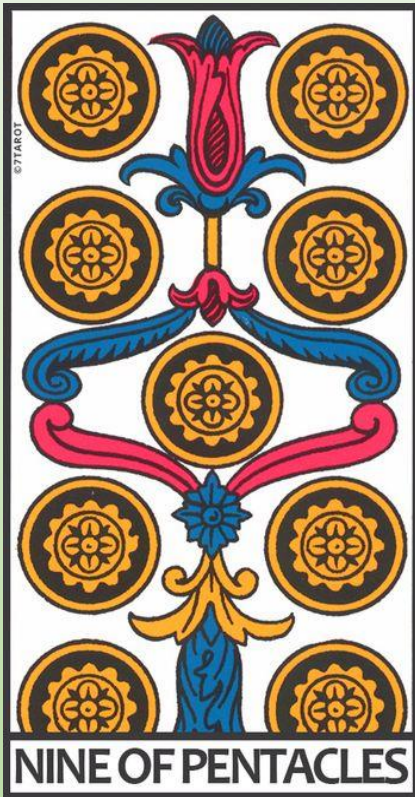
- The 78 tarot cards are split into 56 Minor Arcana and 22 Major Arcana.
- 56 Mamluk cards + 22 Trionfi = 78 Tarot Cards

	Mamluk	Trionfi	Rider-Waite
56 cards	✓		✓
22 cards		✓	✓
4 suits	✓		✓

THE FIRST TAROT DECK

- The first tarot cards only depicted the suit and number of each card
- The Rider Waite Tarot Deck was the first to feature motifs related to the meaning of each card

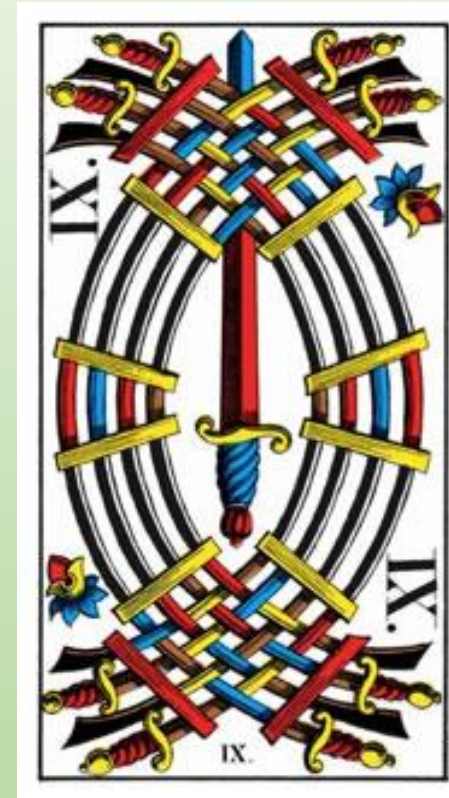
THE MINOR ARCANA



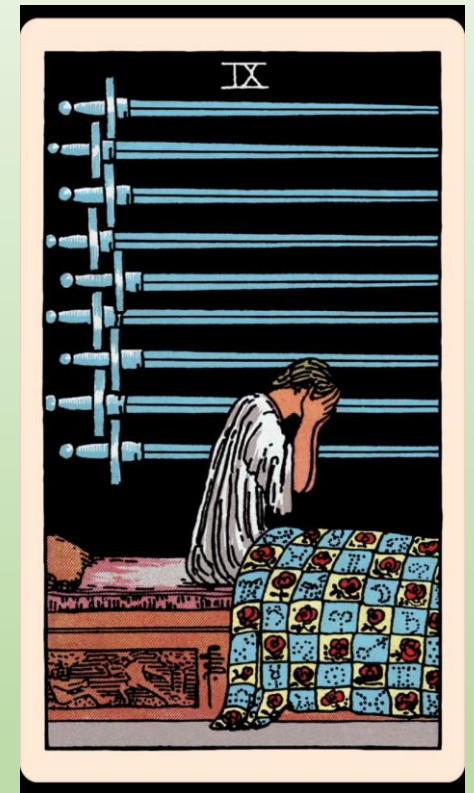
9 of Coins,
Traditional



9 of Coins,
Rider-Waite



9 of Swords,
Traditional



9 of Swords,
Rider-Waite

THE MAJOR ARCANA



The Moon,
Trionfi



The Moon,
Rider-Waite



The Magician,
Trionfi



The Magician,
Rider-Waite

PAMELA COLEMAN SMITH

- Pamela Coleman Smith illustrated the Rider-Waite tarot but she is not credited in its name
- Her illustrations make this the most accessible and easy to interpret deck
- This accessibility is what makes the Rider-Waite tarot so popular



SALES OF THE RIDER-WAITE DECK

Worldwide Tarot Deck Sales 1900-1999

