

Nanopublication – Transliterating Urban-Feline Symbiosis Through Form

by Arnaud Quercy · The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 · 2023



CLAIM 1: TRANSLITERATING URBAN-FELINE SYMBIOSIS THROUGH FORM

I transliterate the [1] inseparability of Istanbul's cats from the city's architecture into sculptural form. The cats are not fauna observed in urban space – they *are* the city, inhabiting every street as living elements of its structure. I encode this merger through cubist geometry where organic feline movement and angular architectural planes become indistinguishable, the same formal language expressing both cat and city.

CONTEXT

Istanbul is known as "the city of cats" where felines inhabit every street, alley, and doorway not as strays but as integrated residents. During my travels there, this presence was inescapable and deeply striking. The cats are neither wild nor domesticated in the conventional sense; they exist in a third state, fully urban yet fully autonomous.

This observation became the conceptual anchor for the sculpture. The merger I witnessed – cats as inseparable from architecture, moving through the city as if they were part of its structure – demanded translation into form. I used cubist geometry as my transliteration method because it allowed me to dissolve the distinction between organic (feline) and constructed (architectural) elements. The angular planes that compose the cat's body could equally describe building facades, rooftops, and the geometric shadows cast by Istanbul's dense urban fabric.

The sculpture operates within my ideamorphic practice: identifying an invariant (the urban-feline merger) and finding a formal language (cubist vocabulary) that can encode this relationship. The work is not a representation of a cat, nor of the city, but of their inseparability – the idea that survived my diffraction as observer and demanded material manifestation.

REFERENCES

- [1] Arnaud Quercy (2023). The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 – Catalog raisonné. <https://arnaudquercy.art/en/catalogue-raisonne/AQCO460.html>
- [2] Quercy, A. "Ideamorphism: A Framework for Enacting Diffraction." Multimodal Institute Working Papers, Version 3.0, January 2025.
- [3] "Nature in the City" collection documentation [internal reference – URL to be added]

WHERE THIS WORK LIVES

Series: The Cat Of Istanbul
Collection: Nature in the city
Technique: Ceramic

EXHIBITIONS

Transcendence – World Premiere of Ephemera Arts (2023-10-29
→ 2023-11-15, Koblenzer Kunstverein e.V., Koblenz)

OTHER WORKS IN THIS SERIES

The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 1
The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 4
The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 4
The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 3
A Cat – Naive cubism research

DOCUMENTED AT

Catalogue Raisonné – The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 –
The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 – Cubist Ceramic
Sculpture – Arnaud Quercy (2023)
Gallery – The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2
Nanopublication – The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 –
Digital Image Documentation –
aqc0460_img_full_1536x1024_webp
Nanopublication – The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 –
Physical Specifications
Nanopublication – The Cat Of Istanbul – Variations 2 –
Daring Verticality and Material Risk in Ceramic
Construction

THEMATIC ELEMENTS

cubist ceramic sculpture	Istanbul street cats
Nature in the City collection	terracotta with wax patina
urban wildlife sculpture	architectural geometry
vertical ceramic sculpture	contemporary ceramic art
Arnaud Quercy sculpture	feline architectural form

EPISTEMIC PROFILE

Claim type	artistic statement
Voice	first person
Epistemic status	practitioner knowledge
Methodology	ideamorphic practice
Certainty	high

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

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Artist	Arnaud Quercy
Date	2023
Collection	Nature in the city
Certificate	20231231-0047
Asset code	AQC0460
Identifier	NAN-CTX000113
Version	1
Published	2026-02-11

ISSN: [pending — Library of Congress]

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Published by Art Quam Anima Publishing New York,
an imprint of AQA PUBLISHING LLC

c/o Northwest Registered Agent, 418 Broadway Ste N
Albany, NY 12207, USA
+1 917-764-5470

publishing.artquamanima.com

Last updated: 2026-06-11

Persistent URI: <https://multimodal.institute/en/nanopubs/2026/02/AQC0460-transliterating-urban-feline-symbiosis-through-form.pdf>