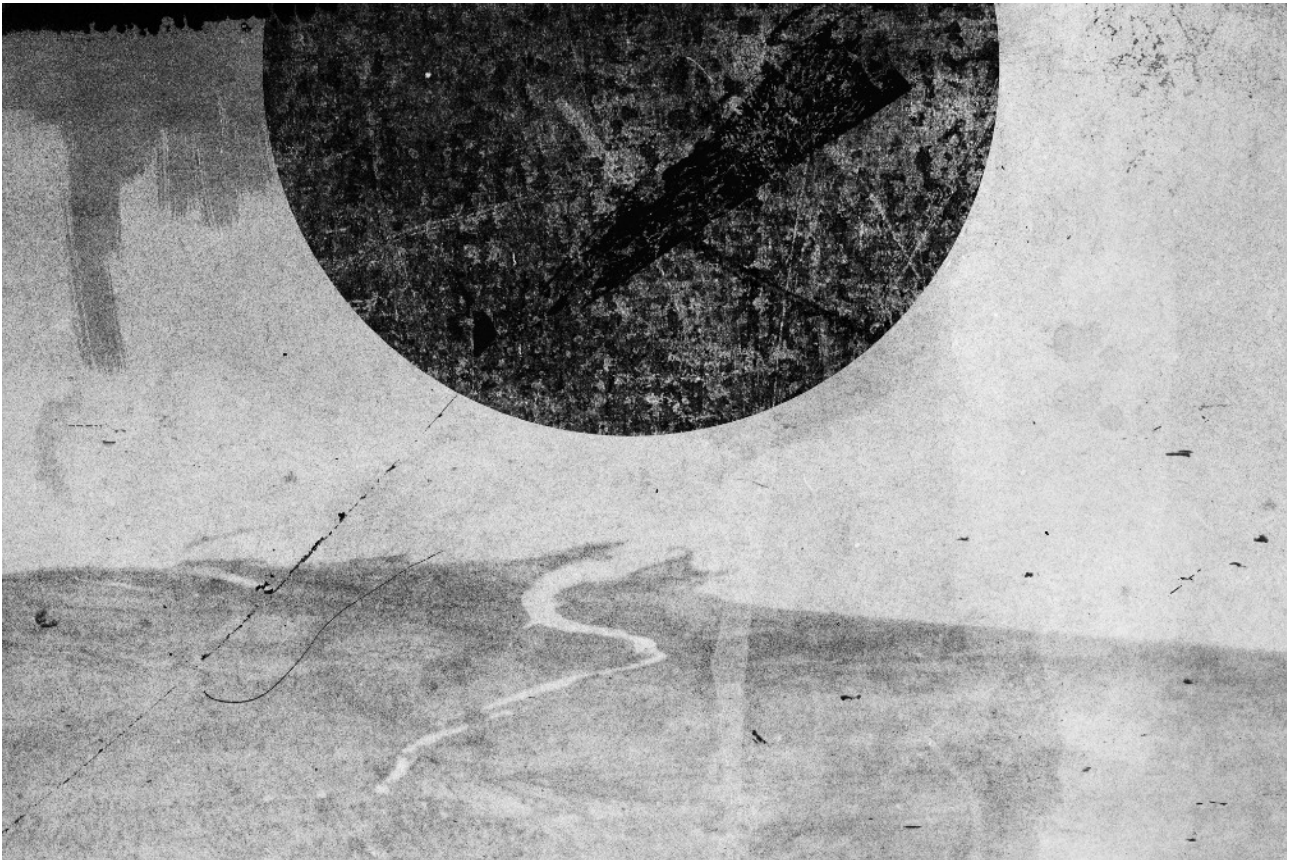


il sole s'incrina / the splintering sun

terror, pit, and trap are upon you, inhabitant of the earth. — isaiah xxiv, 17



this animation work, in which the **film essay** and the **archeological fantasy** come together, is loosely based on examination of the life and writings of the dominican thinker **tommaso campanella** (1568–1639), and specifically of his philosophical allegory ***the city of the sun*** (1602). written during the first year of a long captivity at the hands of the inquisition, *the city of the sun* is the work of a man who, after being sentenced to death for heresy and attempted armed coup, feigns insanity in order to preserve his life. in it campanella envisions a society that epitomizes for him the perfect and the pure. but the images he conjures are remote and forever escaping modern comprehension. the distance of the ages is impassable.

distance is an underlying theme to the images screened on a tv set within the confines of the piece. framing to these is what appears to be an empty kitchen. traces of human presence can be detected, but nobody is there. the camera moves slowly across the space, while a dialogue (or is it a monologue?) is quietly going on.

through minimal use of elements such as text, visuals and movement, the work explores the human need to build **domains that transcend reality** and connects it with the notion of **imprisonment**, physical and psychological—that is, of how people create their own prisons in the guise of goodness and ultimately lock themselves in them. through the combination of computer generated and documental imagery, it also considers the **feasibility of the creative act** as something reflecting on and running away from itself. the clashing essence of fake environments and manipulated archival footage poses questions of **what is a mental image**, of how it relates with supposedly factual representation—and if delineation of boundaries between the two makes any sense. for the audience this is intended as a **contemplative experience**, albeit compressed to the duration of a glint.



general specs

genre: essay/animation

format: single channel hd video projection w/ sound, monochrome

duration: short (6 mins approx.)

notes: possible expansion to multichannel (at a later date).