

Jay Rosen
Fall 2013
Honors Thesis Abstract

ALTERED PERCEPTIONS, THE ORIGIN OF MIRROR VISION

Light grants us the capacity to perceive, this makes light an essential and powerful tool for the visual artist and is the subject of my research. By harnessing the immaterial, transient nature of light, I explored the possibilities of visual phenomena and perception itself. In the summer of 2012, I traveled throughout Europe to the epicenter of this artistic research, conducting studio visits, interviews with artists, and experienced light based installations. The sketches, notes, and photographs from my travels guided my subsequent studio based work.

During this year-long study, I experimented with different lighting technologies to fabricate miniature installations which reveal vast, infinite landscapes shaped by light. I developed wearable mirrored ocular apparatuses for the viewer to peer into for an optically immerse experience. The viewer's vision was instantaneously distorted and fragmented into an omnipresently-twisted vision of the world. I channeled light through a series of mirrors to reflect multiple places in a gallery, transforming the entire space into an apparatus for the passage of light.

My research led to the creation of sculptures and pictures that heighten our awareness to the natural world, by causing us to experientially stare directly into the the invisible operations of optics at work.

THE DIVISION OF VISION

AS PRESENTED AT SCAPE, THE ADVANCED DRAWING SR. SHOW IN SPRING 2013, THIS IS AN INSTALLATION OF 30 COLLAGES AND 3 WEARABLE MIRRORED SCULPTURES. THE COLLAGE PORTION OF THE INSTALLATION IS SUBDIVIDED INTO 3 TIERS.

TOP TIER

SCENES OF SKY AND SPACE, THE LANDSCAPE TRANSFORMED BY THE AUGMENTED REALITY OF MIRRORED PERCEPTION.

CENTER TIER

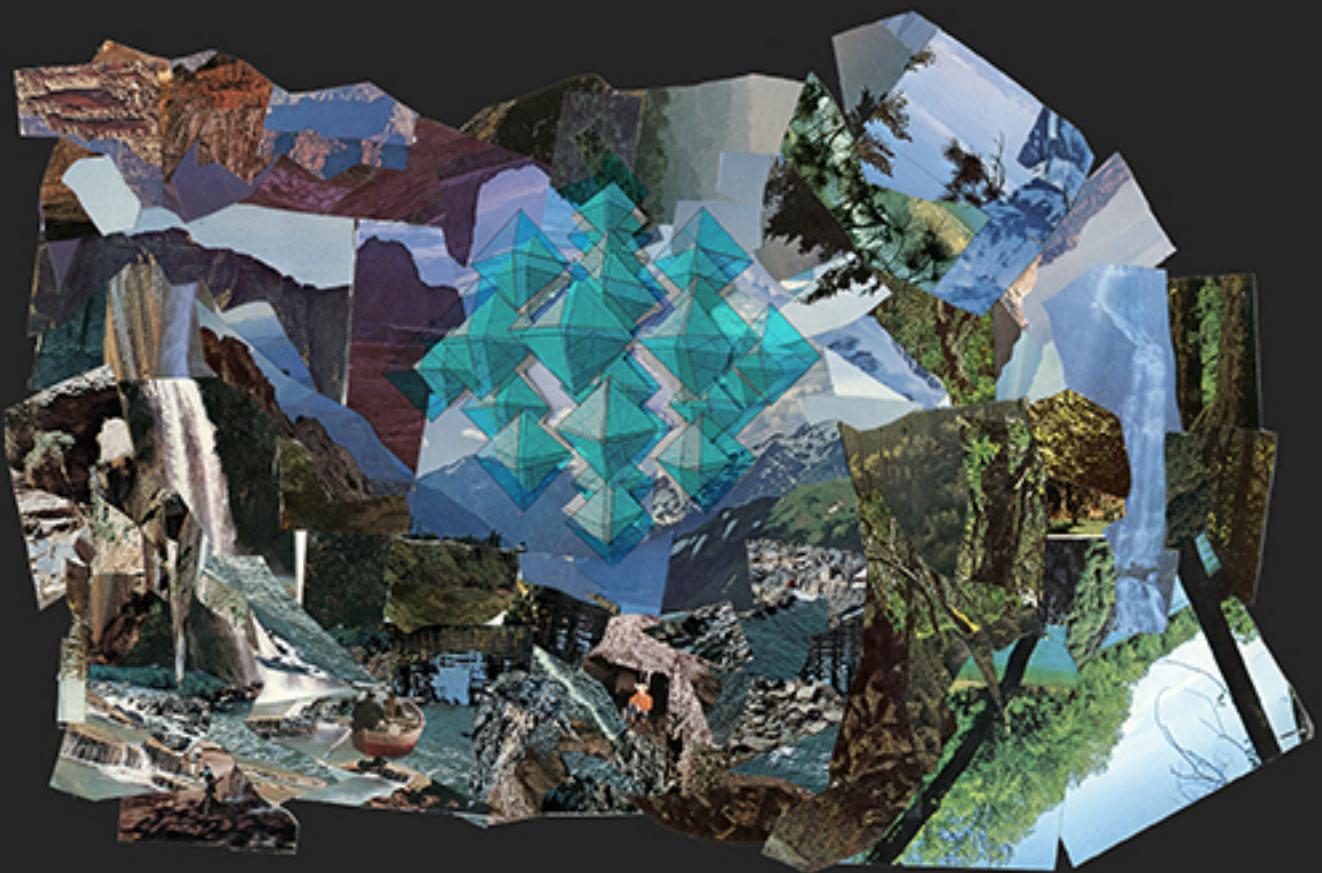
FASHION MODELS PRESENTING THE WORLD OF MIRROR VISION.

LOWER TIER

SCENES OF THE ASTRONAUT EMBARKING ON STRANGE SPACE ADVENTURES.



SKY AND SPACE



THE ASTRONAUT



MIRROR VISION

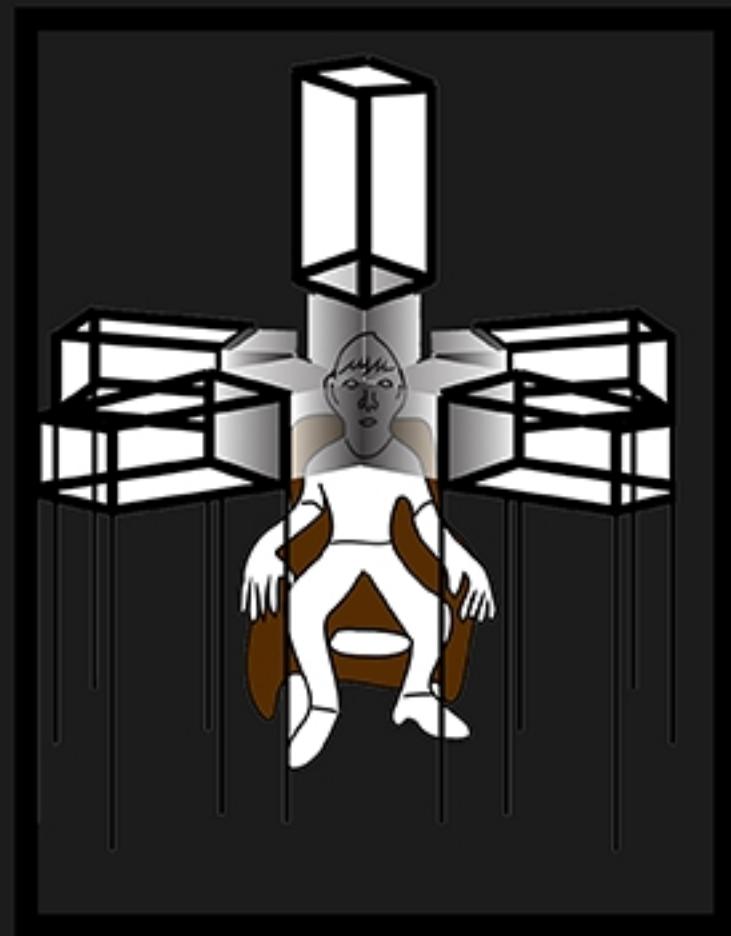
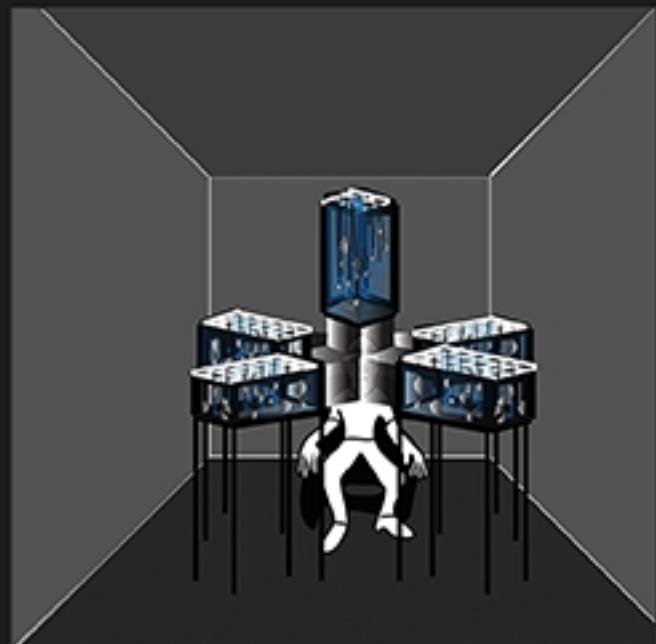
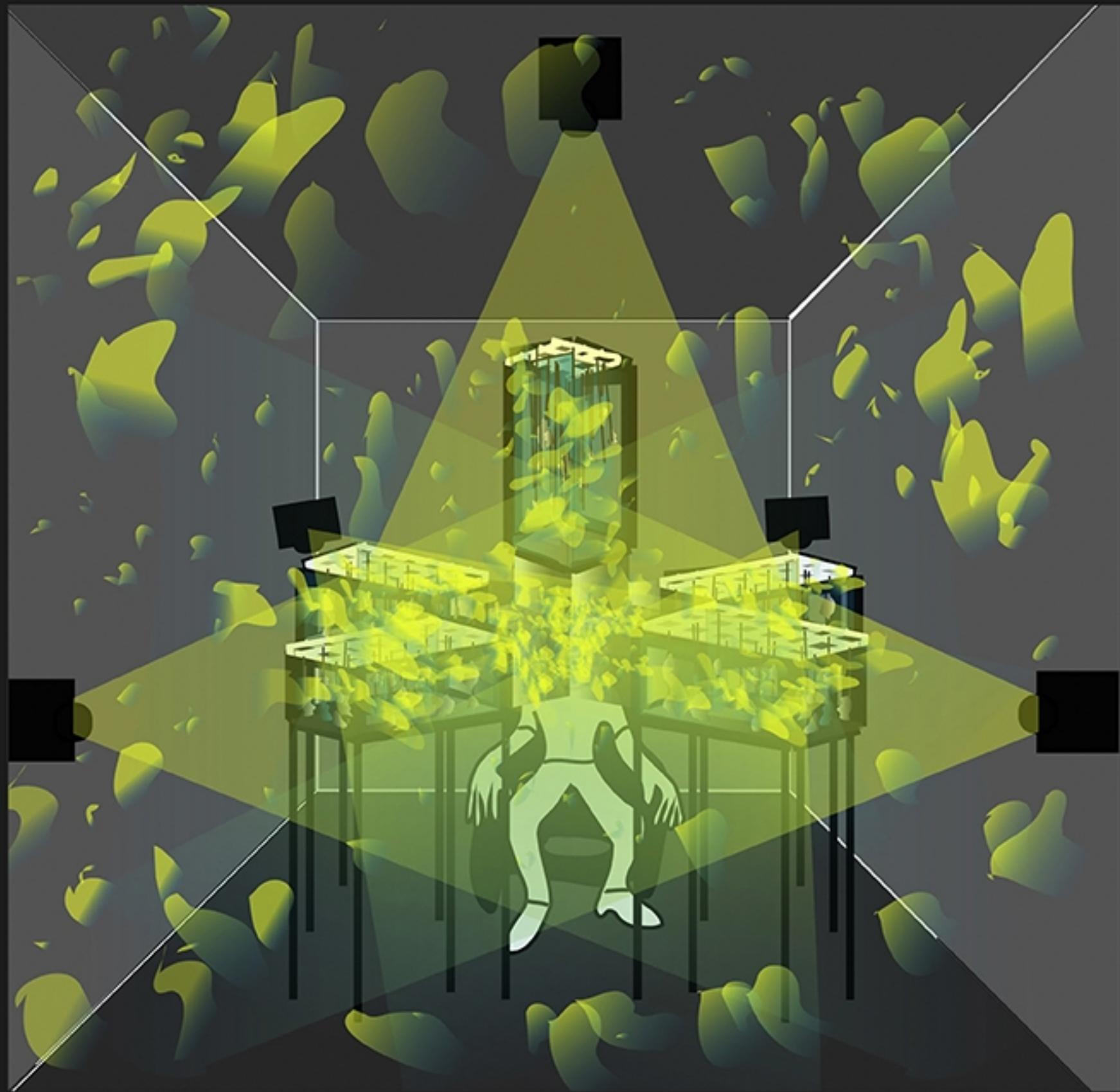




PARTICPANTS IN THE DIVISION OF VISION ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY OF TRY THE MIRROR VISION APPARATUS. THREE VARATIONS ARE PROVIDED, PRODUCING DIFFERENT VISUAL SCENARIOS FOR THE OBSERVER TO EXPIERIENCE FIRSTHAND. THE VIEWER ENCOUNTERS GHOSTLY, TRANSPARENT FIGMENTS, MULTIPLYING AND INVERTING THE IMAGERY ON THE WALLS WITH THE ENVIORNMENT AROUND ONE-SELF. THIS NEW VISION OF THE WORLD INVITES THE VIEWER TO EXPLORE OUR WORLD LIKE AN ASTROANUT, TO DISCOVER STRANGE, UNPREDICTABLE PHENOMENA IN OUR ORDINARY WORLD.



QUADROSCOPE CONCEPT ART

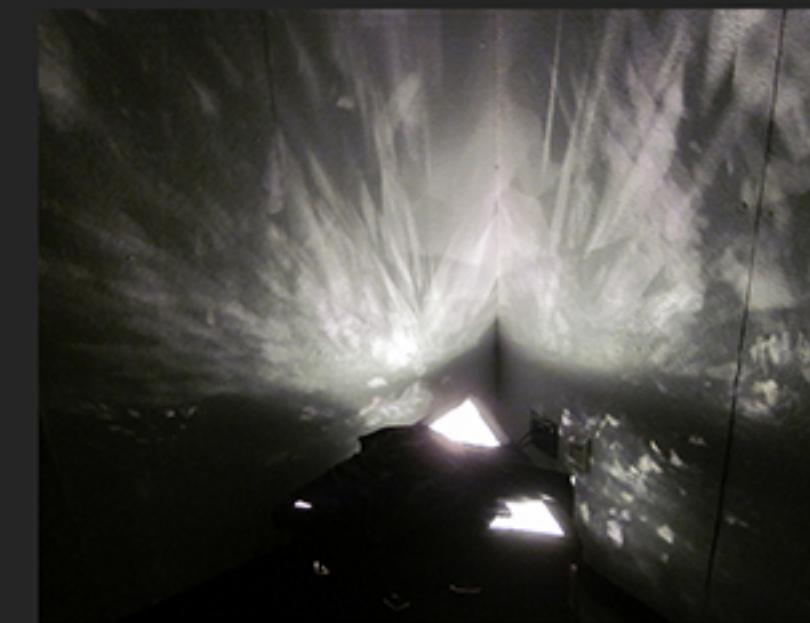
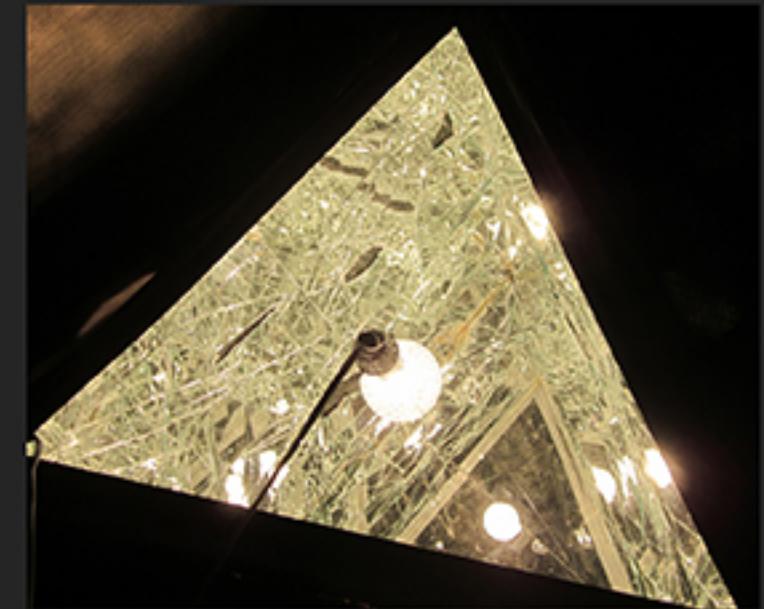


QUADROSCOPE IS A ROOM SIZED OCULAR DEVICE, WHERE FIVE MIRRORED EXTENSIONS CHANNEL INTO FIVE DIFFERENT PROJECTOR SCENARIOS, CASTING A COLLISION OF REFLECTED FILMS AROUND THE WEARER'S HEAD. INSIDE EACH OF THE CHAMBERS ARE PIECES OF BROKEN MIRRORS HANGING FROM STRINGS, FURTHER REFLECTING LIGHT ONTO ALL THE WALLS.

QUADROSCOPE INSTALLATION

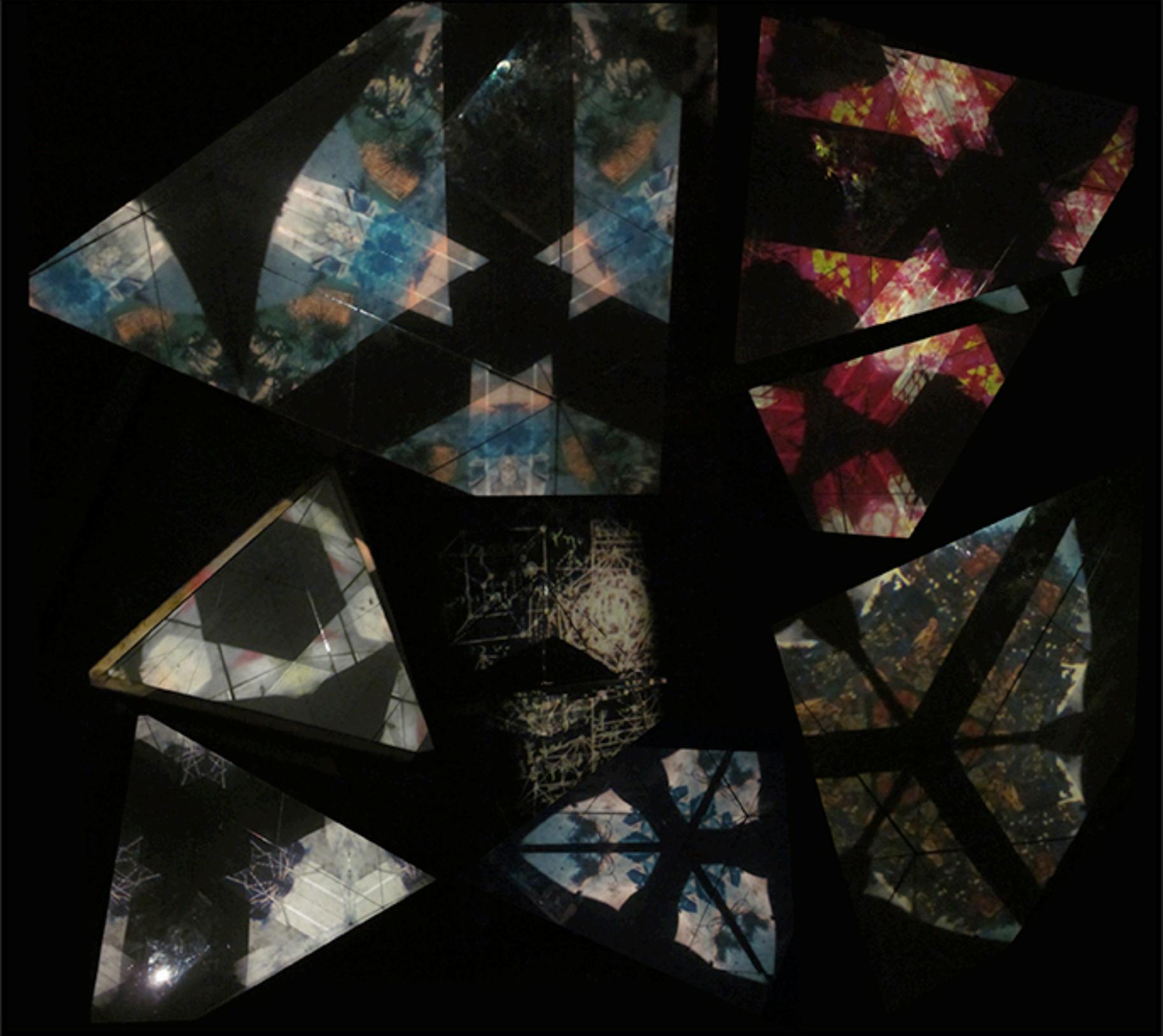
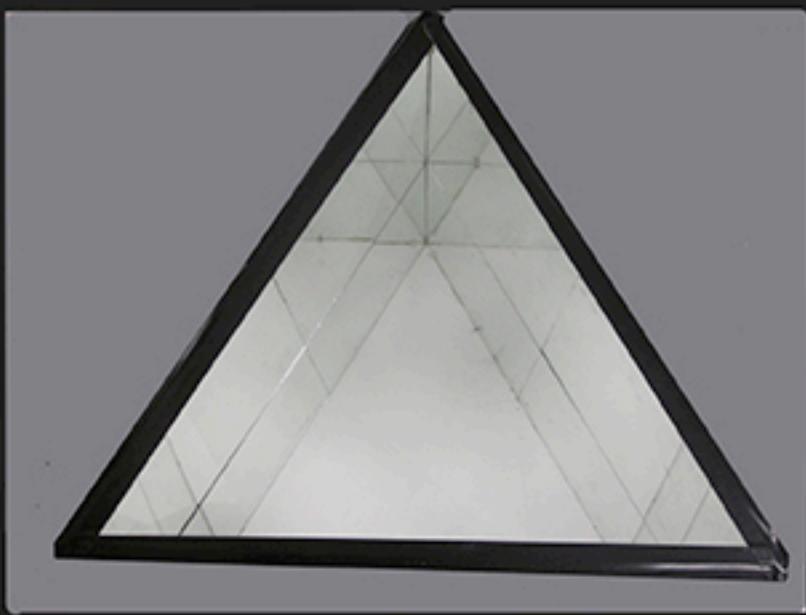


BREAKING LIGHT



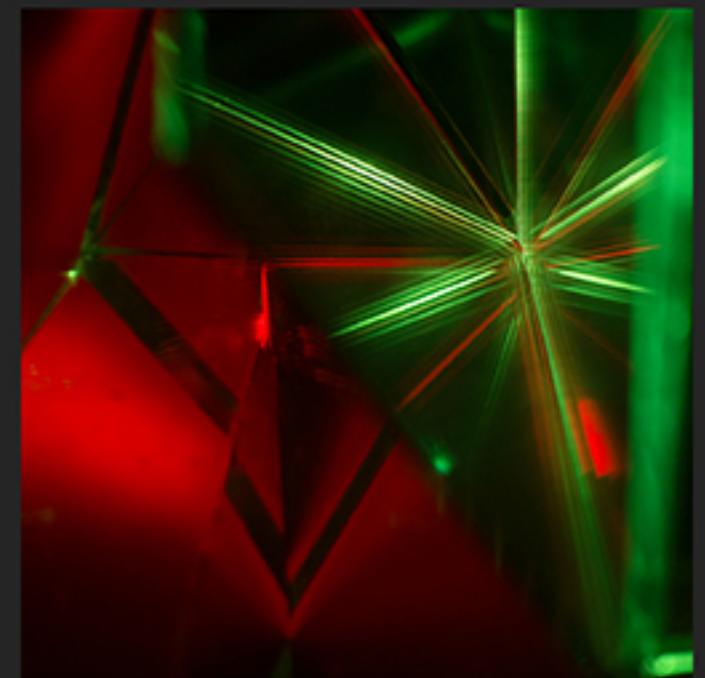
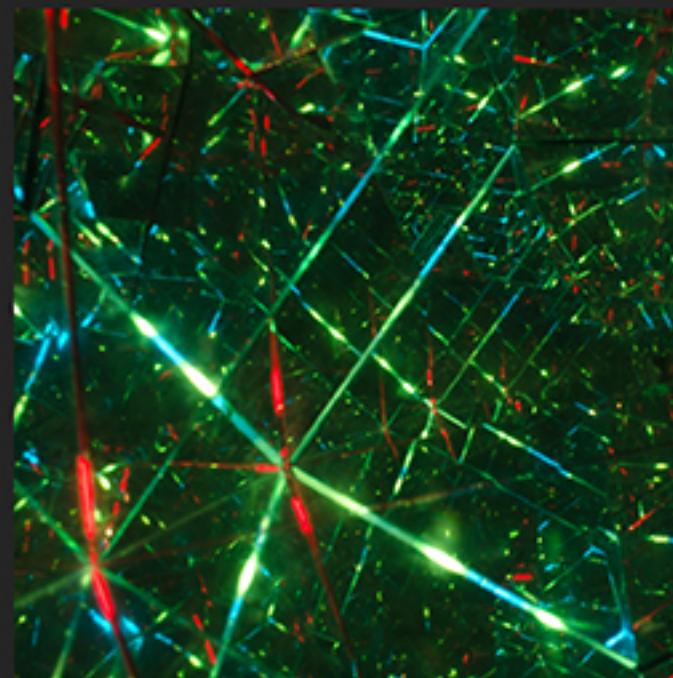
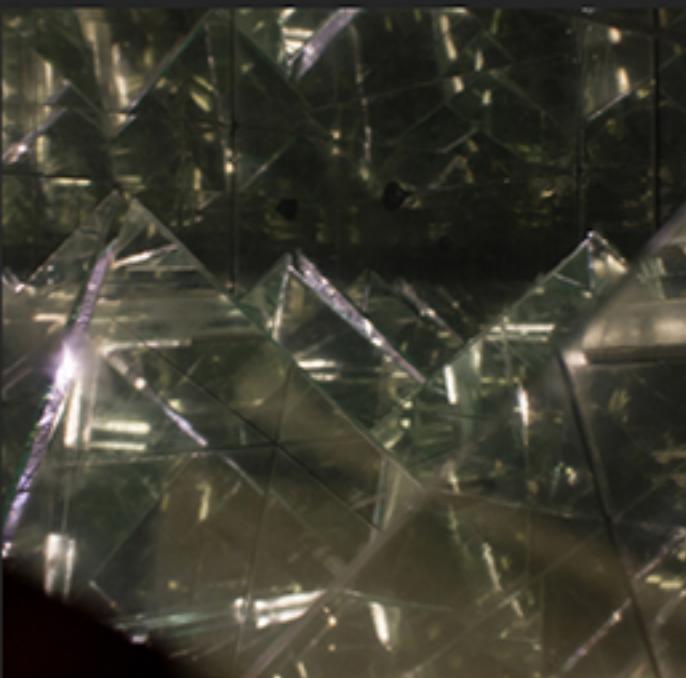
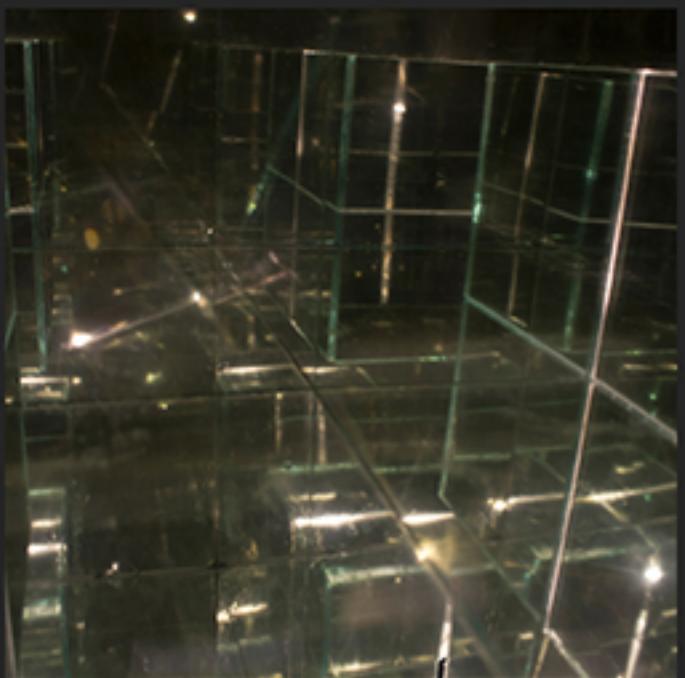
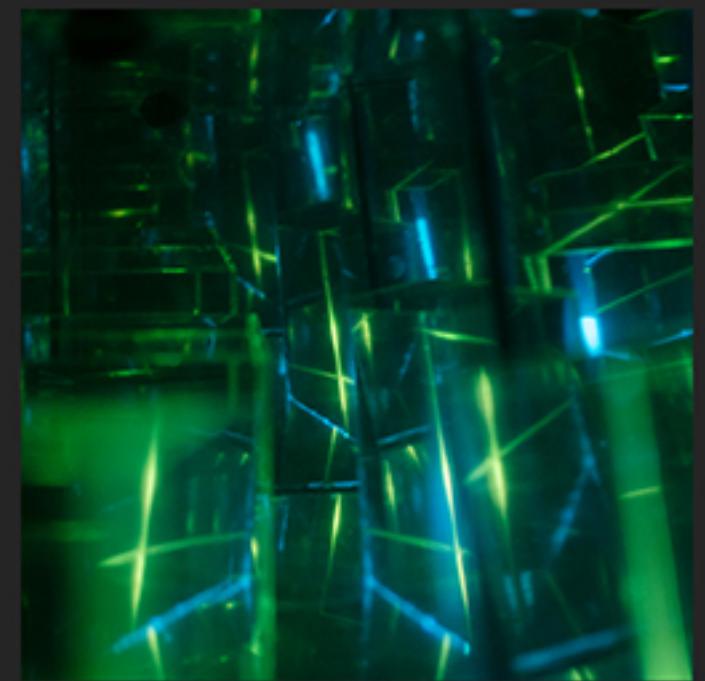
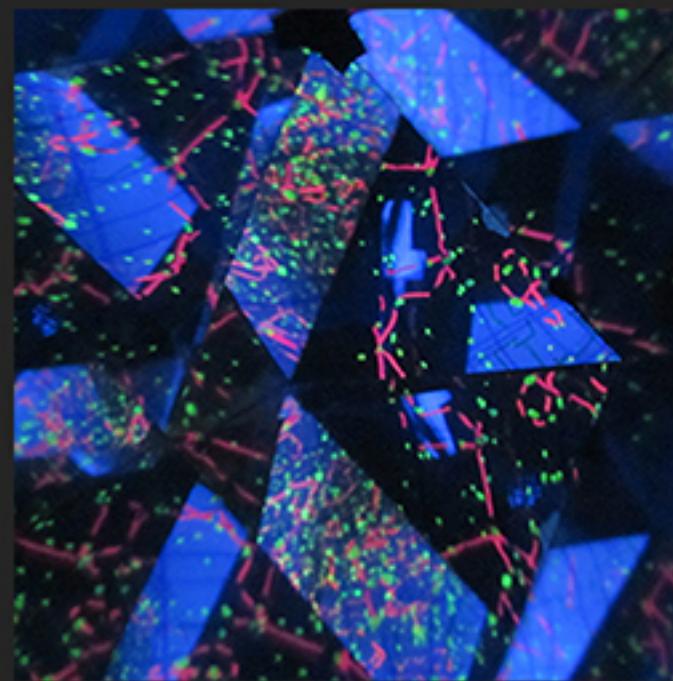
PANDORA'S PRISM IS A 2 FT TALL MIRRORED SCULPTURE WITH ONE LIGHT-BULB DANGLING INSIDE THE APPARATUS. SINCE THE INTERIOR MIRRORS ARE ALL SMASHED AND BROKEN, THE LIGHT-BULB PROJECTS FRAGMENTED PATTERNS OF FLEETING LIGHT ONTO ALL NEARBY WALLS AND SURFACES. AS THE LIGHT-BULB SWINGS BACK AND FORTH WITHIN THE TRIANGULAR BOX, THE PROJECTED LIGHT FLUCTUATES ACCORDINGLY, MORPHING ON THE WALLS IN RHYTHMIC MOVEMENTS,

LUMINO-KALEIDOSCOPE



BY POINTING THE ALTERED PROJECTOR INTO A WALL-MOUNTED MIRROR, THE PROJECTED IMAGE IS GUIDED INTO A MIRRORED CHAMBER. THE VIEWER CAN MOVE THE IMAGE WITHIN THIS LUMINO-KALEIDOSCOPE BY PULLING A ROPE ATTACHED TO THE WALL-MOUNTED MIRROR, REFLECTING INTO THE MIRRORS AN INFINITE GRID OF FLUCATING, LUMINESCENT PATTERNS.

THE SHAPE OF INFINITY



EACH INFINITY MIRROR CUBE IS 1 CUBIC FT - A CONSTANT VARIABLE FOR EXPERIMENTATION WITH SPACE.
OTHER GLASS AND LIGHT OBJECTS ARE INSERTED WITHIN THE MIRROR ENVIRONMENT, PRODUCING UNIQUE PHENOMENA
WHICH I OBSERVE AND PHOTOGRAPH. FOR AN IMMERSE EXPERIENCE WITH LIGHT, I WRAP A CLOTH OVER MY HEAD.

GLASS: THE MIRROR AS A WINDOW



GLASS IS A MULTI-ROOM MIRROR INSTALLATION SHOWN AT *PHENOMENA*. THE INSTALLATION CONSISTS OF FIVE (24 X 36 IN) MIRRORS MOUNTED ON THE GALLERY WALLS AT ADJUSTED ANGLES. THE MIRRORS ARE SYNCHRONIZED TO REFLECT LIGHT FROM EACH OF THE OTHER MIRRORS, COMPLETING A CIRCUIT OF REFLECTIONS. THIS ALLOWS THE VIEWER TO PEER THROUGH MULTIPLE PLACES AT ONCE, PAST ARCHITECTURAL BOUNDARIES. IN THE PICTURES ABOVE, THE NUMBERS 1 - 5 REPRESENT THE DIFFERENT MIRROR PLANES - THE MIRRORS WITHIN THE MIRROR. I STOOD AT MIRROR #1 AND PHOTOGRAPHED THE REFLECTION OF MY FRIEND WHOM WAS STANDING AT MIRROR #5.