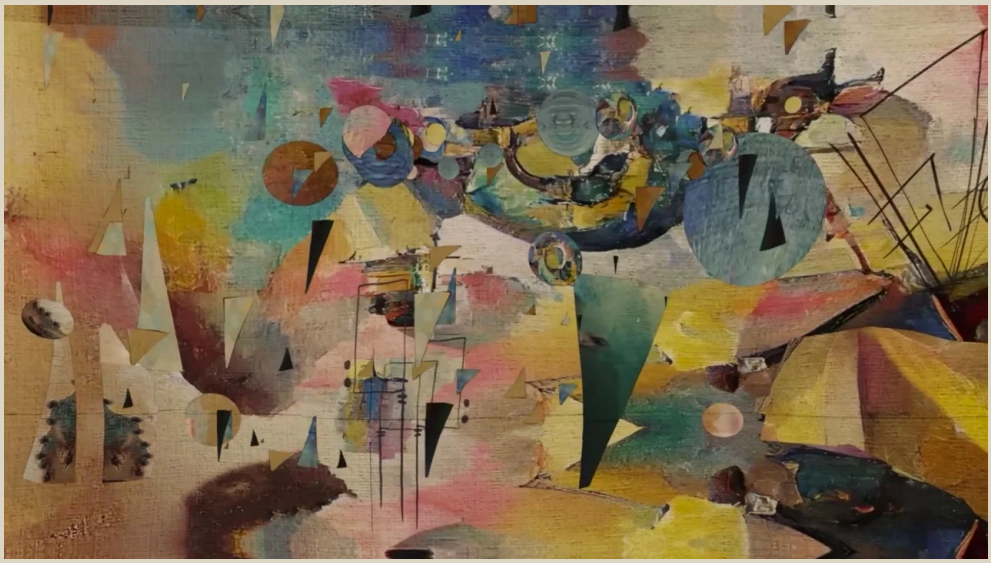
CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ

Méditation from Thaïs, after Massenet

Film set to music by Jules Massenet, Thaïs, Méditation



Arnaud Quercy

AQC0407 · CR-000407

Art Quam Anima Publishing New York

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TECHNICAL DETAILS

Medium	Digital film
Duration	5 min 01 s
Image	1920 × 1080 px, 25 fps
Date	2022
Location	France
Certificate of Authenticity	N°20221231-0077
Catalogue Number	AQC0407
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.

This work by Arnaud Quercy is purely abstract, and open to any interpretation that comes to the viewer; no meaning can be described or prescribed for it. It consists of four digital paintings, Méditation de Thaïs – Inspirations, tableaux 1 to 4, that have been combined into one large mural, with the work of Wassily Kandinsky serving as a major inspiration. Arnaud Quercy created this painting as a material that illustrates the musical piece by Massenet as a 3D digital journey.

As the camera pans throughout the work, a sense of depth is created so that viewers can feel as if they themselves are plunging into the world of this art. The film rises out of black onto a dark ochre zone with a large red disc and smaller red-orange circles, and the title "Méditation de Thaïs, Jules Massenet – Arnaud Quercy Creations, Contemporary Art". The camera drifts slowly; circles of every size pass in front of the painting at different depths. It then crosses a pale, cream-coloured region with a yellow triangle and rust-coloured, almost mechanical forms, where a cloud of small blue and brown discs swirls and scatters. Further on, a large red half-disc crossed by fine black lines appears, with dark brown spheres floating in front of it; then a blue, spiralling shape among green and yellow triangles and thin black lines; a denser, more turbulent passage in red and deep blue with dark collage-like rectangles; and a radiating yellow fan among long spindle shapes.

Halfway through, the film comes back to the red disc of the opening, now surrounded by many more circles, then opens onto lighter landscapes: pale pink and sky-blue zones with red bars and white shards, and the great black arcs of the first painting. It ends on the red half-disc and its dark spheres before fading back to black. Like the Méditation, which returns to its first melody after its central climax, the journey comes back to its starting point.

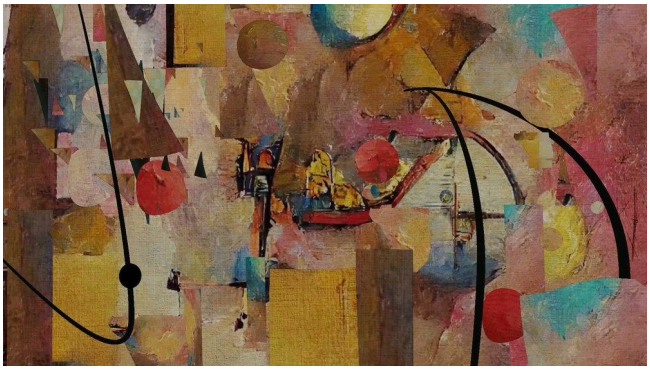
We invite viewers to meditate upon the ballad of colours and shapes as they explore this universe.

The film was made in Blender (EEVEE). The paintings were cut into many layers (more than seventy "background" planes, plus separate image layers) placed at different depths, so that the camera, travelling through them, creates the parallax and the sense of depth. Added 3D elements, spheres, squares and triangles, as well as Line Art strokes, sit among the layers, and particles moved by force fields (turbulence and vortex) make the clouds of small discs swirl. The film was built in several segments of 1,000 frames, assembled and graded 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

Méditation de Thaïs Jules Massenet Kandinsky 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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