

Nanopublication – Material Fabrication – Terre Blanche, Chamotte, Beeswax

by Arnaud Quercy · BIRD (Charlie Parker) · 2024



CLAIM 4: MATERIAL FABRICATION – TERRE BLANCHE, CHAMOTTE, BEESWAX

I constructed the sculpture from white clay body with fine grog (petit chamotte) for structural integrity. Post-firing beeswax [2] treatment protects the matte cream surface and deepens tactile engagement.

CONTEXT

I constructed the sculpture from terre blanche (white clay body) mixed with petit chamotte (fine grog)—small particles of pre-fired ceramic added to the clay to reduce shrinkage and increase structural integrity [3]. The grog creates a more stable body during drying and firing, essential for supporting the cantilevered geometric elements and preventing warping. The particle size matters: petit chamotte (fine grog) provides structural reinforcement without creating visible texture that would compete with the geometric forms.

After firing to vitrification, I applied beeswax to the surface. This post-firing treatment serves multiple functions: it protects the matte ceramic surface from moisture absorption and handling damage, it deepens the tactile quality of the piece (slightly warming the cream tone and creating subtle sheen), and it invites touch—the wax makes the surface slightly warmer to the hand than untreated ceramic would be [2].

The material choices reflect practical necessity and expressive intention. The white clay body provides a neutral ground—no color distraction from the geometric relationships. The fine grog supports structural ambition without visible compromise. The beeswax invites embodied engagement, transforming the piece from purely visual object to tactile sculpture. These aren't arbitrary choices; they're part of the sculptural thinking, inseparable from the form.

The matte cream finish resulting from this material palette—terre blanche fired to vitrification, then wax-treated—creates visual softness that contrasts with the angular geometry. The forms are hard, but the surface is gentle. This tension between geometric severity and material warmth reflects bebop itself: technically demanding music that nevertheless swings, complex harmonies that nevertheless groove, intellectual rigor that nevertheless moves the body.

REFERENCES

[1] Arnaud Quercy (2024). BIRD (Charlie Parker) – Catalogue raisonné. <https://arnaudquercy.art/en/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0578.html>

[2] "Beeswax." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/science/beeswax>. [URL to be added]

[3] "Grog (clay)." *Wikipedia*, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grog_\(clay\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grog_(clay)). [URL to be added]

WHERE THIS WORK LIVES

Series: Jazz Legends
Collection: Untamed Creations
Technique: Ceramic

EXHIBITIONS

- Rencontres au Marché de la Création (2024-04-23 → 2024-12-31, Marché de la Création – Paris Montparnasse, Paris)
- Salon d'art contemporain – Metamorphose, Paris (2024-12-26 → 2025-01-05, Halle des Blancs Manteaux, Paris)
- Permanent Collection 2025 – Resonance in Form (2025-01-01 → 2025-12-31, arnaudquercy.art, Paris)
- Paris Studio Visit (2025-02-18 → 2025-02-18, Artist's Studio, Paris)
- Marché d'Art Contemporain – Seine Port (2025-05-17 → 2025-05-17, MAC Seine-Port, Seine-Port)
- Nuit des Artistes, St Germain-en-Laye, France (2025-05-24 → 2025-05-24, La Nuit des Artistes, Saint-Germain-en-Laye)

Marché de l'Art de Saint-Germain-en-Laye, 17ème édition - France (2025-06-14 → 2025-06-14, Marché de l'Art, Saint-Germain-en-Laye)

Salon d'art contemporain - Metamorphose 2025-2026, Paris (2025-12-26 → 2026-01-04, Halle des Blancs Manteaux, Paris)

Art Quam Anima - Pre-opening (2026-01-31 → 2026-02-28, Art Quam Anima, Paris)

Through the Aperture — Research on Harmony (2026-03-09 → 2026-04-30, Art Quam Anima, Paris)

OTHER WORKS IN THIS SERIES

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Elvin Jones, Jazz Machine

Birth of The Bop - Bud Powell, 1924 -1966

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Ornithology

Birks Works

Nefertiti La Belle est venue

The Saxophonist

Charles Mingus

Parisian Thoroughfare

Bird, Jam Blues - July- 1952

DOCUMENTED AT

Catalogue Raisonné — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Cubist Jazz Homage — Arnaud Quercy (2024)

Gallery — BIRD (Charlie Parker)

Nanopublication — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Digital Image Documentation - aqc0578_img_full_2487x3731_webp

Nanopublication — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Physical Specifications

Nanopublication — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Ideamorphic Translation — Bebop Harmonic Complexity → Geometric Interlocking

Nanopublication — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Symbolic Fusion — Bird + Saxophone in Cubist Form

Nanopublication — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Technical Construction — Internal Chimney Architecture

Nanopublication — BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Personal Tribute — Bebop as Formative Devotion

THEMATIC ELEMENTS

Charlie Parker tribute sculpture

cubist ceramic sculpture

bebop art

Untamed Creations collection

geometric abstraction

jazz-inspired sculpture

Arnaud Quercy ceramics

matte ceramic on metal

EPISTEMIC PROFILE

Claim type	artistic statement
Voice	first person
Epistemic status	factual record
Methodology	ceramic fabrication
Certainty	high

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

6b026e9b833ffc28942ca1fe9711bab5c990a6e58c2b3f21c13bf4dc650cad01

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