

Nanopublication – The Passenger Doesn't Just Persist – It Gets Rewritten

by Arnaud Quercy

The boundary sits at the difference between carrying an idea and answering one: Medhat's children's-book icons fit P2's narrowed transliteration cleanly, but the Balsan piece is closer to a rebuttal wearing the transliteration's clothes – the lens grips the form of the move but is silent on whether inversion of content still counts as identity persisting.

WHAT THE SOURCE SAYS [1]

Toronto-based Kurdish artist Roda Medhat translates traditional West Asian textile motifs – young boys riding horses, images drawn from Kurdish children's books – into sculpture, Jacquard-woven textiles, and neon-lit glass and acrylic pieces, using digital fabrication and 3D scanning. The exhibition's centerpiece, 'The Sheep and the Chevrolet,' reimagines François Balsan's 1947 ethnographic travelogue of the same name, a text the gallery calls stereotypical and subjective in its view of Kurdish rural life; Medhat's 3D-printed sculpture places a monumental sheep atop a small car as a 'playful point of reconceptualization' of that source text.

WHERE THE LENS GRIPS

P2's narrowed claim – the vessel changes, the passenger persists, minus the universalizing 'toute' and 'transportée' – grips cleanly on the children's-book icons: the same recognizable figure (boy on horse) crosses from printed page to woven Jacquard surface to sculptural and neon vessels without dissolving. P3a also grips: the physical invariant (the sheep-and-car form, the rug patterns) is directly perceptible to any viewer, while the intentional invariant (why Balsan's text specifically, why the reversal of gaze) is supplied only by the artist's exhibition statement – exactly the two-layer split P3a describes. P19a grips on that same fact: the statement explicitly names the target ('subversion of archival materials'), so the intentional layer is not left mute.

WHERE IT BREAKS

'The Sheep and the Chevrolet' strains P2's core image of a passenger who 'persists' unchanged. Medhat is not carrying Balsan's eth-

nographic content across a modality – he is inverting it, turning a colonial travelogue's stereotyping gaze into a joke at its own expense. This slips IF one reads 'ideational identity' as meaning-preservation: the content transported is reversed, not merely rehoused, so the passenger does not persist, it is rewritten. It holds IF one reads the invariant more loosely as 'which text is being addressed' – Balsan's book remains identifiably the referent even as its claim is overturned, so something does cross the modality gap intact: not the meaning, but the target.

PROPOSITIONAL GRID [2]

Read this grid. “Not evaluated” does **not** mean the source has nothing to say about that proposition. It means **the reading did not instruct it**. That is not a result, and it counts in no denominator. A silence, by contrast, is a finding: the reading touched the proposition without concluding, or noted its absence itself.

Evaluated

proposi-tion		audit status	relational verdict
P2	Transliteration	audited [3]	pressure-against
P3a	Double Structure of the In-variant	not audited	evidence-for
P19a	Explicability as Condition	not audited	evidence-for

What was instructed. These propositions have been judged and carry a current statement: it is **that** statement the reading tested, not the founding one.

- **P2** – judged in Note 01 · current statement : the statement is narrowed: it loses « transportée » and « toute »
Not evaluated (34) – P1, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9, P10, P11, P12, P13, P14, P14a, P14b, P15, P16, P16a, P17, P18, P18a, P19, P20, P21, P22, P23, P24, P25, P26, P27, P28, P29, P30, P31

Overall verdict: Bounded – taxonomy of the August 2026 pass, predating the move to relational verdicts. Kept as metadata: the gap between the two forms is data, not residue. This reading’s judgement is in the grid above.

Reading of 2026-05-30 · model claude-sonnet-5 · source 5,230 chars · 3 attempt(s)

FIRST PASS — KEPT AS WRITTEN

Reading produced by the T50 RSS pass, before the boundary lens. It is reproduced UNCORRECTED. Keeping it is the point: without it, a changed title is just a changed title — with it, what the second pass refused becomes legible.

Medhat's practice exemplifies CROSS-MODAL TRANSLITERATION and the codex as research apparatus. His work 'functions as a distillation of a wider body of research' — the codex is not hidden, it is the visible structure. By converting Kurdish narrative (temporal, linguistic) into tactile/textile form (spatial, embodied), he engineers deliberate diffraction: the receiver's overture (hands, body memory, cultural distance) becomes the site where the narrative is re-created, not transmitted. The 'subversion' is not rebellion but systematic constraint — the loom's formal rules, the fiber's material resistance, the haptic vocabulary — all codified. This is not 'expressing tradition in a new medium' but engineering the conditions where tradition can only be received through loss and reconstruction.

T50 RSS assessment · 2026-05-30 · remplacée par boundary-lens-2026-08

REFERENCES

- [1] Roda Medhat Subverts Traditional Kurdish Narratives Into Modern Tactile Experiences. Colossal, 2026-05-30. <https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2026/05/roda-medhat-from-the-loom/>
- [2] Quercy, A. (2026). The 31 Propositions of Ideamorphism. <https://ideamorphism.org/en/publications/2026/03/the-31-propositions-of-ideamorphism.html>
- [3] Quercy, A. (2026). The Passenger Without a Vehicle — Relational Content and Multiple Execution. <https://ideamorphism.org/en/publications/2026/07/the-passenger-without-a-vehicle-relational-content-and-multiple-execution-5b10.html>

EPISTEMIC PROFILE

Claim type	boundary reading
Voice	third person analysis
Epistemic status	bounded grip
Methodology	Boundary-finding lens applied to one source, model claude-sonnet-5, 3 attempt(s), traceability check passed.

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

42cbb554c2cef184471189fba570df4c383b9a715aa5437f96a5b6d1e46085d9

Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0

International (CC BY 4.0)

Author Arnaud Quercy

Asset code IDS-RNI0141

Identifier NAN-RDG000083

Version 1

Published 2026-08-05

ISSN: applied for – U.S. ISSN Center, Library of Congress

© 2026 Ideamorphic Studies

Published by Art Quam Anima Publishing New York,
an assumed name of AQA Publishing LLC

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

NY DOS ID 7624376 · Assumed Name ID 7658709

publishing.artquamanima.com

Last updated: 2026-08-15

Persistent URI: <https://ideamorphism.org/en/nanopubs/2026/08/IDS-RNI0141-the-passenger-doesnt-just-persist-it-gets-rewritten.pdf>