

AQC0379

Nanopublication — Geometric Ambiguity — Face, Sails, Journey

by Arnaud Quercy · The Sailer · 2022



ARTISTIC METHODOLOGY FIRST

PERSON DIRECT PRACTITIONER KNOWLEDGE SCULPTURAL

PRACTICE HIGH

Geometric Ambiguity — Face, Sails, Journey

I used geometric shapes—triangular sail-like forms, angular planes, sharp cuts—to create a figure that reads simultaneously as a stylized face, the [1] sails of a vessel, and the concept of journey itself. The economy of form forces multiple readings to coexist. The viewer completes the image through their own aperture.

CONTEXT

The geometric reduction in "The Sailer" operates through deliberate formal economy. Two triangular forms carved into the sand function simultaneously as eyes and as the sails of a vessel. Angular planes suggest facial structure—nose, mouth, cheekbones—while also reading as the geometry of nautical forms. The title anchors one reading (the sailor, the sailing vessel) without foreclosing others.

This ambiguity is structural, not accidental. The modernist vocabulary of geometric abstraction—triangles, planes, sharp edges—creates a visual syntax capable of multiple simultaneous meanings. The viewer's aperture determines which reading dominates, or whether all three (face, sails, journey as metaphor) remain in productive tension. The work doesn't resolve into a single interpretation; it holds the space where figuration and abstraction, literal and metaphoric, remain unresolved.

The sand medium enforces economy. There's no additive modeling, no refinement through accumulation. I carved away—subtraction, removal, revealing form through absence. This technical constraint aligned perfectly with the aesthetic goal: maximum meaning from minimum form. The shadows cast by Mediterranean [2] sunlight further articulated the geometry, adding depth and drama that the material alone couldn't provide.

REFERENCES

- [1] Arnaud Quercy (2022). The Sailer — Catalog raisonné. <https://arnaudquercy.art/en/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0379.html>
<https://arnaudquercy.art/fr/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0379.html>
- [2] Mediterranean Echoes collection, 2022, Spain [nanopub reference to be added if collection-level documentation exists]
- [3] Modernist geometric abstraction traditions—Brancusi's reduction to essence, Giacometti's economy of form [URL to be added]

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

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