CATALOGUE RAISONNÉ

The Seagull of Montparnasse

Arnaud Quercy

AQC0709 · CR-000709

Art Quam Anima Publishing New York

The Seagull of Montparnasse

Arnaud Quercy

PHYSICAL DETAILS

Medium	Steel on Wood Block
Dimensions	60.0 × 86.0 × 35.0 cm
Weight	12.0 kg
Date	2024
Location	France
Certificate of Authenticity	N°20240930-0205
Catalogue Number	AQC0709
Collection	Nature in the city

PROVENANCE

Origin: Arnaud Quercy, Paris, France, 2024

DESCRIPTION

La Mouette de Montparnasse — Artwork Description "La Mouette de Montparnasse" is a steel sculpture that captures the paradox of a seagull hovering against the wind — that singular moment where flight and stillness become indistinguishable, the bird held motionless in the air by the very force it flies against. The gulls of Boulevard Edgar Quinet are not lost visitors. They are wild coastal predators that have extended their territory inland, claiming the rooftops and market stalls of the 14th arrondissement with the same confidence they show on Atlantic cliffs — loud, assertive, entirely uninterested in human approval. This sculpture is a portrait of that claiming: a wild creature asserting its presence in a space we assume belongs entirely to us. The choice of steel is deliberate. The bird is forged from the same material as the girders, railings, and frameworks of the city it inhabits — literally made of Montparnasse. The polished and patinated surfaces shift between silver-blue brightness and darker oxidized tones, reading as feathers catching light from one angle, folded sheet metal from another. The boundary between creature and infrastructure dissolves, because for this bird, no such boundary exists. At 86 centimeters tall and mounted vertically on its dark wood block, the sculpture enacts the very territorial gesture it depicts. It occupies space with the same upright assertiveness as the bird itself — present, unapologetic, with no intention of leaving. The viewer encounters the piece the way a pedestrian encounters a gull on Boulevard Edgar Quinet: with a slight surprise at its boldness, followed by recognition that this creature was here before you and will be here after you leave. Part of the "Nature in the City" collection, "La Mouette de Montparnasse" answers the collection's central question — is the city a place where nature fights to exist, or has it merely become another environment for life to reimagine itself? The seagull answers with its body, by simply being there, unhesitant and untamed.

WHERE THIS WORK LIVES

Series: Wings over the City

Collection: Nature in the city

Technique: Steel

EXHIBITIONS

Salon d'art contemporain – Metamorphose, Paris *(2024-12-26 → 2025-01-05, Halle des Blancs Manteaux, Paris)*

Permanent Collection 2025 – Resonance in Form *(2025-01-01 → 2025-12-31, arnaudquercy.art, Paris)*

Paris Studio Visit *(2025-02-18 → 2025-02-18, Artist's Studio, Paris)*

Marché d'Art Contemporain – Seine Port *(2025-05-17 → 2025-05-17, MAC Seine-Port, Seine-Port)*

Nuit des Artistes, St Germain-en-Laye, France *(2025-05-24 → 2025-05-24, La Nuit des Artistes, Saint-Germain-en-Laye)*

Marché de l'Art de Saint-Germain-en-Laye, 17ème édition – France *(2025-06-14 → 2025-06-14, Marché de l'Art, Saint-Germain-en-Laye)*

Salon d'art contemporain – Metamorphose 2025–2026, Paris *(2025-12-26 → 2026-01-04, Halle des Blancs Manteaux, Paris)*

Art Quam Anima – Pre-opening *(2026-01-31 → 2026-02-28, Art Quam Anima, Paris)*

Through the Aperture — Research on Harmony *(2026-03-09 → 2026-04-30, Art Quam Anima, Paris)*

OTHER WORKS IN THIS SERIES

Dancing with the colibri

The grumpy Pigeon of Cap Town - South Africa

Le chant du Chardonneret élégant

Le chant du Chardonneret élégant - Variation 1

Murmuration

asset 251090

DOCUMENTED AT

Gallery — The Seagull of Montparnasse

THEMATIC ELEMENTS

steel sculpture Nature in the City urban wildlife art cold-formed steel polished and patinated steel abstract bird sculpture Arnaud Quercy seagull sculpture wood block base

TECHNICAL NOTES

Format	Large
Type	Sculpture
Image resolution	2127x3545 px

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