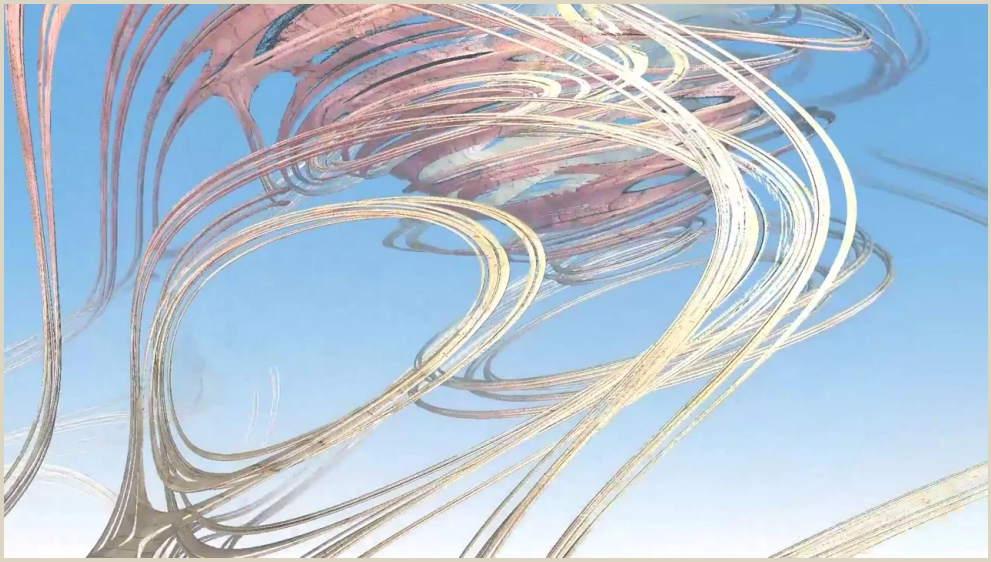
CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ

Prélude, after Bach

Film set to music by Johann Sebastian Bach, Cello Suite No. 1, BWV 1007, I. Prélude



Arnaud Quercy

AQC0409 · CR-000409

Art Quam Anima Publishing New York

Prélude, after Bach

Film set to music by Johann Sebastian Bach, Cello Suite No. 1, BWV 1007, I. Prélude

Arnaud Quercy

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Medium	Digital film
Duration	2 min 39 s
Image	1920 × 1080 px, 25 fps
Date	2022
Location	France
Certificate of Authenticity	N°20221231-0079
Catalogue Number	AQC0409
Collection	Passé-Future

PROVENANCE

Origin: Arnaud Quercy, Paris, France, 2022

DESCRIPTION

Musical performance

Marion Hedin, cello

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.

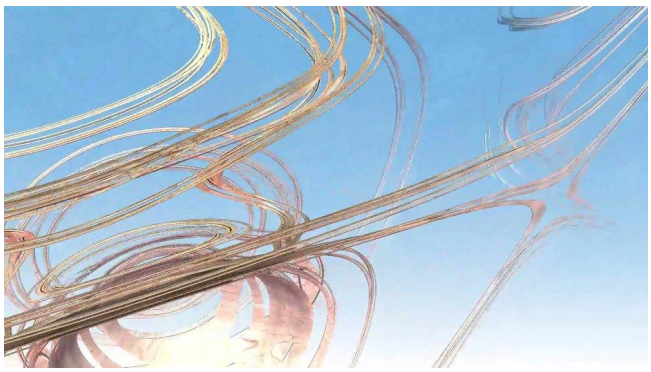
Arnaud Quercy's creation on Bach's Prelude is the continuous intertwining of strings and lines, without pause or break, showing a multitude of shapes, just as the melodic line of Bach's Prelude creates clear harmonies while being only one voice.

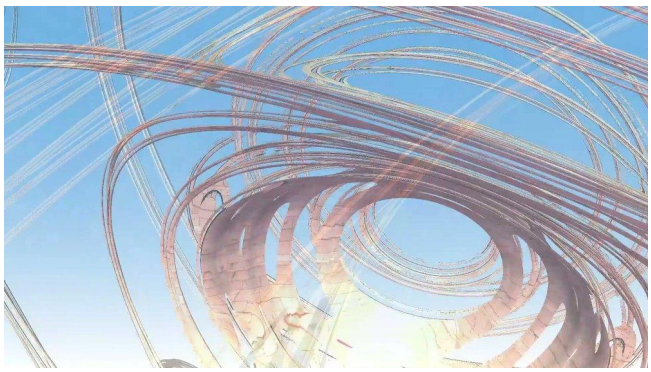
The whole film is a flight through a bright blue sky that fades to white at the horizon. The camera glides, turns and dives among bundles of thin, parallel threads, copper, ivory, pink and dark bronze in colour. They never stop moving. At times they stretch into long, almost straight strands that sweep past the camera, at times they curl into loops, arches and spirals, and at times they wind into tight, shell-like whirls that look like tunnels or rings the camera flies through. The density keeps changing: rich, crowded clusters alternate with moments when only a few lines cross the empty sky. Near the end, the threads thin out to a few white lines, and the image dissolves into pure white.

To achieve this visual effect, Arnaud Quercy chose to work on a 3D rendering of fractals. It is made of five successive layers of mathematical equations applied to a single string. The compounded effect gives a sense of a whole. The fractals were computed in Mandelbulb 3D, a free program for 3D fractals, with the "Cubic-Quat" and "_SinY" formulas, and animated over 54 keyframes. The animation was rendered as three sequences of frames (about 6,900 images in all), then edited in Adobe After Effects, where the title and the final fade to white were added.

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.

IMAGES





WHERE THIS WORK LIVES

Collection: Passé-Future

EXHIBITIONS

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

THEMATIC ELEMENTS

Bach Cello Suite No. 1 Prélude fractals Mandelbulb 3D Marion Hedin David Erhard Arnaud Quercy cello and piano digital film 3D animation music and image PasséFutur L'Auguste Théâtre After Effects

TECHNICAL NOTES

Type	Artwork
Image resolution	1280x720 px

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