

AQC0460

Nanopublication — Transliterating Urban-Feline Symbiosis Through Form

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



IDEAMORPHIC TRANSLITERATION FIRST

PERSON PRACTITIONER KNOWLEDGE IDEAMORPHIC

PRACTICE HIGH

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/AQC0460.html>
<https://arnaudquercy.art/fr/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0460.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]

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