

AQC0578

Nanopublication — Personal Tribute — Bebop as Formative Devotion

by Arnaud Quercy · BIRD (Charlie Parker) · 2024



ARTISTIC INTENTION FIRST PERSON SUBJECTIVE

EXPERIENCE AUTOETHNOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTATION HIGH

Claim 5: Personal Tribute — Bebop as Formative Devotion

This piece diverges from my systematic chromesthetic work—not codex-driven but devotional. Charlie [6] Parker as god, bebop [2] as foundation. The sculpture functions as homage to the music that shaped my entire artistic practice.

CONTEXT

This sculpture diverges from my systematic chromesthetic work—the "Synesthetic Explorations" series where I transliterate harmonic relationships through the circle of fifths mapped to the color wheel [3]. In that body of work, I follow explicit codex: specific pitches correspond to specific hues (C→red, F#→green, Bb→violet), with brightness encoding register and geometric relationships reflecting harmonic intervals. The process is systematic, methodical, constrained by the transliteration architecture.

"BIRD [1] (Charlie Parker)" operates differently. It is not codex-driven but devotional—a tribute to the musician whose work shaped my entire approach to artistic practice. Parker represents not just bebop but a way of being an artist: the commitment to advancing the language, the willingness to be misunderstood, the technical mastery placed in service of expressive freedom, the understanding that constraint enables rather than limits innovation [6][7][2].

Parker died at 34, his body so damaged by substance abuse that the coroner estimated his age as 53 [8]. He achieved in 15 active years what most musicians never approach in a lifetime. The recordings he made for Savoy and Dial labels in 1945–48—"Ko-Ko," "Ornithology," "Parker's Mood"—document his greatest period and established the model for a generation of saxophonists [7]. His brilliant,

innovative technique—speed of execution, full sound in all registers, precision during very fast tempos—was widely imitated, yet never equaled.

The sculpture is homage to that compressed brilliance—geometric complexity contained within medium scale (26×45×10 cm), angular energy frozen in ceramic permanence. It is acknowledgment: bebop as first love, Parker as god, this piece as offering. Unlike my systematic chromesthetic work, which proceeds from methodical transliteration, this piece proceeds from devotion. The geometry still translates bebop structure, the form still encodes harmonic relationships—but the motivation is personal, not systematic. It is tribute, not study.

This distinction matters within the ideamorphic framework. The chromesthetic work induces diffraction through systematic codex. This piece induces diffraction through devotional intensity. Both are valid modes of ideamorphic practice; the first builds explicit games for apertures, the second emits with concentrated personal investment. The first asks "what if I systematically translate this?"; the second declares "this matters, this shaped me, receive it."

REFERENCES

- [1] Arnaud Quercy (2024). BIRD (Charlie Parker) — Catalogue raisonné. <https://arnaudquercy.art/en/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0578.html> <https://arnaudquercy.art/fr/catalogue-raisonne/AQC0578.html>
- [2] "Parker's Playing Epitomizes Bebop." *EBSCO Research Starters*, <https://www.ebsco.com/research-starters/history/parkers-playing-epitomizes-bebop>. Accessed 11 Feb. 2026.
- [3] Quercy, Arnaud. "Synesthetic Explorations - Circle of Fifths → Color Wheel Mapping." *Multimodal Institute*, [URL to be added].
- [4] **Artist:** Arnaud Quercy
- [5] **Artwork:** BIRD (Charlie Parker) (AQC0578)
- [6] "Charlie Parker." *Wikipedia*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charlie_Parker. Accessed 11 Feb. 2026.
- [7] "Charlie Parker | Biography, Music, & Facts." *Encyclopædia Britannica*, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Charlie-Parker>. Accessed 11 Feb. 2026.
- [8] "Charlie 'Bird' Parker." *Arthur's Tavern*, <https://arthurstavern.nyc/charlie-parker/>. 11 April 2024.
- [9] ## Document Metadata
- [10] **Medium:** Ceramic on Metal
- [11] **Dimensions:** 26 × 45 × 10 cm
- [12] **Weight:** 4 kg
- [13] **Collection:** Untamed Creations
- [14] **Date:** 2024
- [15] **Origin:** France
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