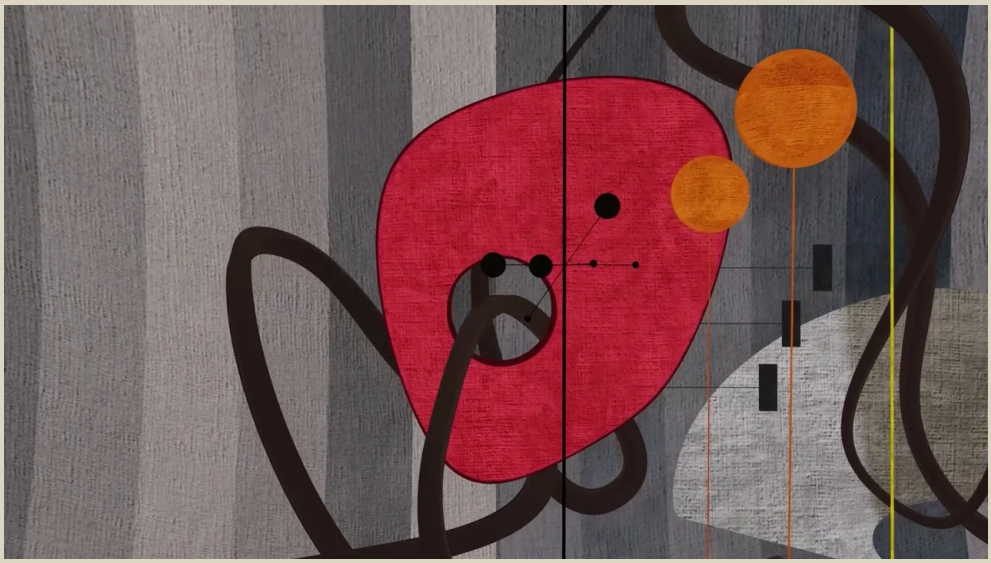
CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ

Lied ohne Worte, after Mendelssohn

Film set to music by Felix Mendelssohn, Lied ohne Worte, Op. 109



Arnaud Quercy

AQC0403 · CR-000403

Art Quam Anima Publishing New York

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Film set to music by Felix Mendelssohn, Lied ohne Worte, Op. 109

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TECHNICAL DETAILS

Medium	Digital film
Duration	4 min 19 s
Image	1920 × 1080 px, 25 fps
Date	2022
Location	France
Certificate of Authenticity	N°20221231-0073
Catalogue Number	AQC0403
Collection	Passé-Future

PROVENANCE

Origin: Arnaud Quercy, Paris, France, 2022

DESCRIPTION

Musical performance

Marion Hedin, cello David Erhard, piano

With thanks to the production team, students of IESA arts & culture: Henrik Posner, Matt Stiles, Yuhan (Lea) Chen, Pasindu Ranasinghe, and to Thomas, technical manager at L'Auguste Théâtre.

In his creation on the Lied ohne Worte, Arnaud Quercy answers a song without words with a painting without objects. The film is a journey through a series of abstract tableaux inspired by the art and design of the 1950s, all with the soft, grainy texture of felt, paper or painted canvas. The camera glides from one composition to the next, moving into a shape or through a curtain of colour to reach the next picture, so that the whole piece reads as one continuous movement.

It opens on curtains of mauve and grey. A thin black line draws itself into a circle while the title appears ("Lied ohne Worte, D major, Opus 109 – Felix Mendelssohn"). A dark green rounded form, pierced by a small golden window, comes into view, surrounded by black hooks and short parallel strokes, like the pegs or strings of an instrument. Then comes a bright block of red and yellow, with a red sun, a blue disc and a black triangle. Next, a copper-coloured frame filled with small objects and black wires, in which blue beads accumulate until they fill the screen. A grey, airy composition follows, like a mobile: thin black lines, dots and small red, yellow and blue shapes hanging in the air, which the camera slowly tilts. A large red organic shape with orange discs and curling brown tubes leads to a forest of hanging forms in red, white, blue and yellow, like keyholes or 1950s pendant lamps, swinging with black pendulums. On a blue-grey ground, black and beige ribbons loop endlessly around one another. The journey ends in a warm patchwork of red, blue, maroon and yellow rectangles over brown rays of light.

In the version projected at the show, the music continues to its last bars and the film returns to its beginning: the green form of the opening, a red field with discs, the mauve curtains and the copper frame come back, now mirrored in perfect symmetry, like the return of the first theme at the end of the piece.

There are no characters here, only colours and shapes that breathe with the cello line: soft mauves and greys for the singing opening, stronger reds and denser compositions for the more agitated middle, and the reconciliation of symmetry at the end. Like Mendelssohn, Arnaud Quercy leaves the meaning open: each viewer writes their own words.

The film was made in Blender (EEVEE). Each tableau is built in 3D from simple elements (planes, cubes, spheres, cylinders, circles and Bézier curves), with a "1950s items" collection, a "Colored squares" collection, Bézier "sculptures" and a stone sculpture. Some forms are generated with Geometry Nodes, the looping ribbons come from a spirograph-like curve, and a Line Art layer draws the black lines. A concrete texture, recoloured in many tints (brown, red, orange, dark), gives every surface its painted, fabric-like grain. As references, Arnaud Quercy collected a set of images captioned "1950s abstract art". The final edit was done in Adobe After Effects.

At the show, the long version of the film was projected. It is cut into two parts: a main section that can run on, and a closing section that Arnaud Quercy triggered live at a precise moment in the score, so that the image ends exactly with the music played by Marion Hedin and David Erhard.

IMAGES





WHERE THIS WORK LIVES

Collection: Passé-Future

EXHIBITIONS

PasséFutur Art Show *(2022-09-30, L'Auguste Théâtre, Paris)*

THEMATIC ELEMENTS

Lied ohne Worte Felix Mendelssohn song without words Marion Hedin David Erhard Arnaud Quercy cello and piano digital film 3D animation music and image PasséFutur L'Auguste Théâtre Blender After Effects

TECHNICAL NOTES

Type	Artwork
Image resolution	1280x720 px

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