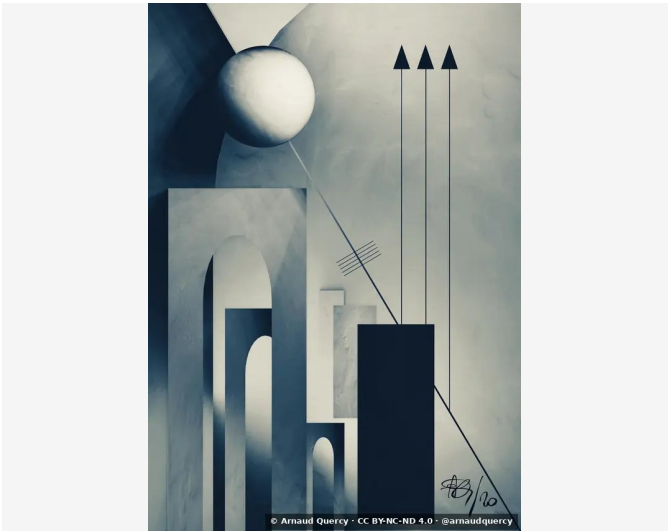


Nanopublication – Philosophical Source – Augustine's Two Cities

by Arnaud Quercy [2] · The Two Cities - part II · 2021



CLAIM 1: PHILOSOPHICAL SOURCE – AUGUSTINE'S TWO CITIES

"The Two [1] Cities - part II" (AQC0217) translates concepts from Saint Augustine [3]'s "City of God" (XIV, 28,1) into visual form, specifically engaging with his articulation of two intermingled yet distinct cities - one terrestrial, one celestial - and the tensions between temporal and spiritual, throne and altar, religious and political.

CONTEXT

Saint Augustine's **De Civitate Dei** (The City of God), written between 413-426 CE, develops one of the most influential frameworks in Western theological and political philosophy: the distinction between the **civitas terrena** (earthly city) and the **civitas Dei** (city of God). In Book XIV, Chapter 28, Augustine articulates how these two cities are "intermingled" in the present age yet oriented toward fundamentally different ends - one toward self-love (**amor sui**), the other toward love of God (**amor Dei**).

This artwork engages directly with Augustine's text as source material, functioning as a visual transliteration of philosophical concepts rather than mere illustration. The transliteration preserves the structural relationships Augustine establishes: the simultaneity of the two cities, their mutual aspiration toward peace, and the tension that arises from their different orientations. The work

belongs to a broader practice of ideamorphism - the systematic translation of conceptual structures into visual form while maintaining the integrity of the source idea's internal logic.

The specific passage referenced (XIV, 28,1) addresses how the celestial city, though appearing "in exile on our land," relates to divine providence and shelters "wisdom and peace." This theological formulation provides the conceptual architecture that the visual composition translates into geometric and tonal relationships.

REFERENCES

[1] Arnaud Quercy (2021). The Two Cities - part II – Catalog raisonné. <https://arnaudquercy.art/en/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0217.html>

[2] Quercy, A. ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0000-2662-7790>

[3] Augustine of Hippo. **De Civitate Dei** (The City of God), Book XIV, Chapter 28. c. 426 CE.

[4] Quercy, A. (2021). The Two Cities - part II. AQC0217. Digital on Paper. Untamed Creations collection.

WHERE THIS WORK LIVES

THEMATIC ELEMENTS

- Saint Augustine
- digital art
- Research on Tensions
- contemporary philosophy
- celestial city
- terrestrial realm
- Arnaud Quercy
- AQC0217
- monumental format
- philosophical dualities

EPISTEMIC PROFILE

Claim type	artistic statement
Voice	third person
Epistemic status	declared intention
Methodology	intentional transliteration
Certainty	high

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

17ca2452cf5550438b4af37d7820508a054ab648477b090f35d1f640fcd6f594

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Artist Arnaud Quercy

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