

b o r i s e l d a g s e n

# THE UNCONSCIOUS IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Indian Photo Festival  
Hyderabad  
2018

WHO AM I?

WHAT DID I LEARN FROM PHILOSOPHY?

WHAT DID I TAKE FROM THE ARTS?

WHAT DO I DO?

HOW DO I WORK?

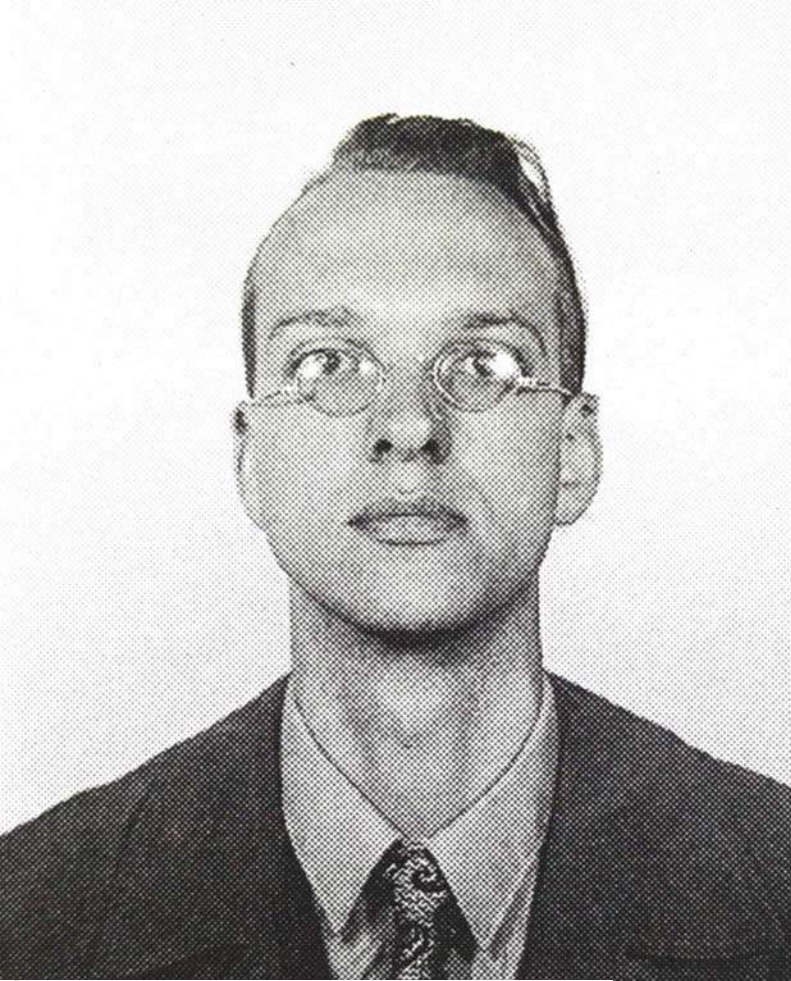
WHAT CAN I PASS ON?

WHO AM I?

*GREEK ORACLE*  
*γνώθι σεαυτόν: Know Thyself!*  
> 500 BC









Pirmasens





Cologne



Mainz





Hyderabad / India





Hyderabad / India



Prague / Czech Republic



Berlin



Melbourne / Australia





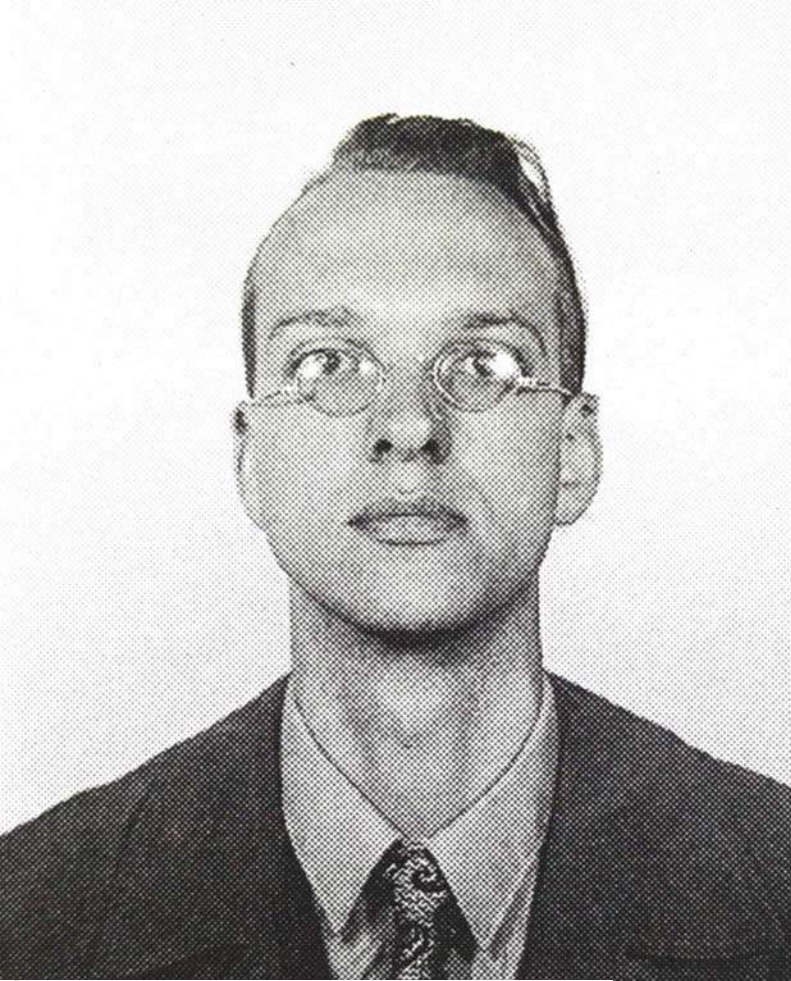


Paris / France



Berlin





WHAT DID I LEARN  
FROM PHILOSOPHY?





WHAT IS REALITY?

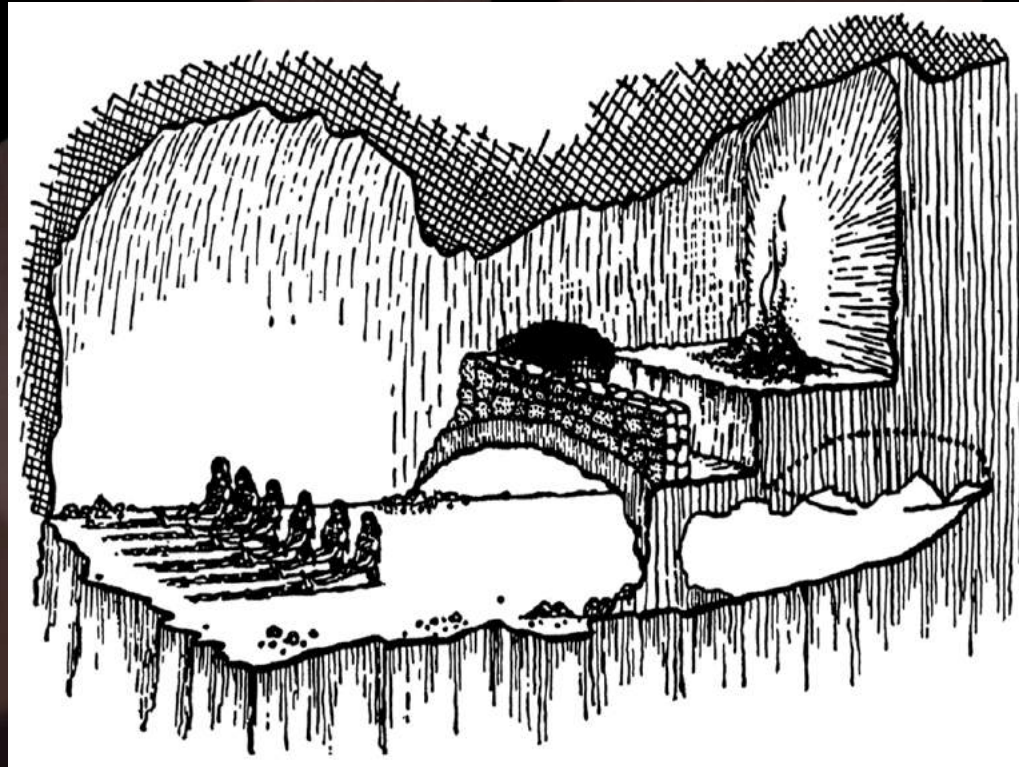
WHERE IS REALITY?  
In the world?  
In the mind?  
In the camera?





PLATO  
*Cave Allegory*  
380 BC

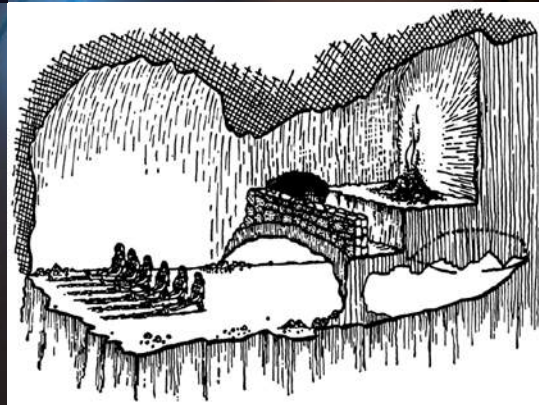




PLATO  
*Cave Allegory*  
380 BC



WACHOWSKIS  
*The Matrix*  
1999



PLATO  
*Cave Allegory*  
380 BC

A person wearing a blue dress and a headscarf is shown in profile, reaching out to touch a door handle. The scene is dimly lit with a strong blue-green color cast. The door has a classic panel design with a small handle. The person's hand is positioned near the top of the door handle.

BUDDHISM / JAINISM / SUFISM / HINDUISM  
*Blind Men & Elephant*  
> 50 BC






BUDDHISM / JAINISM / SUFISM / HINDUISM

*Blind Men & Elephant*

> 50 BC

## SENSES vs MIND





DESCARTES

*What can be doubted?*

37

SCHELLING  
*Self-Consciousness vs.  
Unconscious Ground*  
1797





SIGMUND FREUD  
*The Iceberg Metaphor*  
1905



CONSCIOUS  
Thoughts  
Perceptions

PRECONSCIOUS  
Memories  
Stored Knowledge

UNCONSCIOUS  
Fears  
Unacceptable Sexual  
Desires  
Violent Motives  
Irrational Wishes  
Immoral Urges  
Shameful Experiences  
Selfish Needs



EPIPHANY

A full moon is centered in the upper half of the frame, glowing brightly against a dark, deep blue night sky. Below the moon, the text 'YIN' is centered. Further down, a list of attributes is centered: 'Water', 'Moon', 'Dark', 'Female', 'Stillness', 'Cold', 'Rest', and three dots. At the bottom of the image, the dark silhouettes of two buildings with gabled roofs are visible against the night sky. The building on the right has a small, warm light emanating from a window. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

YIN

*Water*  
*Moon*  
*Dark*  
*Female*  
*Stillness*  
*Cold*  
*Rest*

...

LEVEL II



C.G.JUNG  
*The Collective Unconscious: Archetypes*  
1916

C.G.JUNG  
*The Shadow*  
1935

*"The Shadow describes the part of the psyche that an individual would rather not acknowledge. It contains the denied parts of the self. Bringing Shadow material into consciousness drains its dark power, and can even recover valuable resources from it. The greatest power, however, comes from having accepted your shadow parts and integrated them as components of your Self."*

*"Everyone carries a Shadow, and the less it is embodied in the individual's conscious life, the blacker and denser it is."*

*"One does not become enlightened by imagining figures of light, but by making the darkness conscious."*





C.G.JUNG  
*The Shadow*  
1935

R.L.STEVENSON  
*Dr.Jekyll & Mr.Hyde*  
1886

[v 03:37](#)



C.G.JUNG  
*The Shadow*  
1935

R.L.STEVENSON  
*Dr.Jekyll & Mr.Hyde*  
1886

[v 03:37](#)

OSCAR WILDE  
*The Picture of Dorian Grey*  
1891

[v 02:27](#)



C.G.JUNG  
*The Shadow*  
1935

R.L.STEVENSON  
*Dr.Jekyll & Mr.Hyde*  
1886

[v 03:37](#)

OSCAR WILDE  
*The Picture of Dorian Grey*  
1891

[v 02:27](#)

CHUCK PALAHNIUK  
*Fight Club*  
1996

[v 02:41](#)





C.G.JUNG  
*The Shadow*  
1935

R.L.STEVENSON  
*Dr.Jekyll & Mr.Hyde*  
1886

[v 03:37](#)

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*The Picture of Dorian Grey*  
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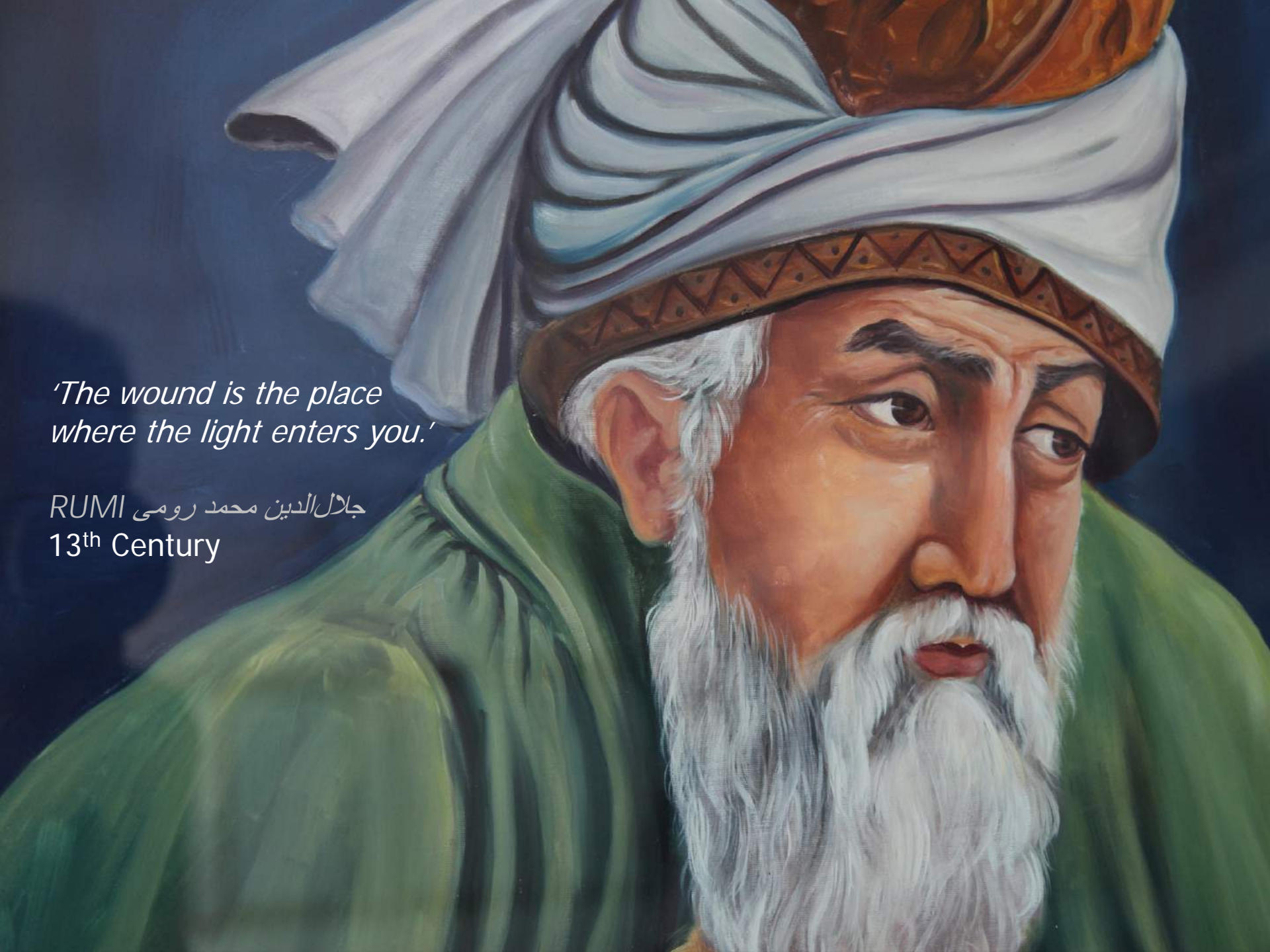


CHUANG TZU 莊子 / 庄子  
*Flight from the Shadow*  
300 BC

▼ 01:45







*'The wound is the place  
where the light enters you.'*

RUMI جلال الدين محمد رومی  
13<sup>th</sup> Century



*'There is a crack in everything,  
that's how the light gets in.'*

LEONARD COHEN  
*Anthem*  
1992

[v](#) 10:45 until 1:00



ZEN BUDDHISM  
*Wabi-Sabi* 侘寂  
1488

08:42 until 01:15







*'From the dark comes the light'*

ROGER BALLEEN  
*Theater of the Mind*  
1990s – today



WHAT DID I TAKE  
FROM THE ARTS?

Vladimir Spacek \*1945



Klaus Vogelgesang \*1945



Mainz

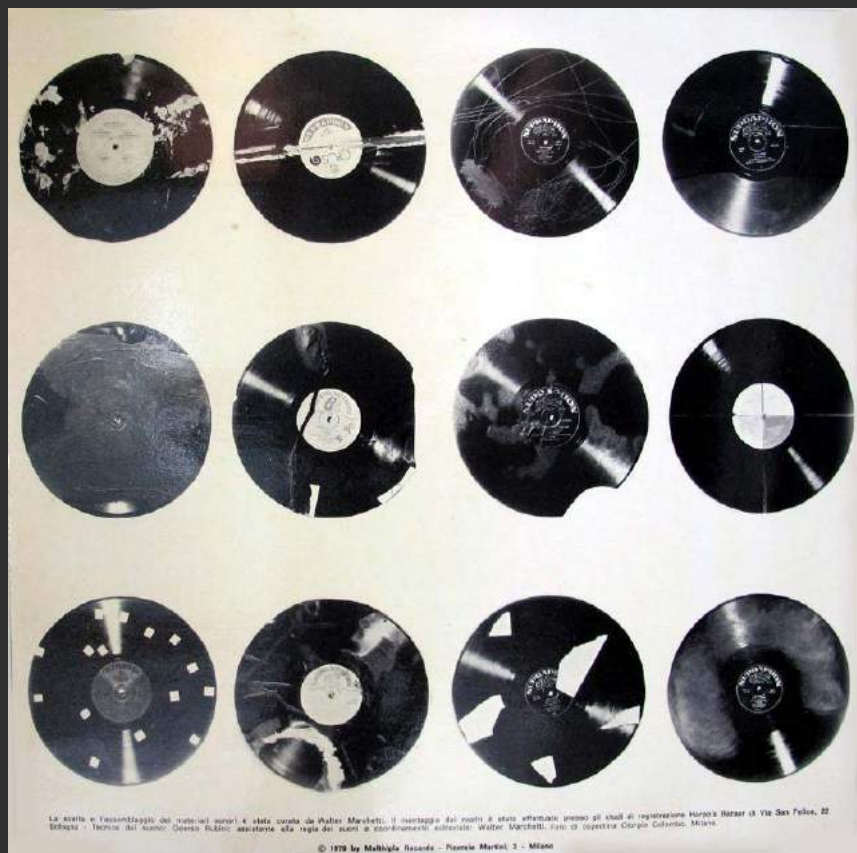
Laxma Goud \*1940



Hyderabad / India



Milan Knížák \*1940



Miloš Šejn \*1947



Prague / Czech Republic





*The Light of*  
REMBRANDT VAN RIJN  
1606 -69



*The Shadows of*  
FRANTISEK DRTIKOL  
1883 – 1961



*The Sublime of*  
CASPAR DAVID FRIEDRICH  
1774 – 1840







*The Otherworldliness of*  
WILLIAM BLAKE  
1757 – 1827



The Poses of  
BRIAN GRIFFIN  
\*1948



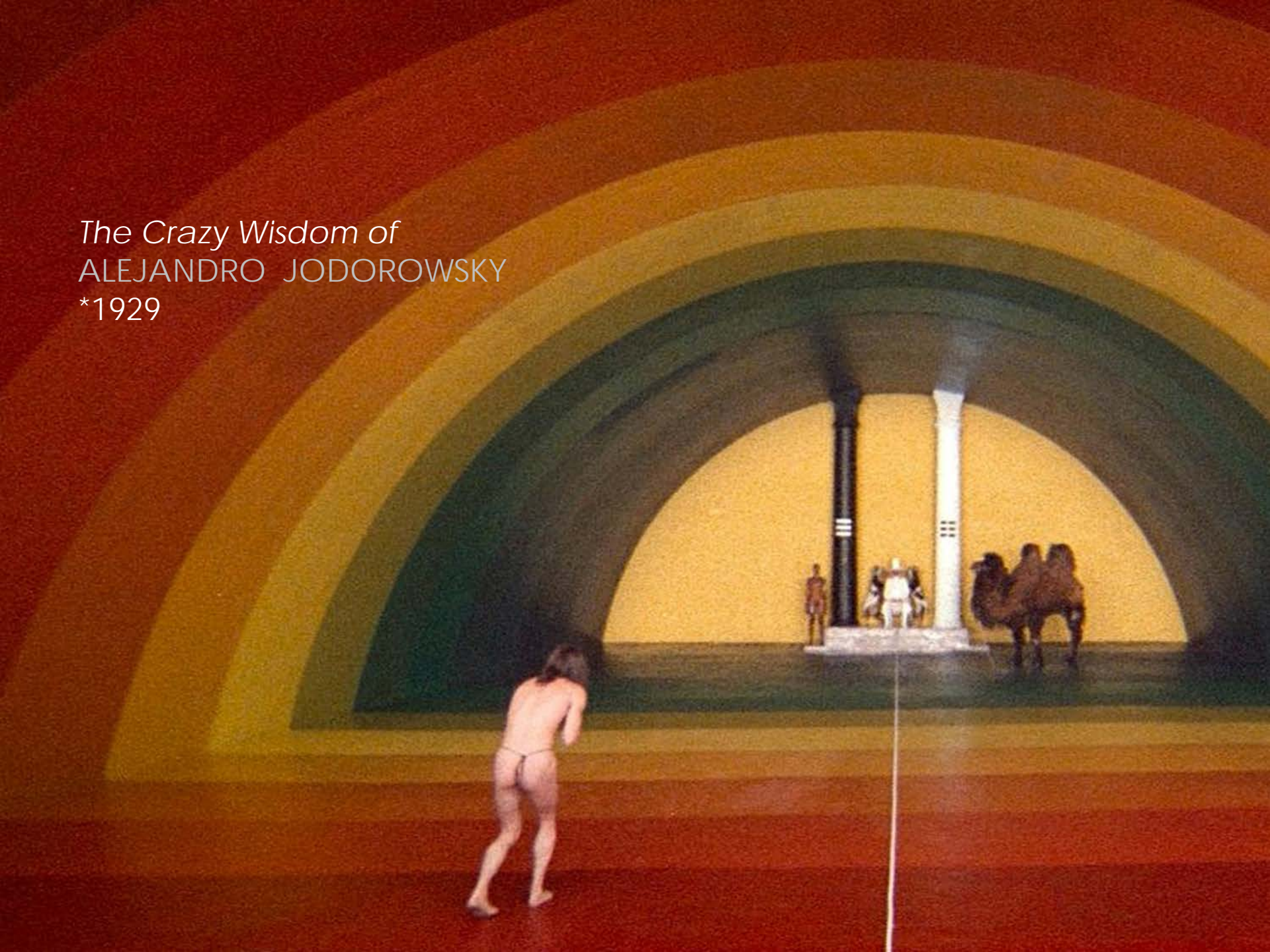


*The Transcendence of*  
BILL VIOLA  
\*1991

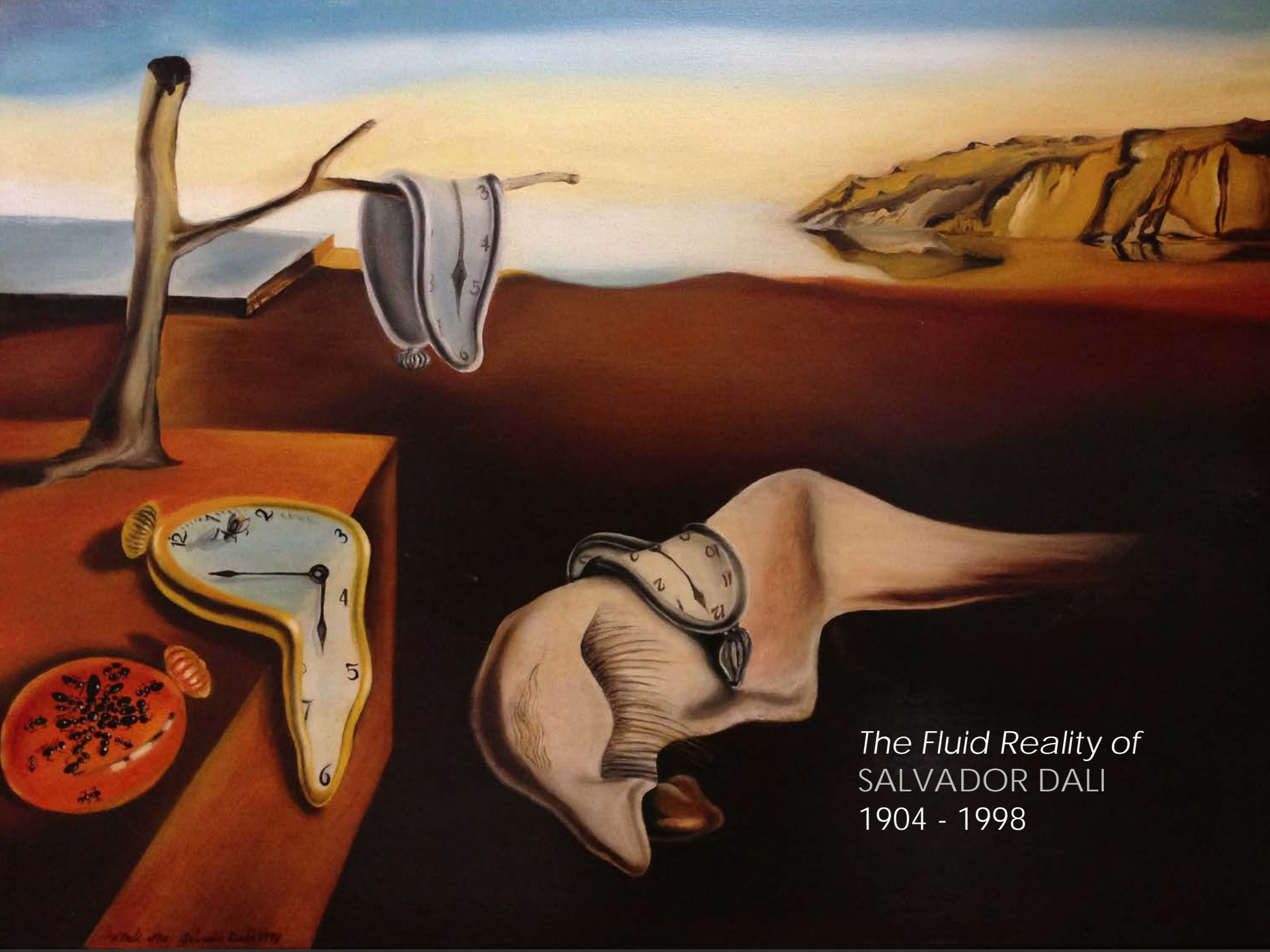




*The Crazy Wisdom of*  
ALEJANDRO JODOROWSKY  
\*1929







*The Fluid Reality of*  
SALVADOR DALÍ  
1904 - 1998





*The Symbolism of*  
ARNOLD BÖCKLIN  
1827 – 1901

*The Gesamtkunstwerk of*  
PETER GREENAWAY  
\*1942







*The Humour of*  
ANNA & BERNHARD BLUME  
\*1937      1937 – 2011



*The Absurdity of*  
ROY ANDERSSON  
\*1943





*The Dreams of*  
MAX KLINGER  
1857 – 1920

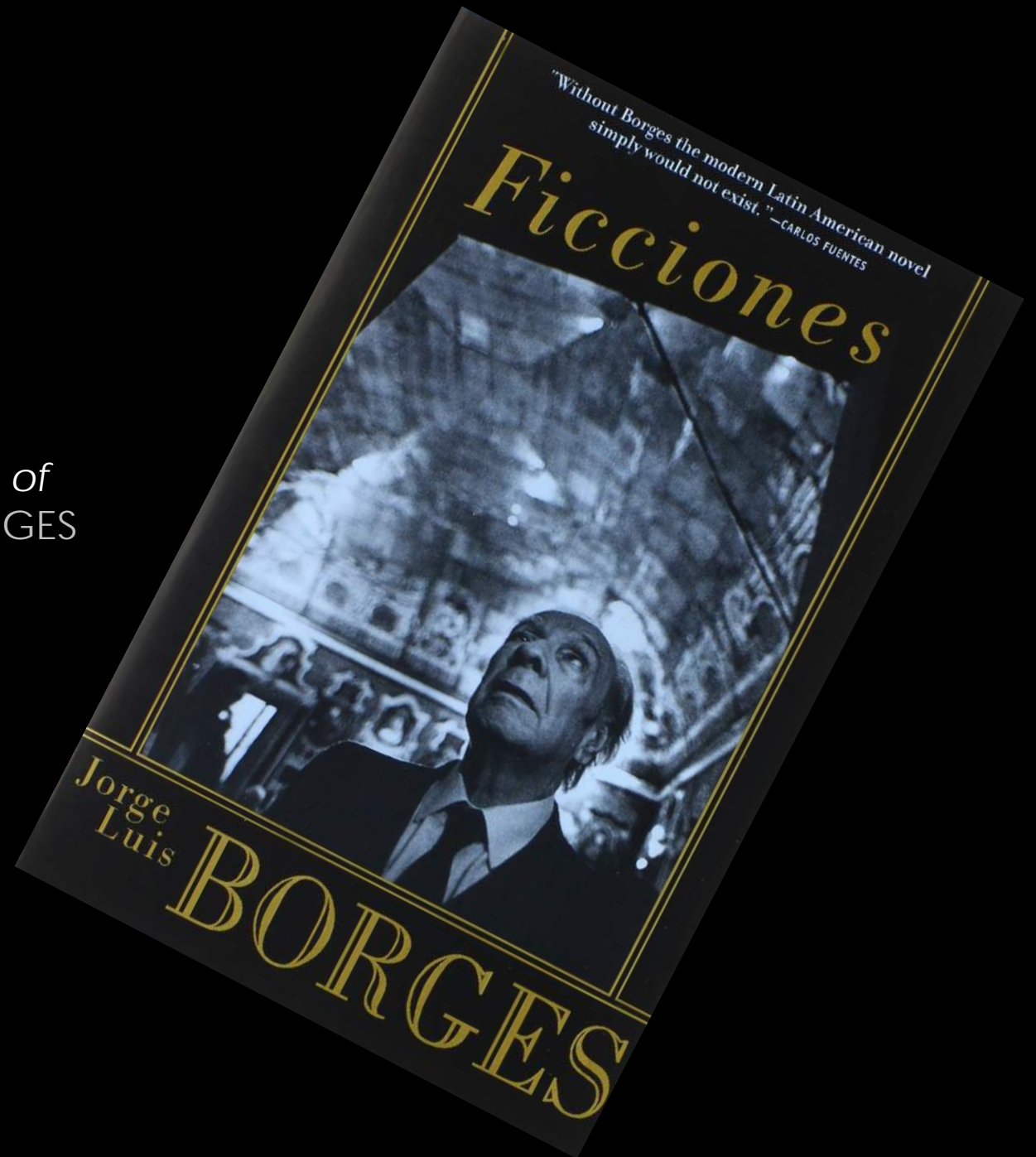




*The Psychological Approach of*  
ROGER BALLEEN  
\*1950



The Labyrinths of  
JOSE LUIS BORGES  
1899 - 1986



WHAT DO I DO?



STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

X

STAGED PHOTOGRAPHY



HOW TO DISAPPEAR COMPLETELY / THE POEMS

































































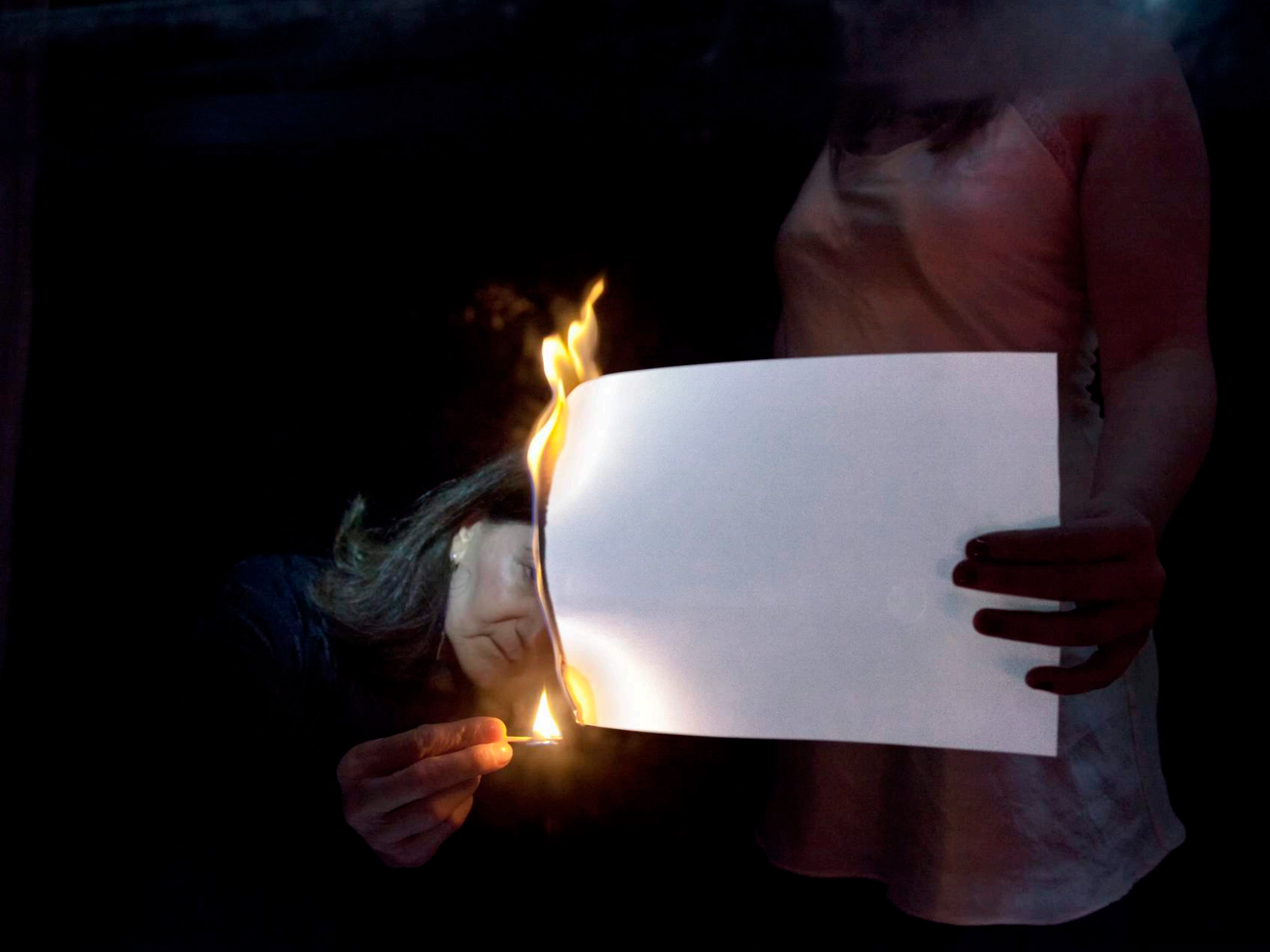


















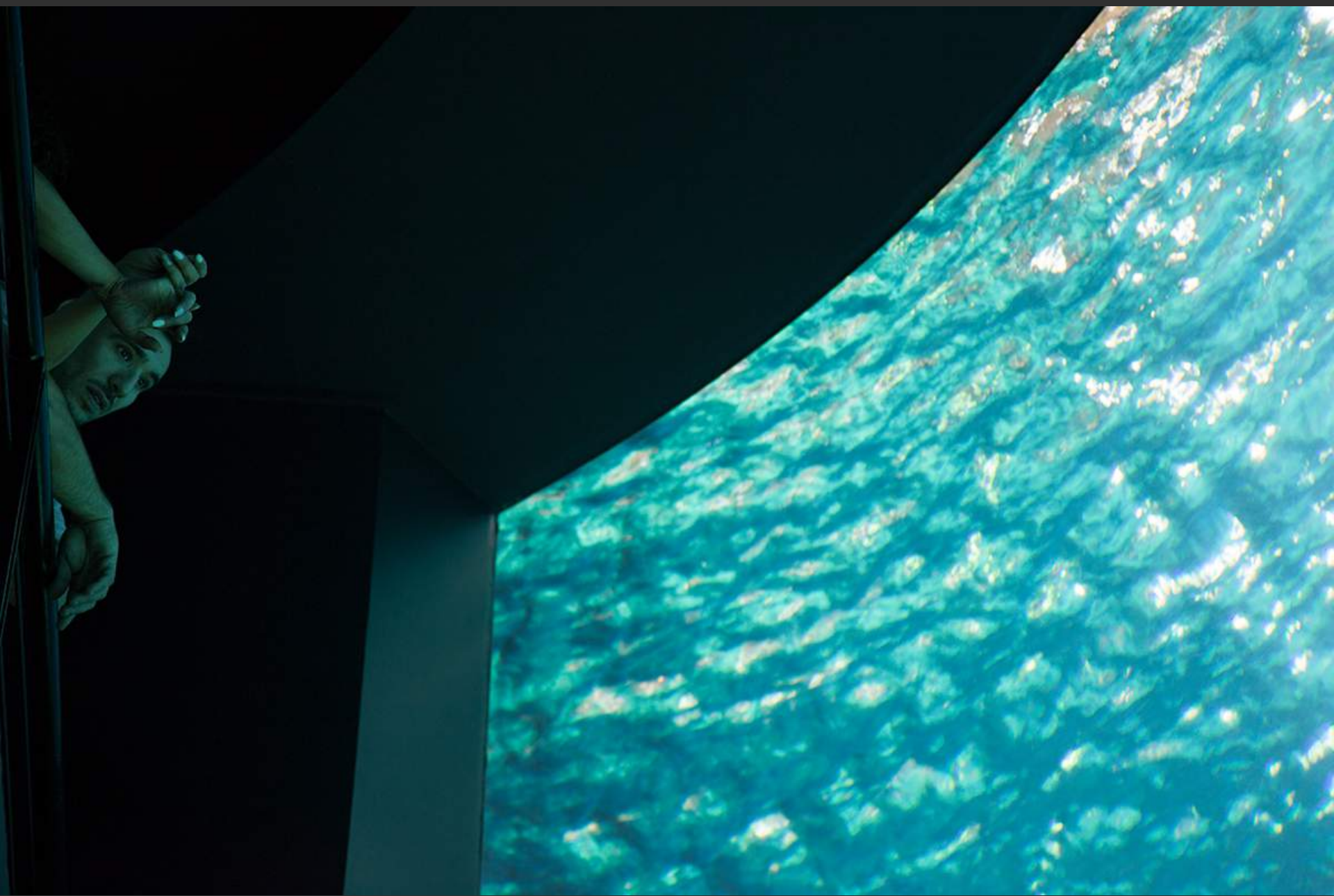














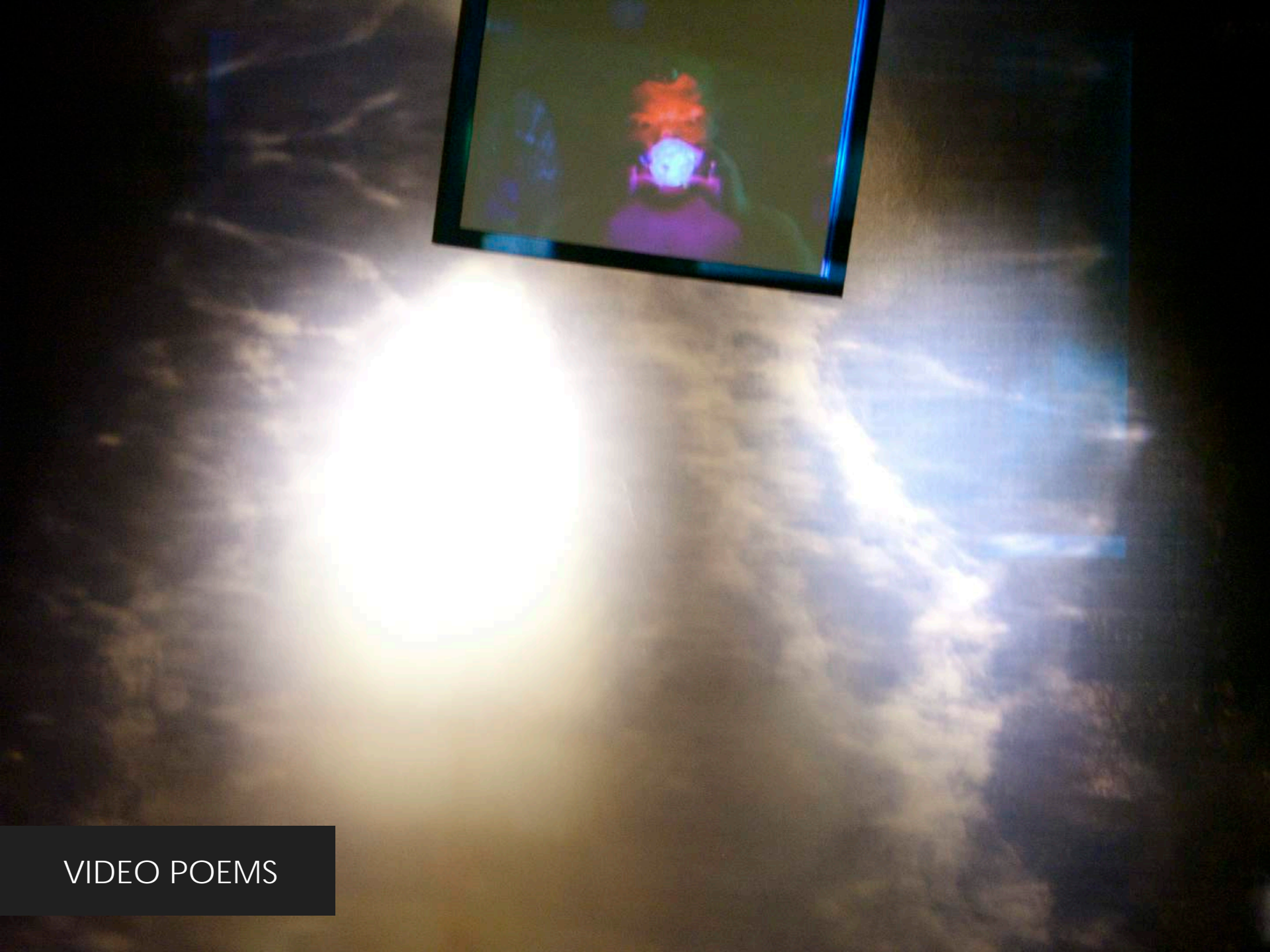












VIDEO POEMS









INSTALLATIONS

Kunstquartier Bethanien | BERLIN







FORMAT Festival | DERBY





SIPF | SINGAPORE







KA.OST Gallery | FRANKFURT



Galerie Voies Off | ARLES









Kommunale Galerie | BERLIN



How to Disappear  
THE POEMS  
Bony Ebdaguen





JUPF | KALKUTTA



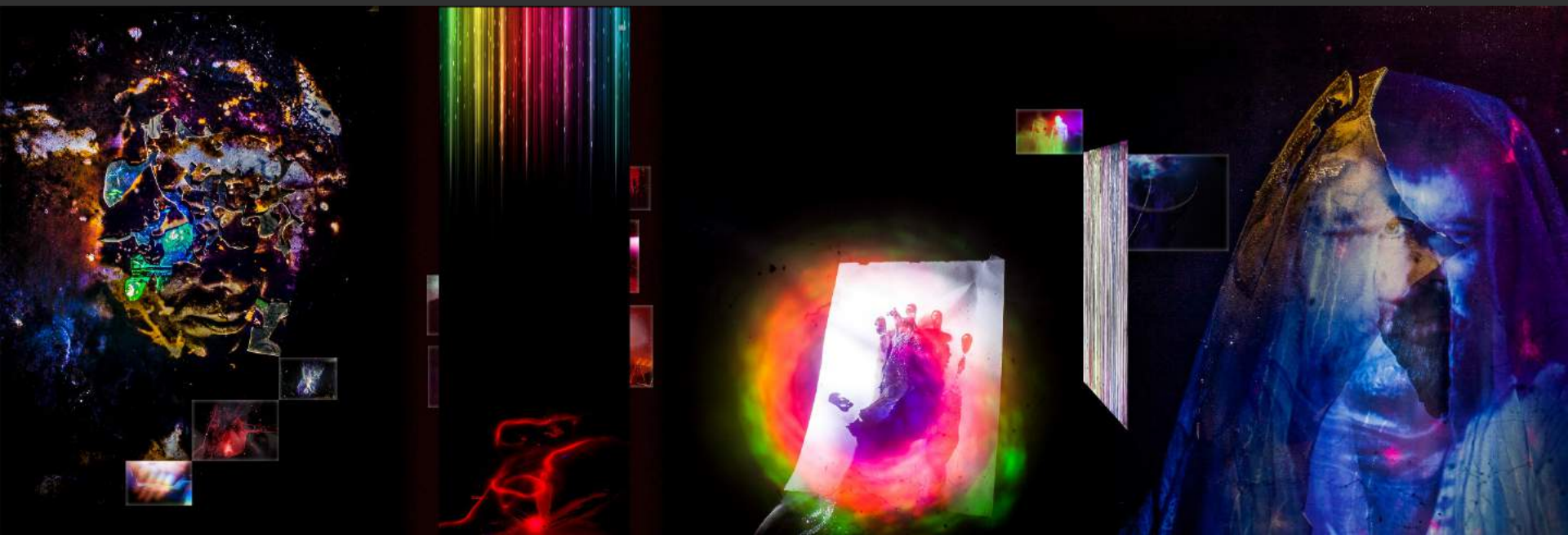


VEGESACKER GESCHICHTENHAUS | BREMEN



Collectors | LISBON





Indian Photo Festival | HYDERABAD



HOW DO I WORK?

MOTHMAN + tumblr BINGO

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HIJACKING REALITY

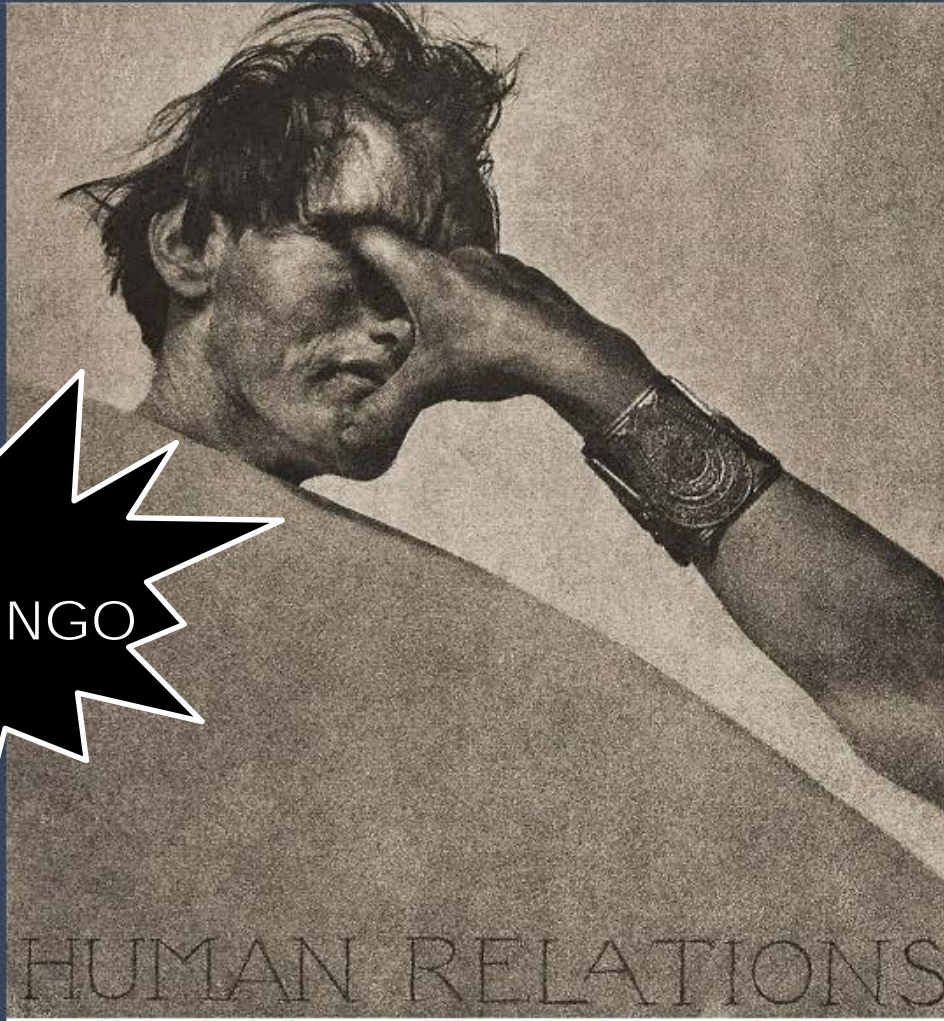
MOTHMAN





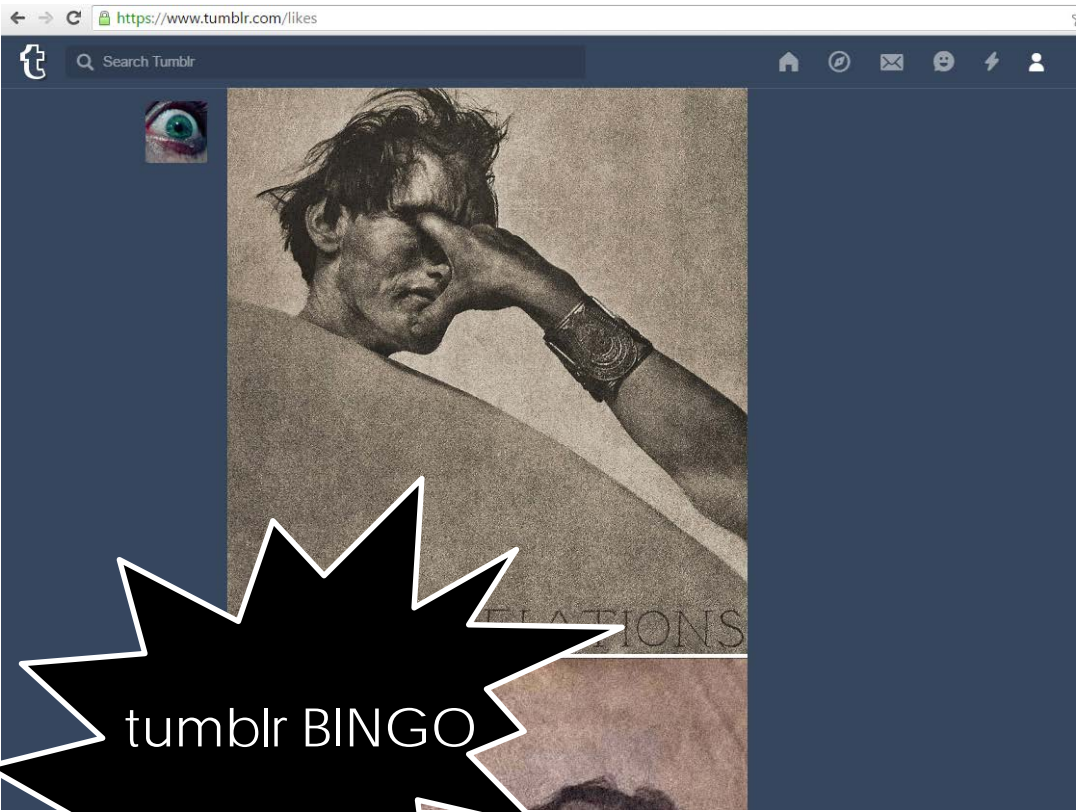


Search Tumblr

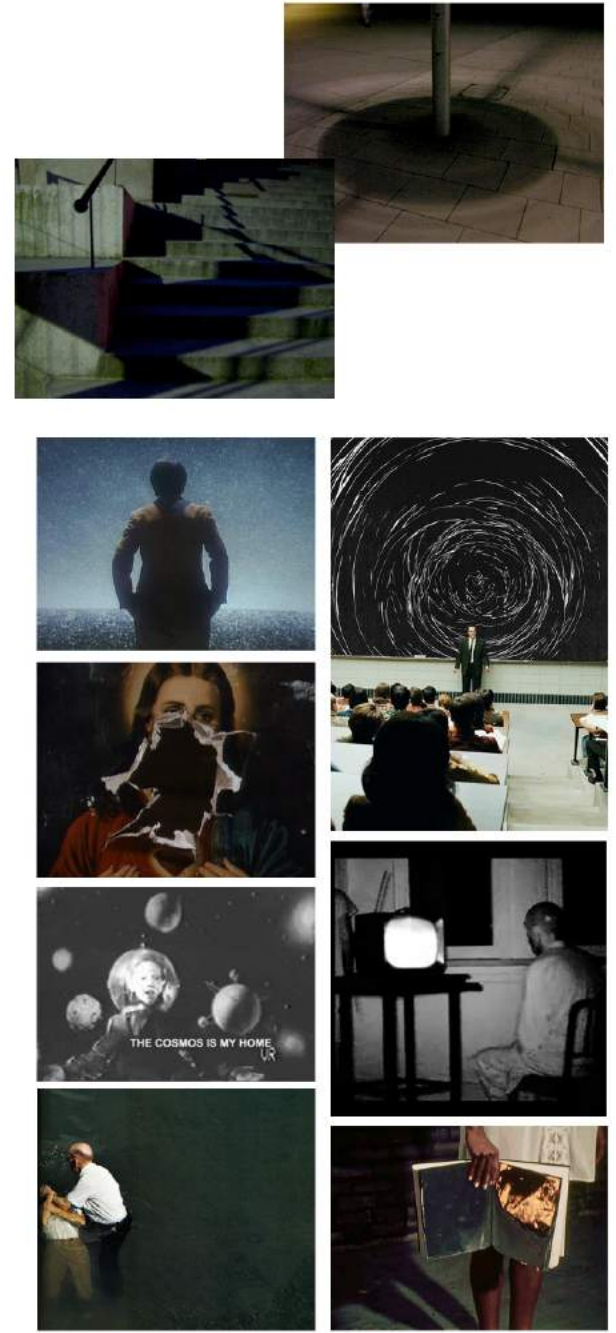


tumblr BINGO





- 0\_videopoem
- ails
- apocalypse
- attached bodyparts
- black hole
- black humor
- blood
- church
- clown
- desert
- doppelgänger
- drawing
- eros + thanatos
- eyes
- fingerplay
- fire
- form
- ghosts
- jesus
- kids
- light
- madlana
- makeup
- mosks
- mouth
- OZ
- pagan
- places
- pose
- sacred geometry
- sacriligious sunday
- satan
- schmuck
- smoke
- snake
- strange bodies
- tattoo
- tv
- universe
- water





# HIGHJACKING REALITY

<https://vimeo.com/61788087>





MOTHMAN + tumblr BINGO

---

HIJACKING REALITY

TRAP

MOTHMAN + tumblr BINGO

---

HIJACKING REALITY

TRAP

DANCE

MOTHMAN + tumblr BINGO

---

HIJACKING REALITY



TRAP

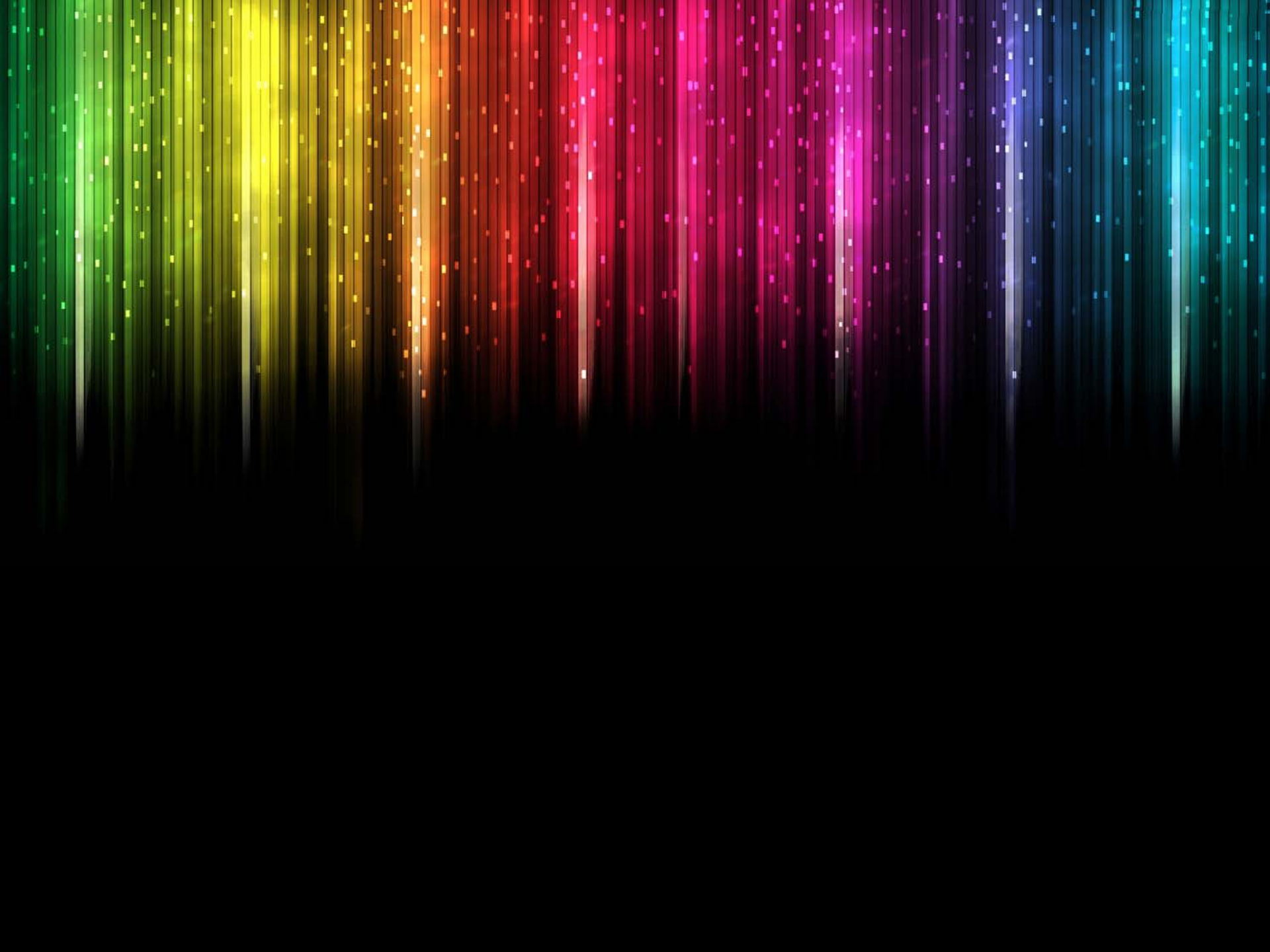
DANCE

MOTHMAN + tumblr BINGO

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HIJACKING REALITY

ANALOGUE  
AUGMENTED  
REALITY



WHAT CAN I PASS ON?



No fear.





Expand.



Be passionate.





Do Reviews.





Connect.

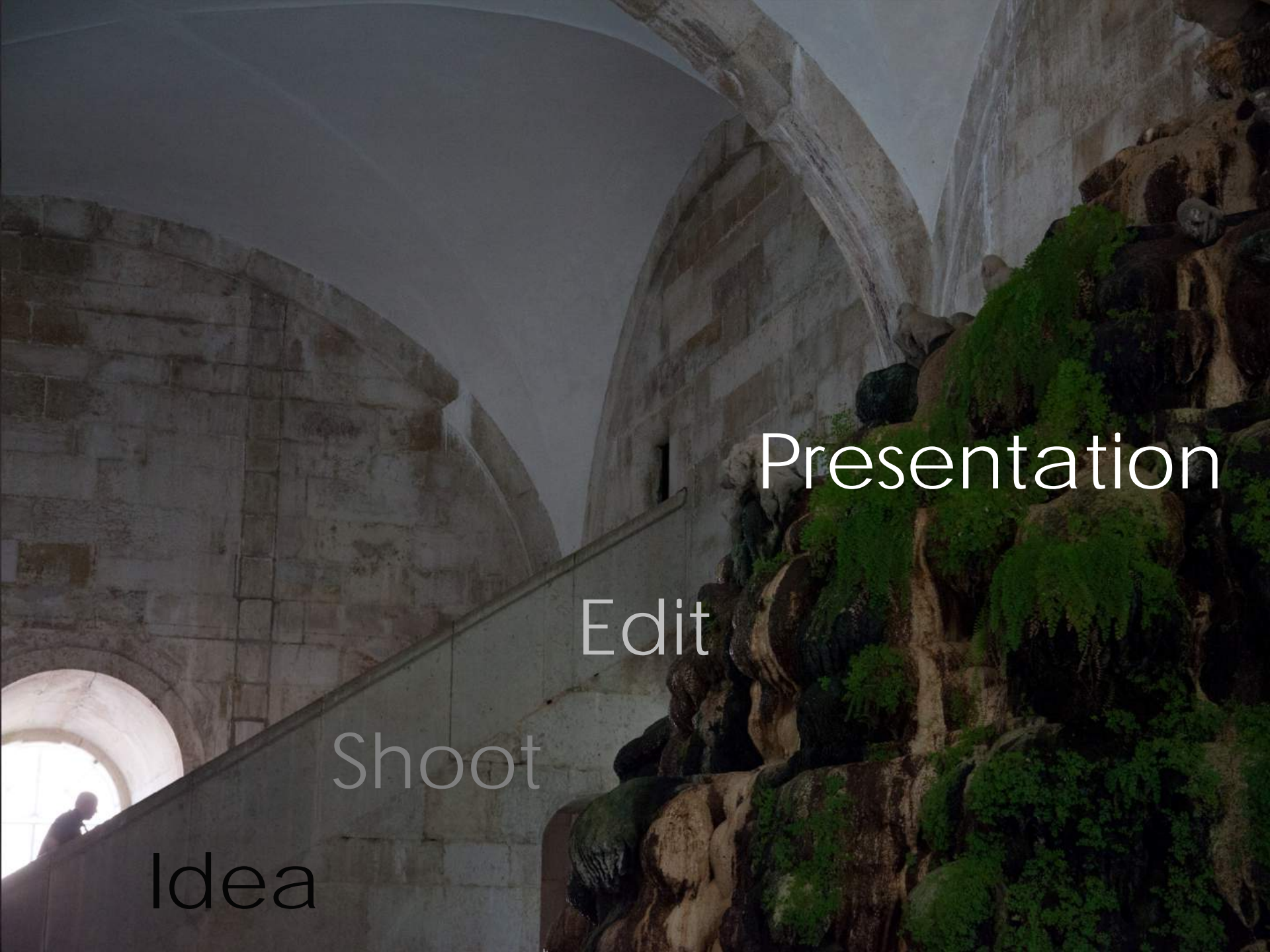


Become  
aware of your  
individual  
creative  
process.

CONSCIOUS  
analytic & controlled

UNCONSCIOUS  
intuitive & emotional





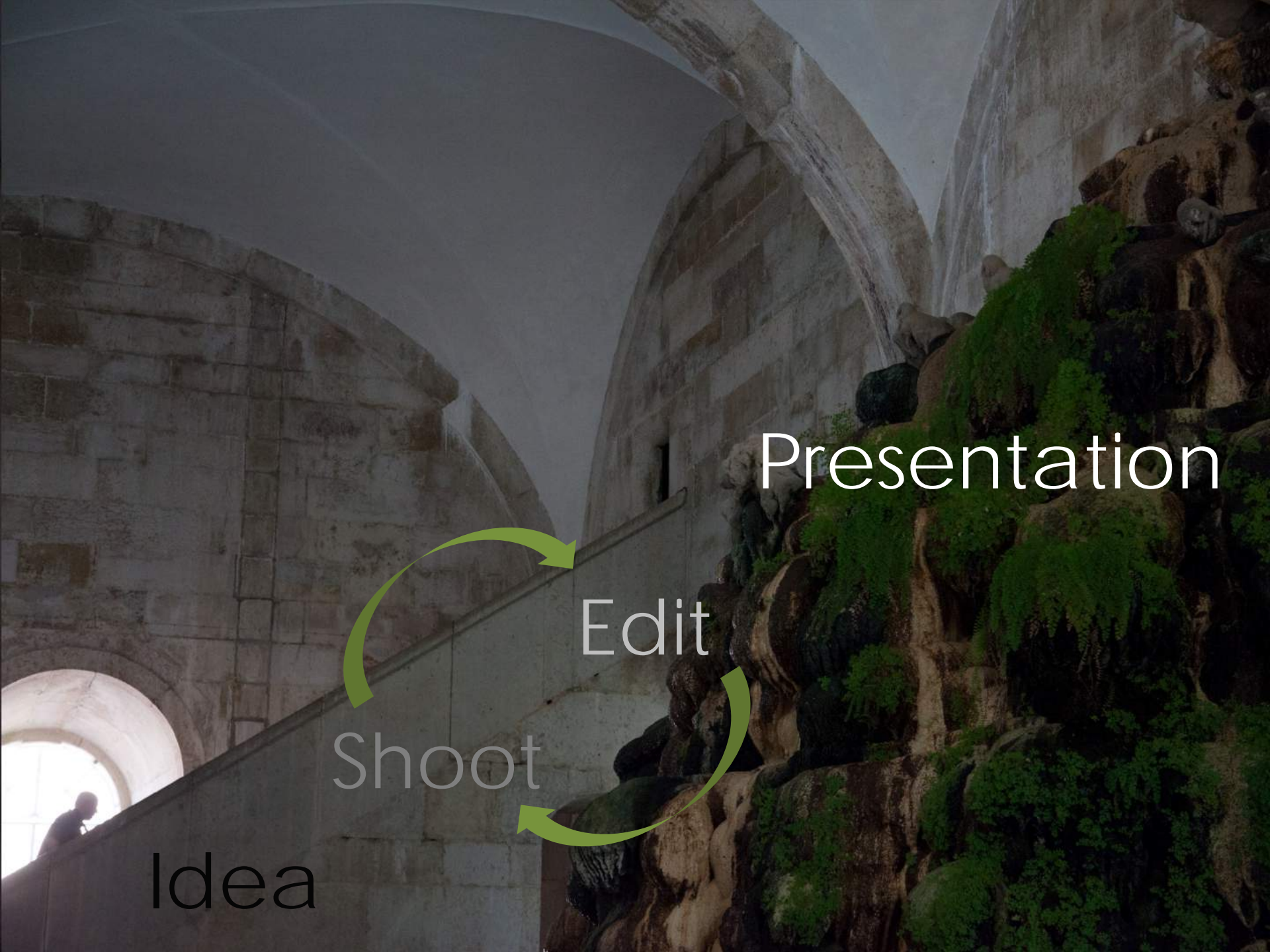
Idea

Shoot

Edit

Presentation





Presentation

Edit

Shoot

Idea

Start editing with  
your conscious mind!

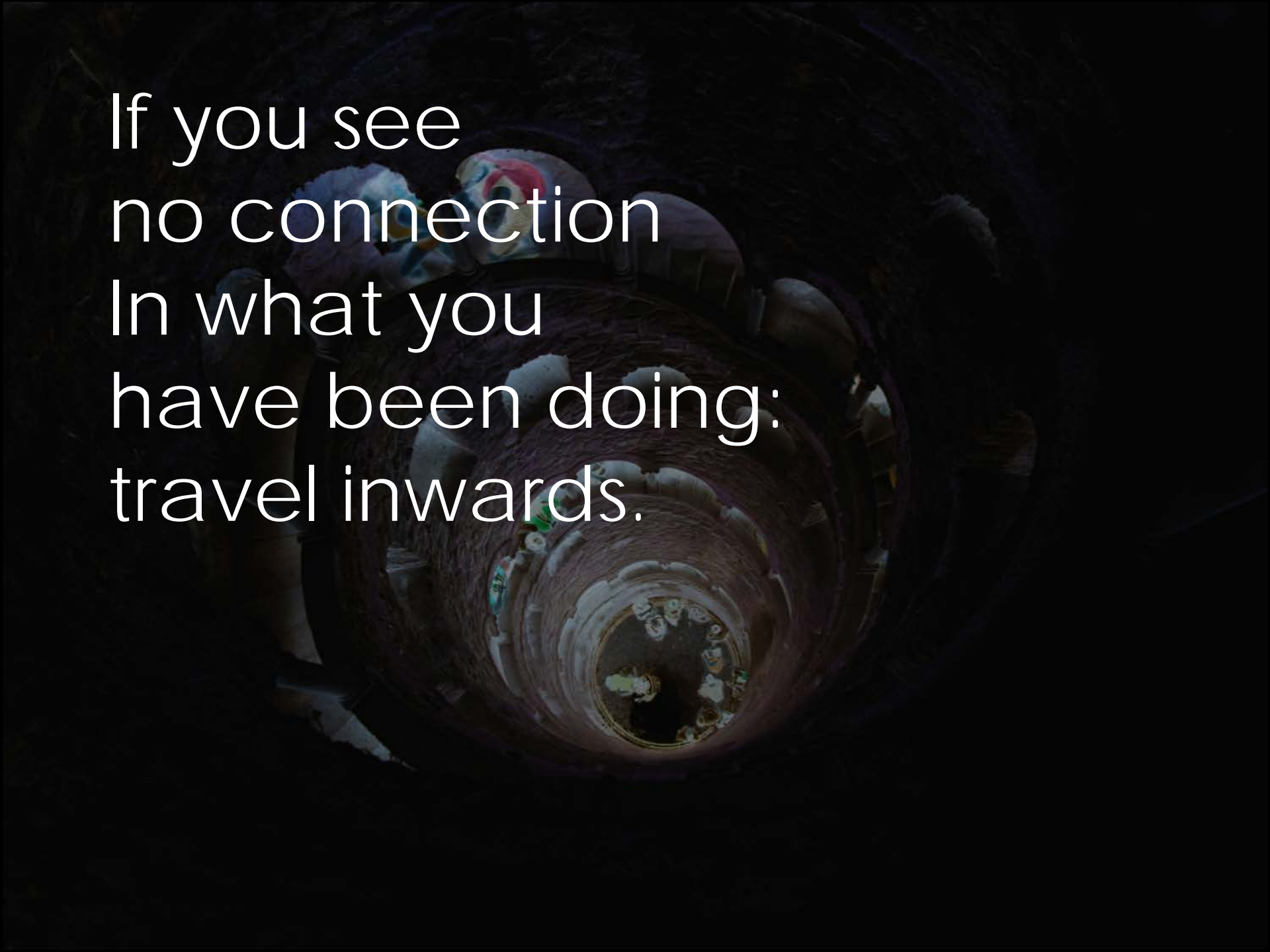
| categories



Then cross  
over to your  
unconscious  
mind.



| strongest images of  
each category

A dark, circular tunnel with a textured, woven interior. The walls are lined with numerous small, colorful, glowing objects that resemble marbles or beads in various colors like blue, red, green, and white. The perspective is from the entrance of the tunnel, looking down its length, which creates a strong sense of depth and inward travel. The lighting is dim, with the primary light source being the glowing objects themselves, casting a soft, ethereal glow.

If you see  
no connection  
In what you  
have been doing:  
travel inwards.



Go back in time

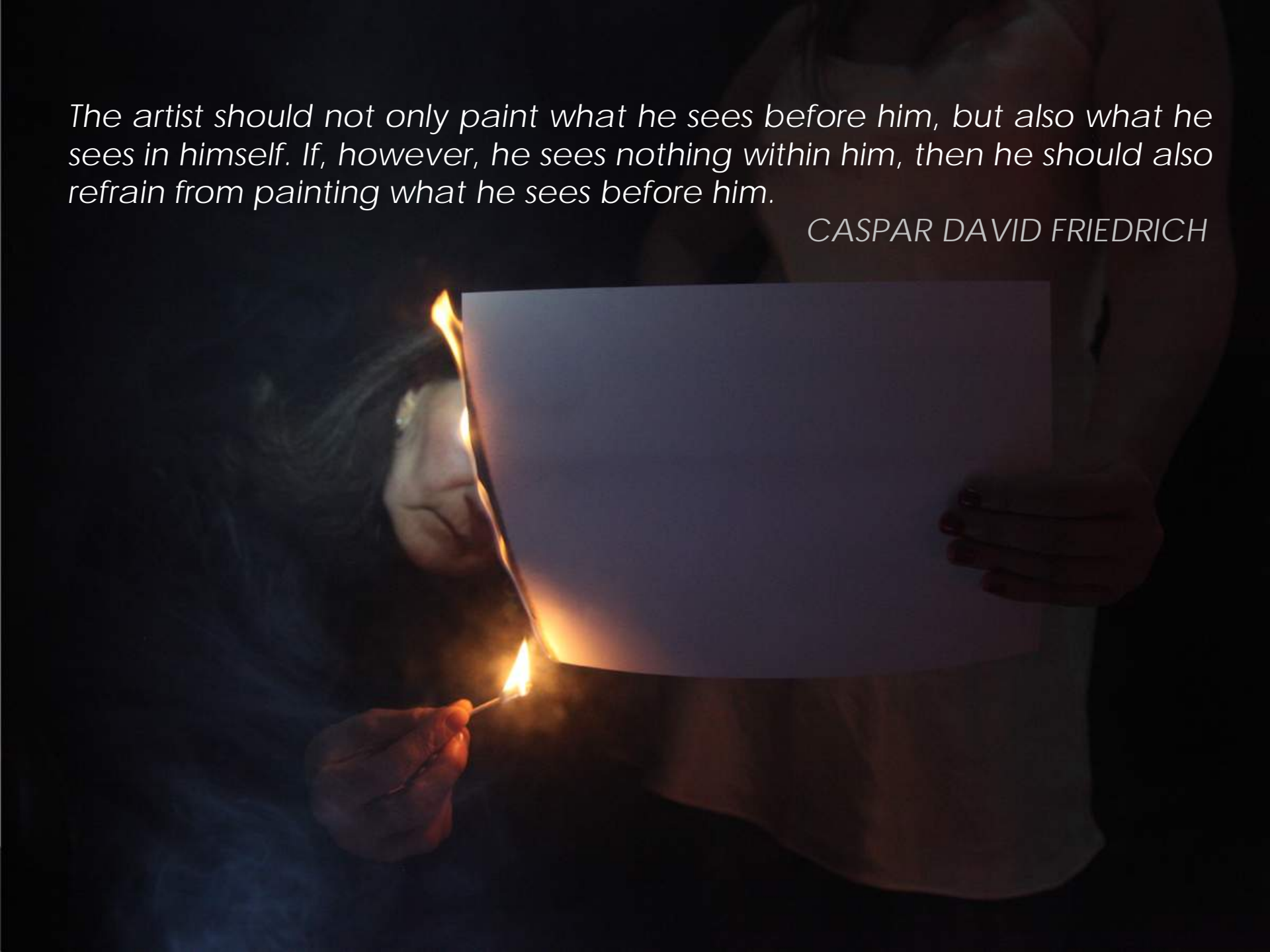
Analyse

Find your  
key theme



*The artist should not only paint what he sees before him, but also what he sees in himself. If, however, he sees nothing within him, then he should also refrain from painting what he sees before him.*

CASPAR DAVID FRIEDRICH



*The artist should not only paint what he sees before him, but also what he sees in himself. If, however, he sees nothing within him, then he should also refrain from painting what he sees before him.*

CASPAR DAVID FRIEDRICH

*Close your eyes, roll your eyeballs backwards and photograph what you see.*

ROGER BALLEEN

Questions?





Thankyou and bye-bye!





Thankyou and bye-bye!

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