

SERIES

Octaves



Arnaud Quercy

27 works

Art Quam Anima Publishing

ART-SER0048

Octaves — Series — 27 works

Arnaud Quercy

Octaves is a series of 27 paintings by Arnaud Quercy, created between 2024 and 2025 in acrylic on linen canvas, acrylic on paper, acrylic on wood panel and watercolor on paper. Formats range from 10×15 cm to 81×100 cm. 15 works are held in private collections (Paris, France, Le Chesnay, France, Melbourne, Australia, Germany, Russia, Guadalupe, Mexico, Canada, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, Saint-Michel-le-Cloucq, France, Geay, France). 9 remain available for acquisition at Art Quam Anima, 28 rue du Dragon, Paris. Works presented at: Rencontres au Marché de la Création, Salon d'art contemporain - Metamorphose, Paris and Permanent Collection 2025 - Resonance in Form and 7 more.

The octave is the most elemental interval in music — the same pitch at double the frequency, a note recognizing itself in another register. Before harmony existed, there was the octave: Gregorian chant doubled at the upper eighth, organum filling the nave with a single pitch at two heights. Erik Satie built *Gymnopédies* from bare octaves in the bass, each repetition a meditation rather than a progression. The octave does not argue with itself. It simply is, at different distances from the ground.

In chromesthetic translation, the octave does not produce a palette — it produces a gradient. Each pitch has a single color, and what register does is modulate that color from near-black in the deep bass to near-white in the upper treble. C gives red, darkening toward black at C1 and bleaching toward gray at C6. F gives red-violet, five consecutive octaves of the same hue ranging from darkness to saturation to pale. Ab gives blue, cool and constant, compressing toward gray in the sub-bass and lightening as it climbs. F# gives green. D gives orange. Bb gives violet. G gives red-orange. Db gives blue-green. Eb gives blue-violet. The painting of an octave study is always, at its core, a monochrome — a single color, interrogated at depth.

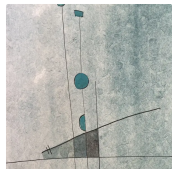
Arnaud Quercy explores this monochrome logic across twenty-seven études, spanning nine different pitches and every register the piano offers. The series divides between pure studies — where a single pitch occupies every note — and accent studies, where outside tones appear as visitors: warm intrusions in cool keys, cool interruptions in warm ones. Most études are played *Animé* at a soft *p* or *mp*, their contours arching or valley-shaped, legato in three or four. A smaller number are *Lent*, meditative, their phrases folding more slowly. One *Modéré* étude (AQC0792) marks the only measured tempo in the series. Note counts range from three to nine — the sparsest étude barely a phrase, the densest a dense ascending waltz through every region of the keyboard. The series holds the full range: from the near-silence of a three-note D study to the nine-note Ab étude where five accent tones crowd the upper registers.

Three études illustrate the series' range. AQC0793 — five consecutive F octaves, F1 through F5, no accents — is the purest work in the collection: one pitch, one color, nothing else. The canvas is a five-step gradient of red-violet, monochrome in the truest sense, the phrase an arch through five different depths of the same hue. It is, as one description puts it, "the purest étude in the Octaves collection." AQC0806 occupies the opposite pole: nine notes, four Ab tones across four octaves, five accent tones crowding the upper registers in violet, red, orange, yellow-orange, and blue-violet. The blue of Ab persists through it all, but the visitors are louder — the painting a dense chromesthetic map where the pitch's own color becomes a recurring thread rather than a dominant field. Between these extremes, AQC0682 offers the series' most distilled statement: three notes — D2, D4, D5 — no accents, pure orange in three registers. The artist's description calls it "the octave as meditation, the phrase barely moving, the painting nearly empty."

On the canvas, each octave study presents its defining hue at three or more depths simultaneously. The viewer encounters not a chord's competing colors but a single color's autobiography: how it darkens toward absence at the keyboard's bottom, how it saturates in the middle registers, how it bleaches or shifts in the extreme treble. The accent tones — when present — read as visitors, warm interruptions in a cool study or cool glints in a warm one, their color a reminder that the painted note does not exist in isolation from the larger chromesthetic world. Studies built around cool pitches (Ab, Db, F#, Bb, Eb) carry a fundamentally different visual temperature from those built on warm ones (C, D, F, G), and the series holds both in equal measure.

The Octaves series asks a question none of the other series in Synesthetic Explorations can ask: what happens when harmony is set aside entirely? The chromesthetic practice, which elsewhere maps the competing colors of chord tones, here confronts the irreducible unit. One note. One color. The register does the rest. More than half the series has entered private collections in France, Australia, Mexico, and beyond — the monochrome travelling quietly, each canvas a single pitch carrying its color to a different room.

WORKS



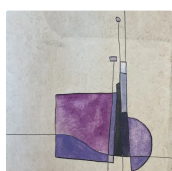
Db Octaves - Reflexions 11

Watercolor on Paper
16.0×24.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Paris, France
AQC0672



C Octaves - Reflexions 13

Watercolor on Paper
16.0×24.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Paris, France
AQC0677



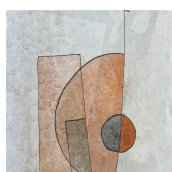
Ab Octaves - Reflexions 14

Watercolor on Paper
16.0×24.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Paris, France
AQC0679



F# Octaves - Reflexions 15

Watercolor on Paper
16.0×24.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Paris, France
AQC0681



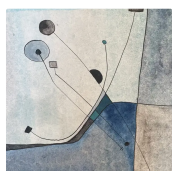
D Octaves - Reflexions 16

Watercolor on Paper
16.0×24.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Le Chesnay, France
AQC0682



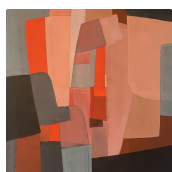
Ab Octaves - Reflexions 19

Watercolor on Paper
24.0×32.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Melbourne, Australia
AQC0685



Ab Octaves - Reflexions 20

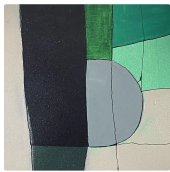
Watercolor on Paper
24.0×32.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold — Germany
AQC0686



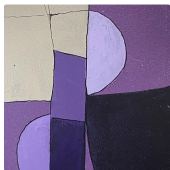
C Octaves - Reflexions 23

Acrylic on Linen Canvas
81.0×100.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Available
AQC0698

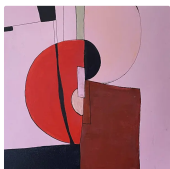


**Fsharp Octaves - Reflexions 24**

Acrylic on Wood Panel
15.0×21.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Available
AQC0790

**Bb Octaves - Reflexions 25**

Acrylic on Wood Panel
15.0×21.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Available
AQC0791

**C Octaves - Reflexions 26**

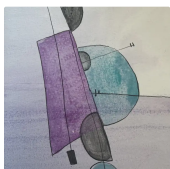
Acrylic on Wood Panel
42.0×30.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Available
AQC0792

**F Octaves - Reflexions 27**

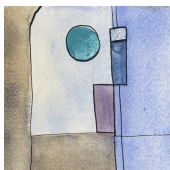
Acrylic on Wood Panel
42.0×30.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Available
AQC0793

**Bb Octaves - Reflexions 28**

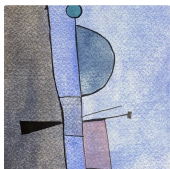
Acrylic on Wood Panel
42.0×30.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Available
AQC0794

**Bb Octaves - Reflexions 30**

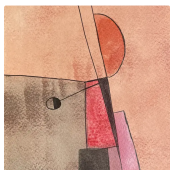
Watercolor on Paper
15.0×21.0 cm · 2024-01-01
Sold
AQC0804

**Ab Octaves - Reflexions 31**

Watercolor on Paper
15.0×21.0 cm · 2025-01-01
Sold — Russia
AQC0805

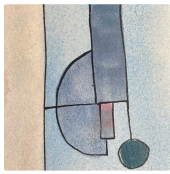
**Ab Octaves - Reflexions 32**

Watercolor on Paper
14.8×21.0 cm · 2025-01-01
Sold — Guadalupe, Mexico
AQC0806

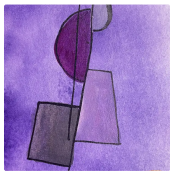
**C Octaves - Reflexions 35**

Watercolor on Paper
14.8×21.0 cm · 2025-01-01
Sold — Canada
AQC0815

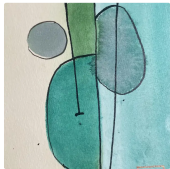


**Ab Octaves - Reflexions 33**

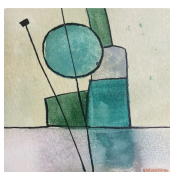
Watercolor on Paper
 10.0×15.0 cm · 2025-01-01
 Sold — Issy-les-Moulineaux, France
 AQC0845

**Bb Octaves - Reflexions 34**

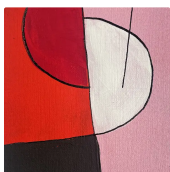
Watercolor on Paper
 10.0×15.0 cm · 2025-01-01
 Sold — Saint-Michel-le-Cloucq, France
 AQC0848

**F# Octaves - Reflexions 36**

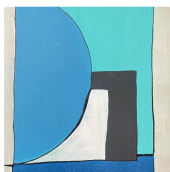
Watercolor on Paper
 10.0×15.0 cm · 2025-01-01
 Sold — Paris, France
 AQC0860

**F# Octaves - Reflexions 37**

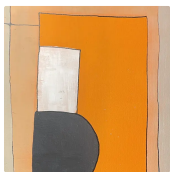
Watercolor on Paper
 10.0×15.0 cm · 2025-01-01
 Sold — Geay, France
 AQC0861

**C Octaves - Research on Harmony - Reflections 38**

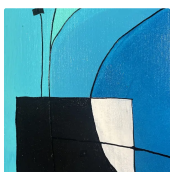
Acrylic on Paper
 10.5×15.0 cm · 2025-11-23
 Not for sale
 AQC0867

**Db Octaves - Research on Harmony - Reflections 39**

Acrylic on Paper
 21.0×30.0 cm · 2025-11-23
 Not for sale
 AQC0925

**G Octaves - Research on Harmony - Reflections 40**

Acrylic on Paper
 21.0×30.0 cm · 2025-11-23
 Not for sale
 AQC0926

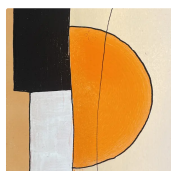
**Db Octaves - Research on Harmony - Reflections 41**

Acrylic on Paper
 12.0×18.0 cm · 2025-12-31
 Available
 AQC0933

**Eb Octaves - Research on Harmony - Reflections 42**

Acrylic on Paper
 12.0×18.0 cm · 2025-12-31
 Available
 AQC0935





D Octaves - Research on Harmony - Reflections 43

Acrylic on Paper
 12.0×18.0 cm · 2025-12-31
 Available
 AQC0941



RELATED PUBLICATIONS (86)

Aqc0672 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0672_Img_Full_2247X3370_Webp	AQC0672
Aqc0672 Physical Specifications	AQC0672
Aqc0672 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0672	AQC0672
Aqc0677 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0677_Img_Full_2379X3568_Webp	AQC0677
Aqc0677 Physical Specifications	AQC0677
Aqc0677 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0677	AQC0677
Aqc0679 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0679_Img_Full_2422X3633_Webp	AQC0679
Aqc0679 Physical Specifications	AQC0679
Aqc0679 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0679	AQC0679
Aqc0681 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0681_Img_Full_2366X3549_Webp	AQC0681
Aqc0681 Physical Specifications	AQC0681
Aqc0681 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0681	AQC0681
Aqc0682 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0682_Img_Full_2321X3481_Webp	AQC0682
Aqc0682 Physical Specifications	AQC0682
Aqc0682 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0682	AQC0682
Aqc0685 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0685_Img_Full_2666X3555_Webp	AQC0685
Aqc0685 Physical Specifications	AQC0685
Aqc0685 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0685	AQC0685
Aqc0686 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0686_Img_Full_2534X3379_Webp	AQC0686
Aqc0686 Physical Specifications	AQC0686
Aqc0686 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0686	AQC0686
Computational Image Analysis - AQC0698	AQC0698
Digital Image Documentation - aqc0698_img_full_2237x2797_webp	AQC0698
Physical Specifications	AQC0698
Untitled Claim	AQC0698
Untitled Claim	AQC0698
Untitled Claim	AQC0698
Aqc0790 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0790	AQC0790
Digital Image Documentation - aqc0790_img_full_2230x3345_webp	AQC0790
Physical Specifications	AQC0790
Aqc0791 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0791_Img_Full_2334X3501_Webp	AQC0791
Aqc0791 Physical Specifications	AQC0791
Aqc0791 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0791	AQC0791
Aqc0792 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0792_Img_Full_2424X3636_Webp	AQC0792
Aqc0792 Physical Specifications	AQC0792
Aqc0792 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0792	AQC0792
Aqc0793 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0793_Img_Full_2595X3892_Webp	AQC0793
Aqc0793 Physical Specifications	AQC0793
Aqc0793 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0793	AQC0793
Aqc0794 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0794_Img_Full_2520X3779_Webp	AQC0794
Aqc0794 Physical Specifications	AQC0794

Aqc0794 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0794	AQC0794
Aqc0804 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0804_Img_Full_2384X3576_Webp	AQC0804
Aqc0804 Physical Specifications	AQC0804
Aqc0804 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0804	AQC0804
Aqc0805 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0805_Img_Full_2441X3255_Webp	AQC0805
Aqc0805 Physical Specifications	AQC0805
Aqc0805 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0805	AQC0805
Aqc0806 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0806_Img_Full_2419X3225_Webp	AQC0806
Aqc0806 Physical Specifications	AQC0806
Aqc0806 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0806	AQC0806
Aqc0815 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0815_Img_Full_2328X3104_Webp	AQC0815
Aqc0815 Physical Specifications	AQC0815
Aqc0815 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0815	AQC0815
Aqc0845 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0845_Img_Full_2237X2982_Webp	AQC0845
Aqc0845 Physical Specifications	AQC0845
Aqc0845 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0845	AQC0845
Aqc0848 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0848_Img_Full_2416X3222_Webp	AQC0848
Aqc0848 Physical Specifications	AQC0848
Aqc0848 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0848	AQC0848
Aqc0860 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0860_Img_Full_2282X3042_Webp	AQC0860
Aqc0860 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0860	AQC0860
Computational Image Analysis - AQC0861	AQC0861
Digital Image Documentation - aqc0861_img_full_2334x3112_webp	AQC0861
Physical Specifications	AQC0861
Aqc0867 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0867_Img_Full_1839X2758_Webp	AQC0867
Aqc0867 Physical Specifications	AQC0867
Aqc0867 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0867	AQC0867
Aqc0925 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0925_Img_Full_1886X2829_Webp	AQC0925
Aqc0925 Physical Specifications	AQC0925
Computational Image Analysis - AQC0925	AQC0925
Aqc0926 Physical Specifications	AQC0926
Computational Image Analysis - AQC0926	AQC0926
Digital Image Documentation - aqc0926_img_full_1943x2915_webp	AQC0926
Aqc0933 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0933_Img_Full_1789X2505_Webp	AQC0933
Chromesthetic Translation of Bb Minor Triad	AQC0933
Computational Image Analysis - AQC0930	AQC0933
Physical Specifications	AQC0933
Chromesthetic Translation of Bb Minor Triad	AQC0935
Computational Image Analysis - AQC0930	AQC0935
Digital Image Documentation - aqc0930_img_full_1934x2901_webp	AQC0935
Physical Specifications	AQC0935
Aqc0941 Digital Image Documentation Aqc0941_Img_Full_1989X2785_Webp	AQC0941
Aqc0941 Computational Image Analysis Aqc0941	AQC0941
Chromesthetic Translation of Bb Minor Triad	AQC0941
Physical Specifications	AQC0941

ART - SER0048

© 2026 Arnaud Quercy

Published by: Art Quam Anima Publishing New York LLC

AQA PUBLISHING LLC

c/o Northwest Registered Agent, 418 Broadway, Ste N

Albany, New York, 12207

+1 917-764-5470

publishing.artquamanima.com

First published: 2026-04-09 · Last updated: 2026-04-09

Persistent URI: <https://publishing.artquamanima.com/en/catalogs/2026/03/octaves-1zs8.pdf>