

Nanopublication — Spread Voicing as Compositional Structure

by Arnaud Quercy [2] · C Major - Research on Harmony - Variations 19 · 2025

Claim 2: Spread Voicing as Compositional Structure

The spatial arrangement of color areas in this painting translates the spread voicing I play at the piano. In a spread voicing, the chord tones are distributed across registers rather than stacked in close position — each note has room to breathe, separated by intervallic distance. On paper, this becomes the separation of color zones: the large orange-vermillion ground (G), the white-cream rectangle (E), the red and pink passages (C), each occupying its own area of the composition rather than blending into a single mass.

CONTEXT

This is a small piano étude — part of my ongoing daily practice of translating harmonic material into visual form. The spread voicing is the anchor of this piece, as it is across the Research on Harmony series. Each chord tone maintains its chromesthetic identity as a distinct color area rather than mixing into intermediate hues. The compositional decisions — where each color sits, how much surface it occupies, what shape it takes — follow from how the voicing feels and sounds at the keyboard.

At 21×21 cm on paper, this is a study, not a statement. The geometric forms are simple and direct: a dominant ground, a few shapes placed within it. The dark charcoal-black mass at center and the muted rosy-brown passage at left function as structural elements — framing and separating the chord tones the way silence and register separate notes

in an open voicing. This is one iteration among many, part of the systematic search through how C Major [1] can exist as color and composition.

REFERENCES

[1] Quercy, A. (2025). C Major - Research on Harmony - Variations 19 (AQC0908). Synesthetic Explorations collection. <https://arnaudquercy.art/media/2025/11/c-major-research-on-harmony-variations-19-acrylic-by-arnaud-quercy-aqc0908-id3.webp>

[2] Quercy, A. (2025). ORCID <https://orcid.org/0009-0000-2662-7790>

EPISTEMIC PROFILE

Claim type artistic statement

Voice first person

Epistemic status practice based

Methodology piano voicing to spatial translation

Certainty high

CHECKSUM (SHA-256)

c5e5d20f4570df43dff10822740e70ee2651389bee0f-ba90432ae6ad6ba5fcb

Artist Arnaud Quercy

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