

Charles Mingus

Arnaud Quercy



Where jazz history takes physical form in wood grain and carved space.

MEDIUM	Wood
DIMENSIONS	40×30cm
YEAR	2021
ORIGIN	France
REFERENCE	Arnaud Quercy Creations / AQC0229 / 2021
NOT FOR SALE	Artist's studio
CERTIFICATE	20211231-0036

CURATORIAL NOTES

Carved from a single oak log, this vertical sculpture translates the physical and musical presence of Charles Mingus into wood. The legendary jazz bassist and composer, known for revolutionizing the double bass and creating some of jazz's most profound compositions, finds form through oak's raw density and carved surface. Vertical grooves cut into the wood symbolize bass strings, while angular cuts and negative spaces capture Mingus's artistic contradictions—the structural composer who taught by ear, the demanding perfectionist who pushed musicians toward greatness.

The oak's natural resistance during carving mirrors Mingus's uncompromising artistic vision and notorious temperament. The form stands tall and solid, destabilized by voids that create tension between strength and fragility. These carved spaces represent the

double bass strings Mingus lifted from timekeeper to front-line voice, transforming the instrument's role in jazz. The vertical orientation emphasizes defiance and presence, qualities that defined Mingus's career and personality throughout his life from 1922 to 1979.

The sculpture operates outside systematic chromesthetic frameworks, representing free artistic expression within the Untamed Creations collection. Here, transliteration works through symbolic choice rather than reproducible system—verticality as defiance, oak's resistance as temperament, carved lines as musical strings. The piece captures a towering figure whose contributions to jazz composition and performance continue to influence musicians worldwide.

The work includes certificate of authenticity 20211231-0036 and is part of Arnaud Quercy's exploration of artistic expression through direct material engagement with wood.

THE ARTIST



Arnaud Quercy

Arnaud Quercy is a Parisian artist working across painting, music, and sculpture. His practice is grounded in Ideamorphism — the principle that a work of art does not carry meaning, but triggers it. Each piece is engineered to diffract differently through each person who encounters it.

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Published by: Art Quam Anima Paris — publishing.artquamanima.com

Date of publication: 2026-04-26

Persistent URI: <https://publishing.artquamanima.com/en/catalogs/2021/01/charles-mingus-2pa.pdf>