

The Cathedral of Consciousness

How can we re-establish a connection with our senses through dreaming?

Because positivistic thought has made it a point to exclude mystery and poetry, contemporary man lives with the illusion of the finite power of reason. He has forgotten his fragility and his capacity to wonder, generally assuming that all the phenomena of his world, from water to fire to perception or human behavior, have been explained.

Alberto Pérez-Gómez

Architecture and the Crisis of Modern Science

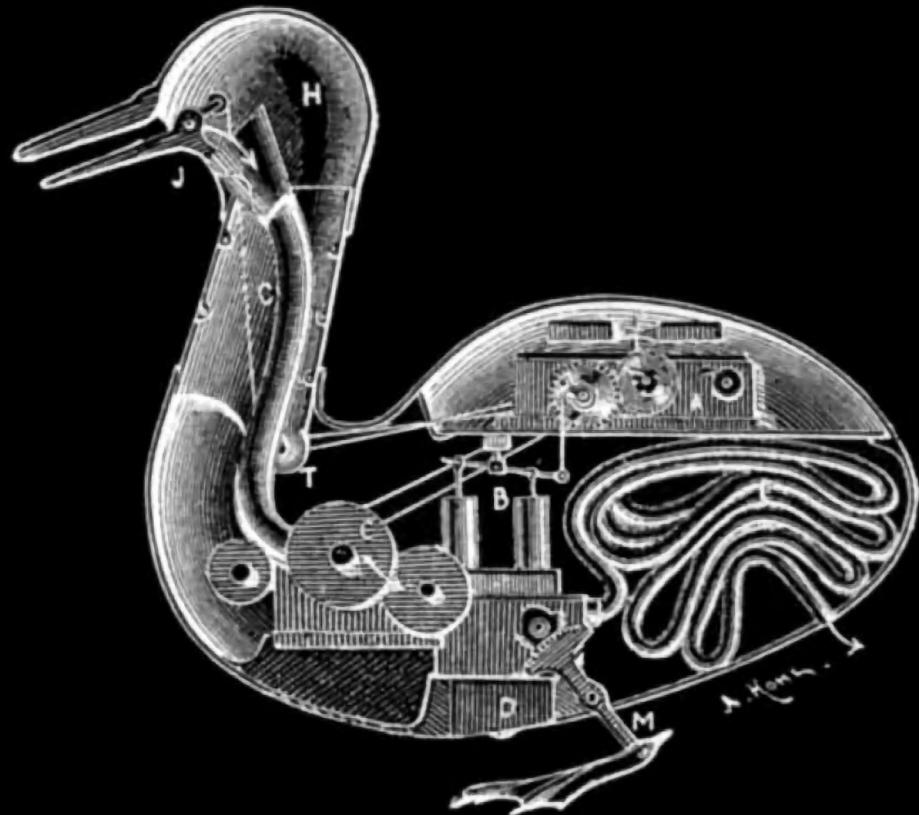


Paradigm-shifting | Petra van der Hulst

The basic distinction of modern thought is that between subjective and objective. On this distinction, scientific thought has had a critical and analytical procedure by which it progressively reduces the individual phenomena to typical events subject to universal laws.

Henri Frankfort

Before Philosophy



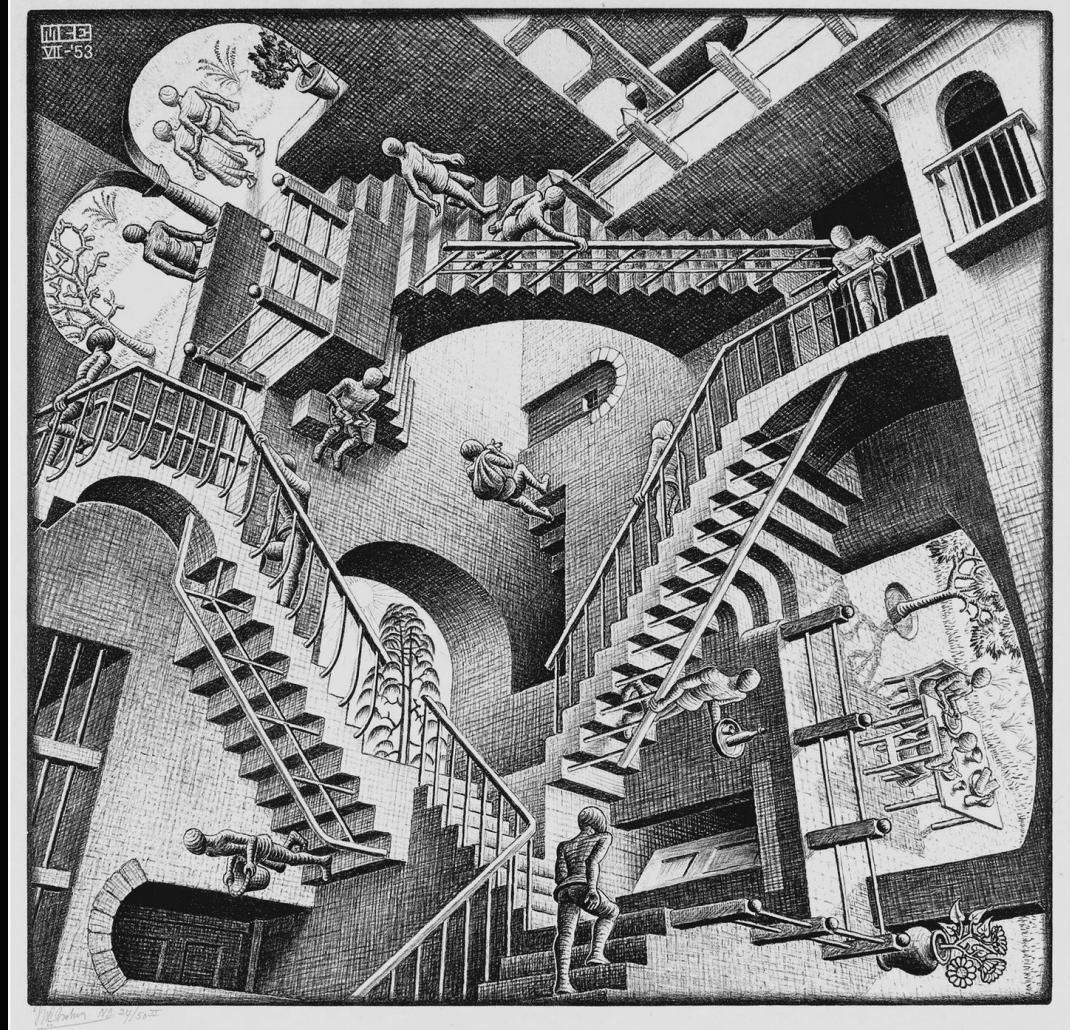
INTERIOR OF VAUCANSON'S AUTOMATIC DUCK.

A, clockwork; *B*, pump; *C*, mill for grinding grain; *F*, intestinal tube;
J, bill; *H*, head; *M*, feet.

Beyond architecture, contemporary culture at large drifts towards a distancing, a kind of chilling de-sensualization and de-eroticization of the human relation to reality.

Juhani Pallasmaa

The Eyes of the Skin

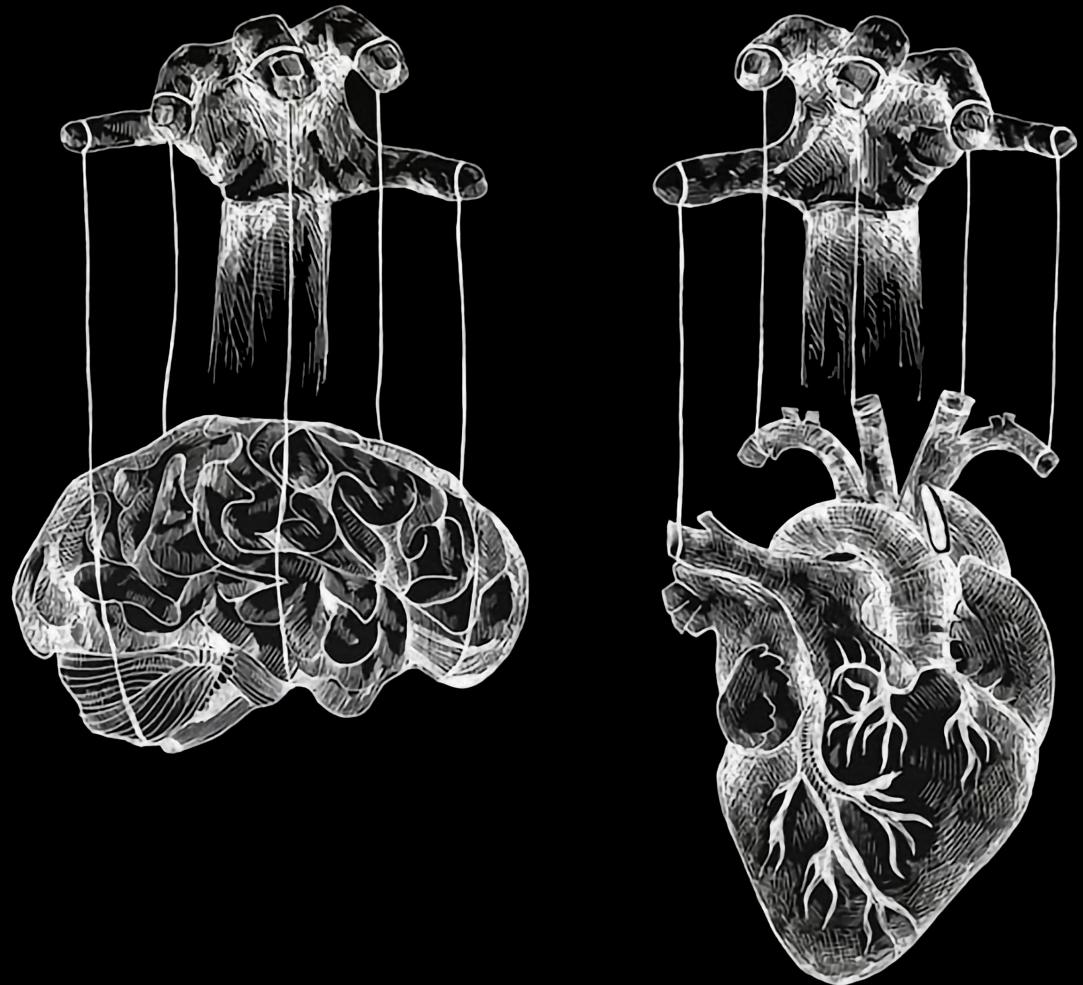


Relativity | M. C. Escher

The dualistic habit of thinking is extended to a separation of the imaginary and the real, or between the sleeping, imagining mind and the waking, rational mind. As a corollary, a hierarchical relation is implicit in that separation, where the imaginary is construed as secondary to the real.

James Morley

The Sleeping Subject



Alfred Basha | Heart Brain Manipulation

I see so plainly that there are no definitive signs by which to distinguish being awake from being asleep.

René Descartes

Discourse on Method and Meditations on First Philosophy



Ryan Garcia | Quanta

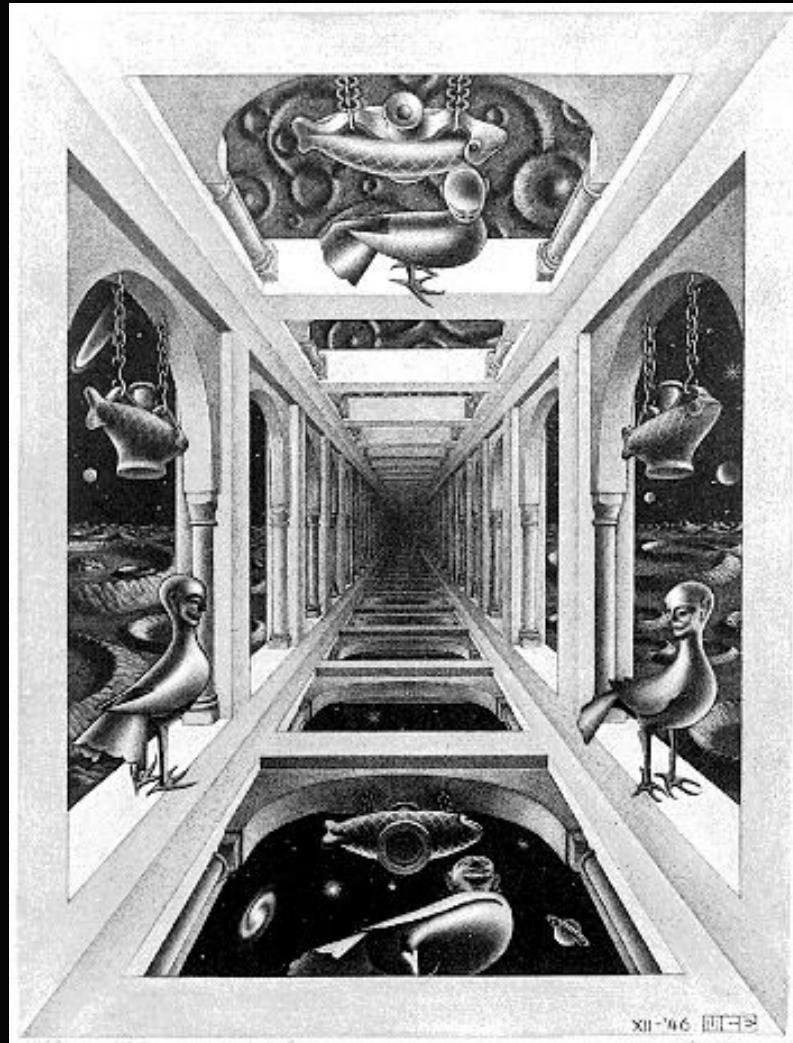
Dreaming is just the entire mental life minus the effort of concentration...

Perception if anything widens its field of operation during slumber. While asleep, perception only loses in tension what is gains in extension... Dreams are elaborated almost in the same way we perceive the real world...

Since the waking mind hastily discounts alternatives in its quest to rationalize experience, it in fact sets aside key features of rationalist inquiry, preferring memory and crude probability to do the work of interpretation on a day-to-day and indeed moment-by-moment basis.

Henri Bergson

The Poetics of Sleep



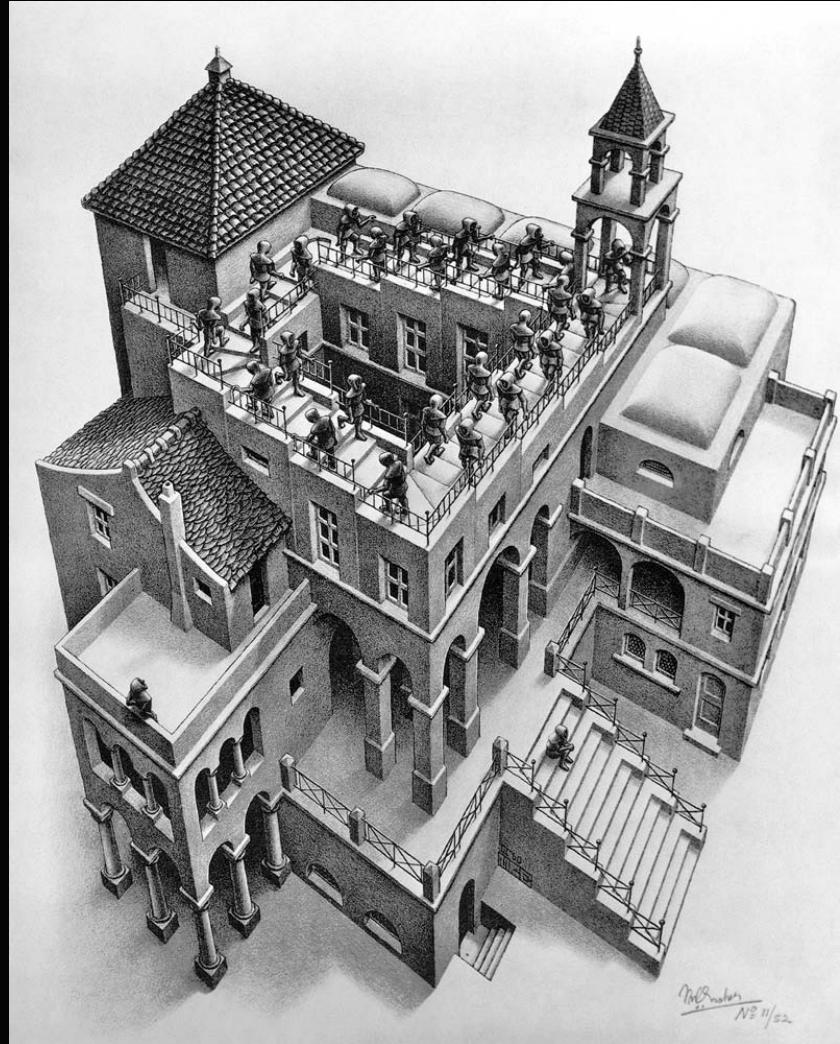
Other World | M. C. Escher

How can we **realize the** connection between waking and dreaming?

"The oneiric comprehends not only what we think of conventionally as 'imaginary', but also our intersubjective relations. Merleau-Ponty's striking observation that 'others are present to us in the way dreams are, the way myths are', asserts that our intersubjective relations have an oneiric dimension that links them to our experience of dreaming. Our knowledge of other minds, like dreams, is not objectively verifiable, but we believe in others as we believe our dreams while we are dreaming them."

James Morley

The Sleeping Subject

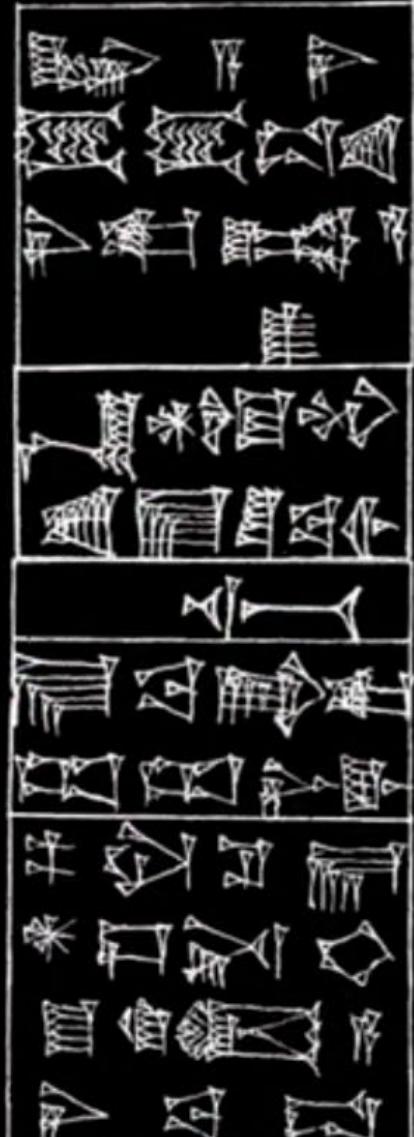


Ascending and Descending | M. C. Escher

There is, for instance, no reason why dreams should be considered less real than impressions received while one is awake. On the contrary, dreams often affect one so much more than the humdrum events of daily life that they appear to be more, and not less, significant than the usual perceptions.

Henri Frankfort

Before Philosophy



First Recorded Dream

How can **architecture re-establish a connection between the waking and dreaming states of consciousness?**



Waterfall | M. C. Escher

Meditative thinking does not estrange us from reality. On the contrary, it keeps us extremely focused on our reality. To enact meditative thinking, Heidegger says that we need to 'dwell on what lies close and meditate on what is closest; upon that which concerns us, each one of us, here and now; here, on this patch of home ground; now, in the present hour of history.'

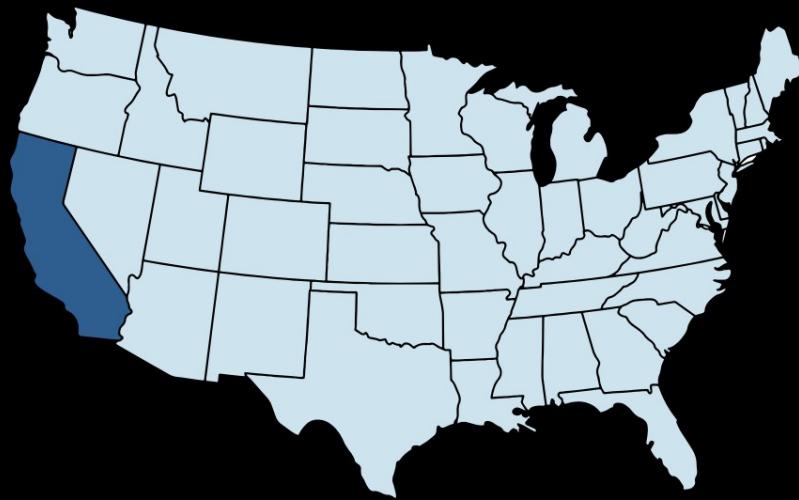
Barbara Pezze

Heidegger on Gelassenheit



“How can architecture **redefine the connection** between the waking and dreaming states of consciousness?”

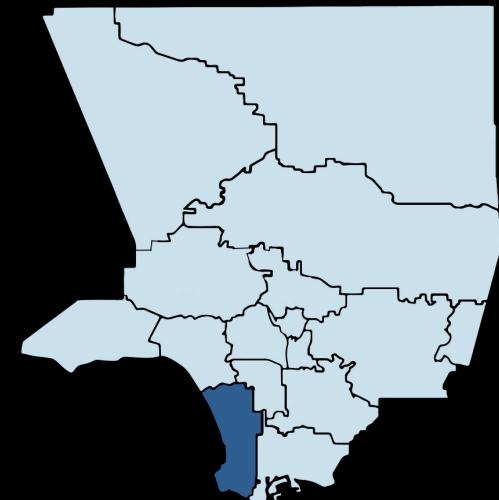
Los Angeles, California | The City of Broken Dreams



California



Los Angeles County



Los Angeles





Seen but unseen, the sea comprises much more than the surface upon which we gaze, and threatens to claim us despite our attempts to claim it.

*Philip Hoare
The Ocean's Skin*



The imagination is not, as its etymology suggests, the faculty for forming images of reality; it is the faculty for forming images which go beyond reality, which sing reality... The imagination invents more than objects and dramas-it invents a new life, a new spirit; it opens eyes which hold new types of visions.

Gaston Bachelard

Water and dreams: An Essay on the Imagination of Matter





In nature it is once again water that sees and water that dreams... As life is a dream within a dream, the universe is a reflection within a reflection; the universe is an absolute image.

Gaston Bachelard

Water and dreams: An Essay on the Imagination of Matter





Surrealism is of great importance to the twentieth-century culture because of its fruitful efforts both to restore poetic wholeness to a daily reality which had been fragmented and impoverished by nineteenth-century positivistic and instrumental attitudes and to reinstate the imagination as the distinctive attribute of human existence.

Dagmar Weston

Surrealist Paris



Salvador Dalí | One Second Before Awakening From a Dream

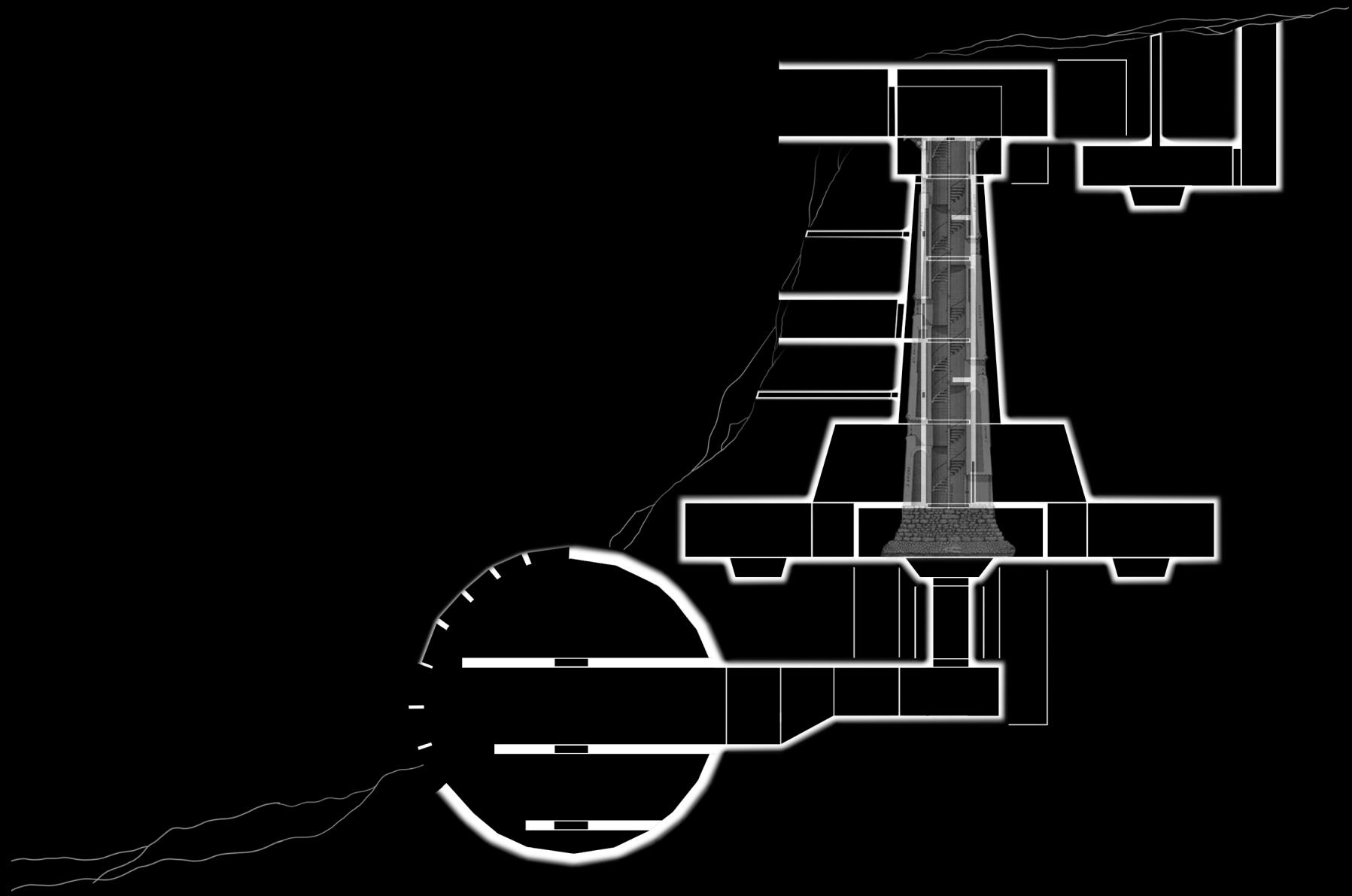
The more imagination deviates from that which is called reality in ordinary language and vision, the more it approaches the heart of the reality which is no longer the world of manipulable objects, but the world into which we have been thrown by birth and within which we try to orient ourselves by projecting our innermost possibilities upon it, in order that we dwell there, in the strongest sense of that word.

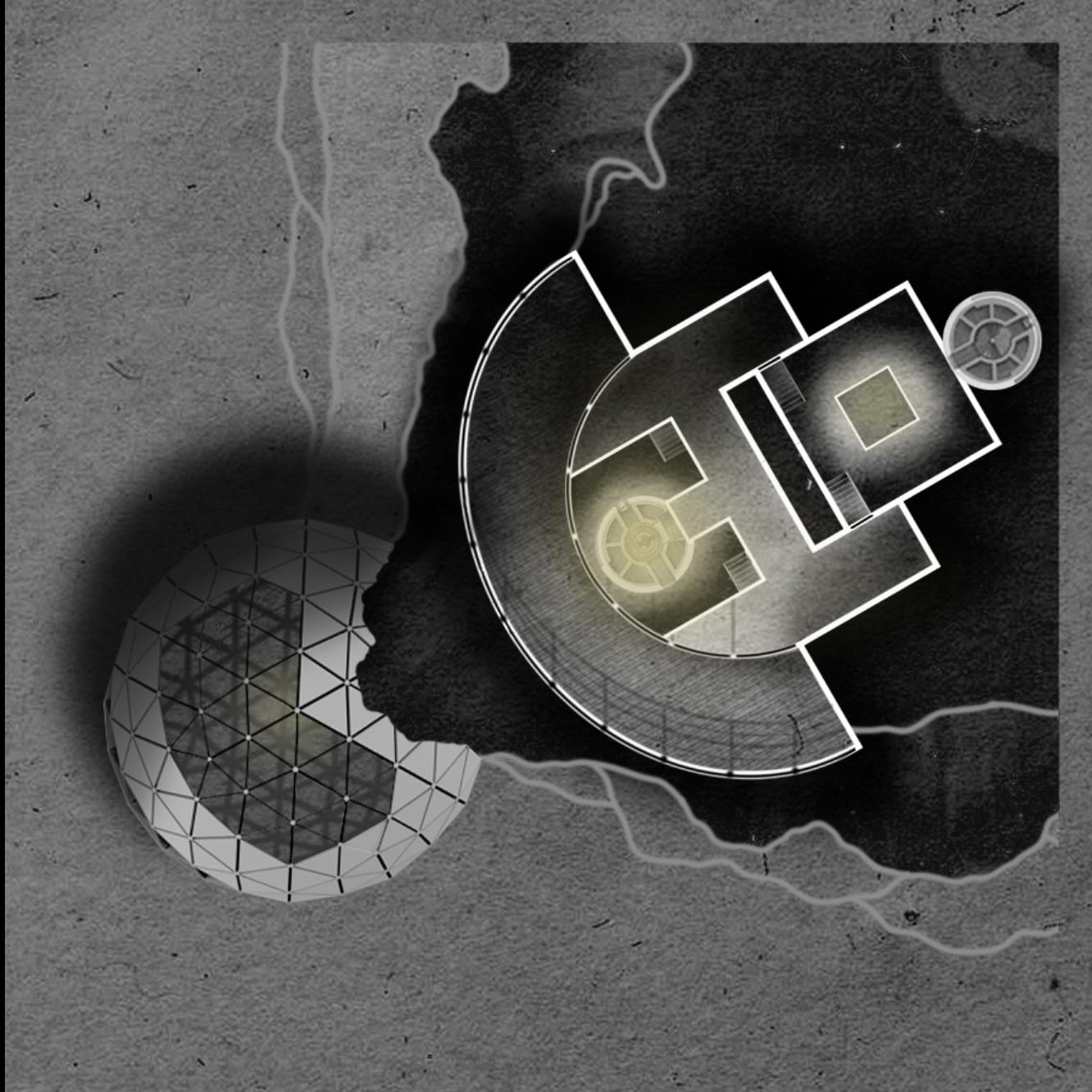
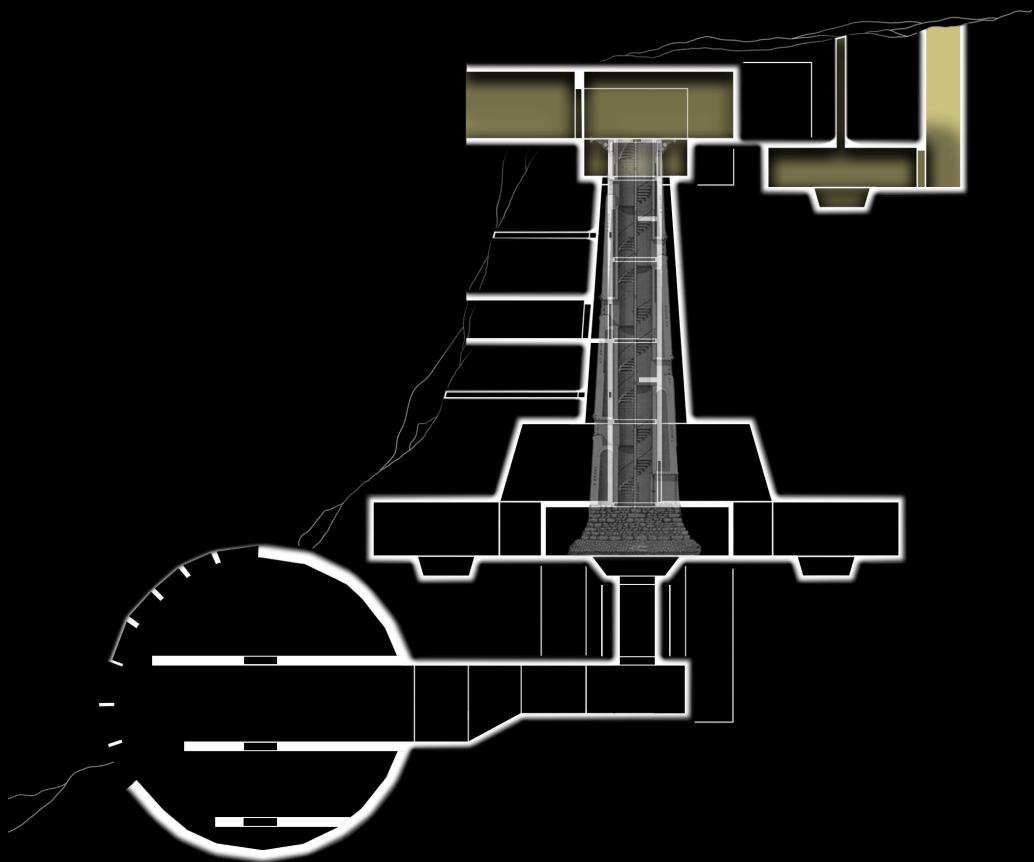
Paul Ricoeur

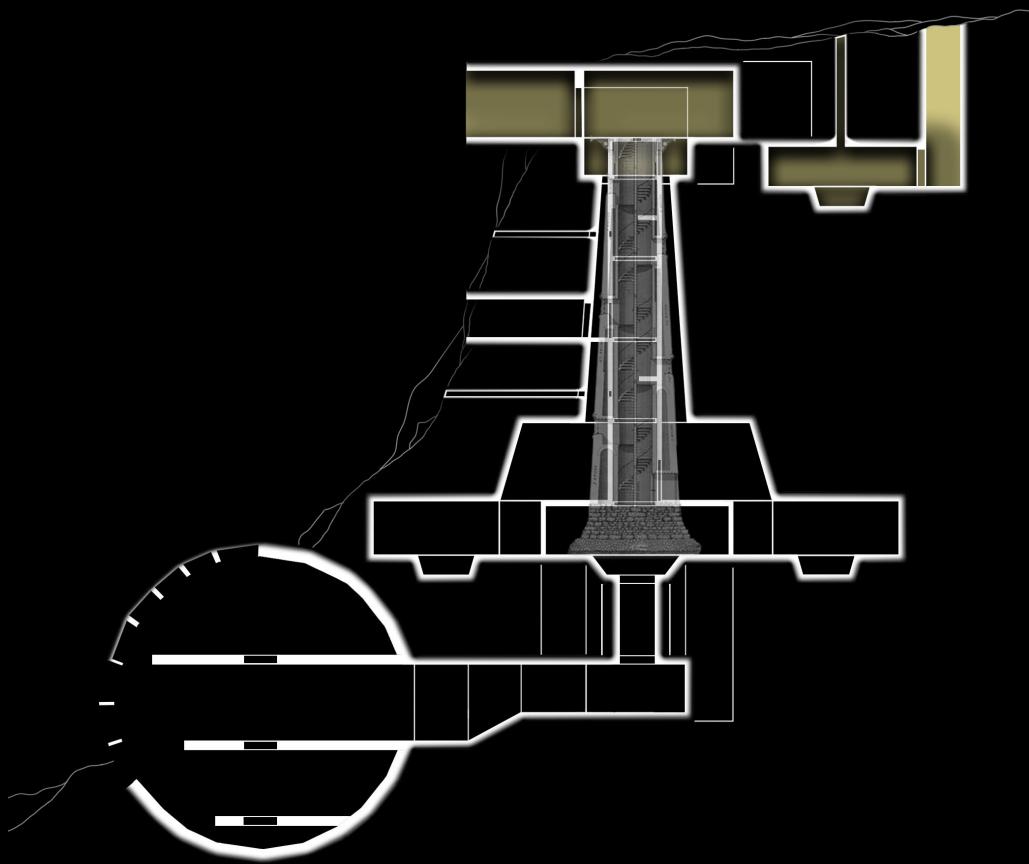
The Function of Fiction in Shaping Reality



Salvador Dalí | *Hercules Lifting the Skin of the Sea*







The ‘ocean’s skin’, through which we cannot peer, for all that we are ineluctably drawn to it. The sense of its otherness abides and disguises. It is the largest single thing on this planet.

Philip Hoare

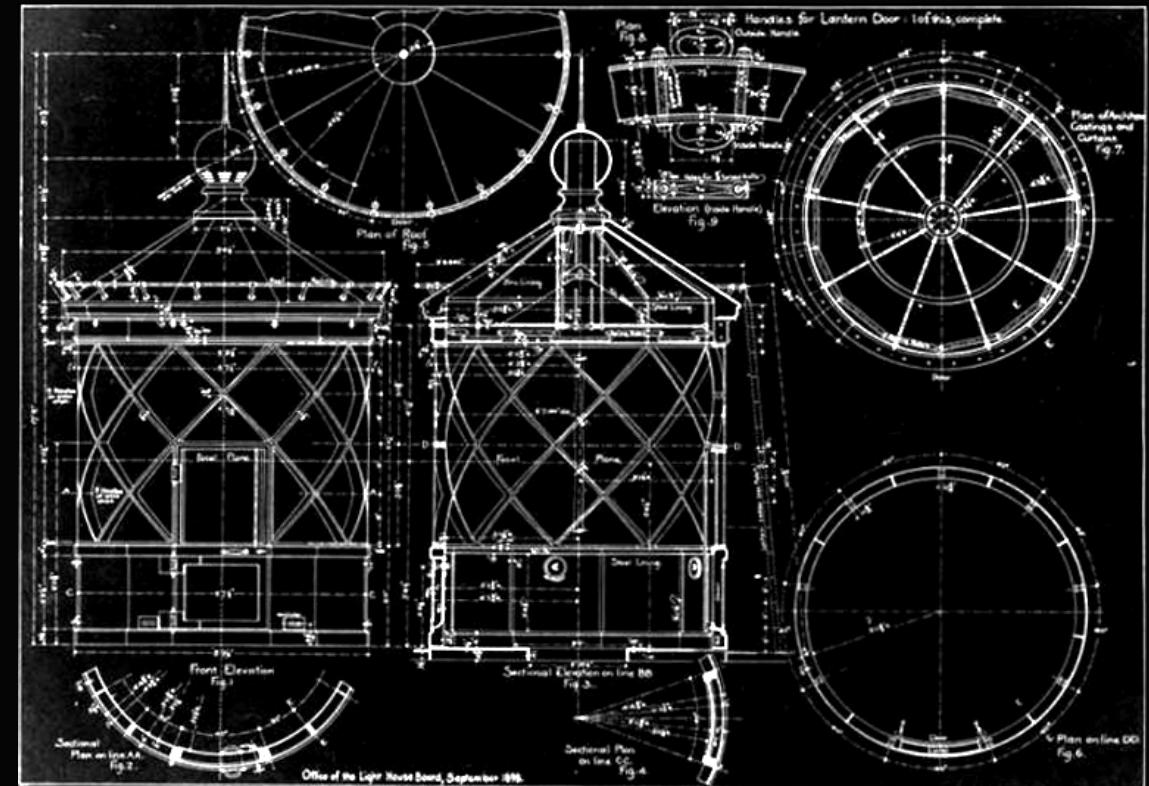
The Ocean’s Skin

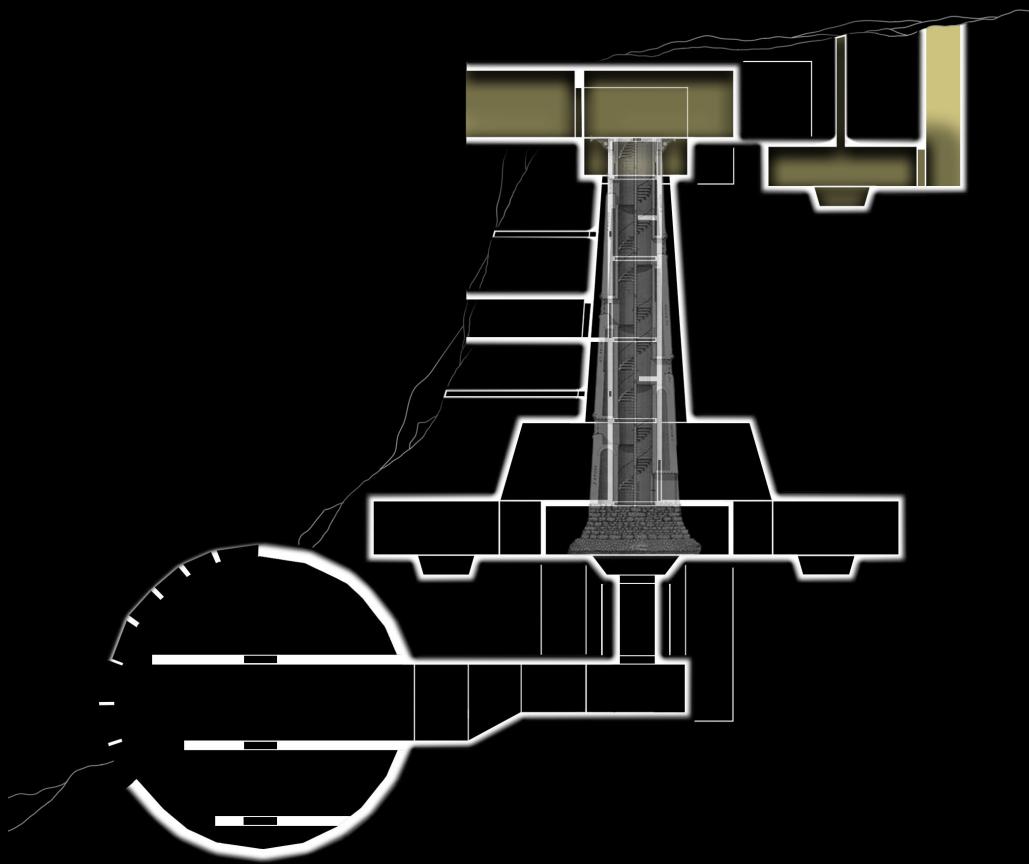


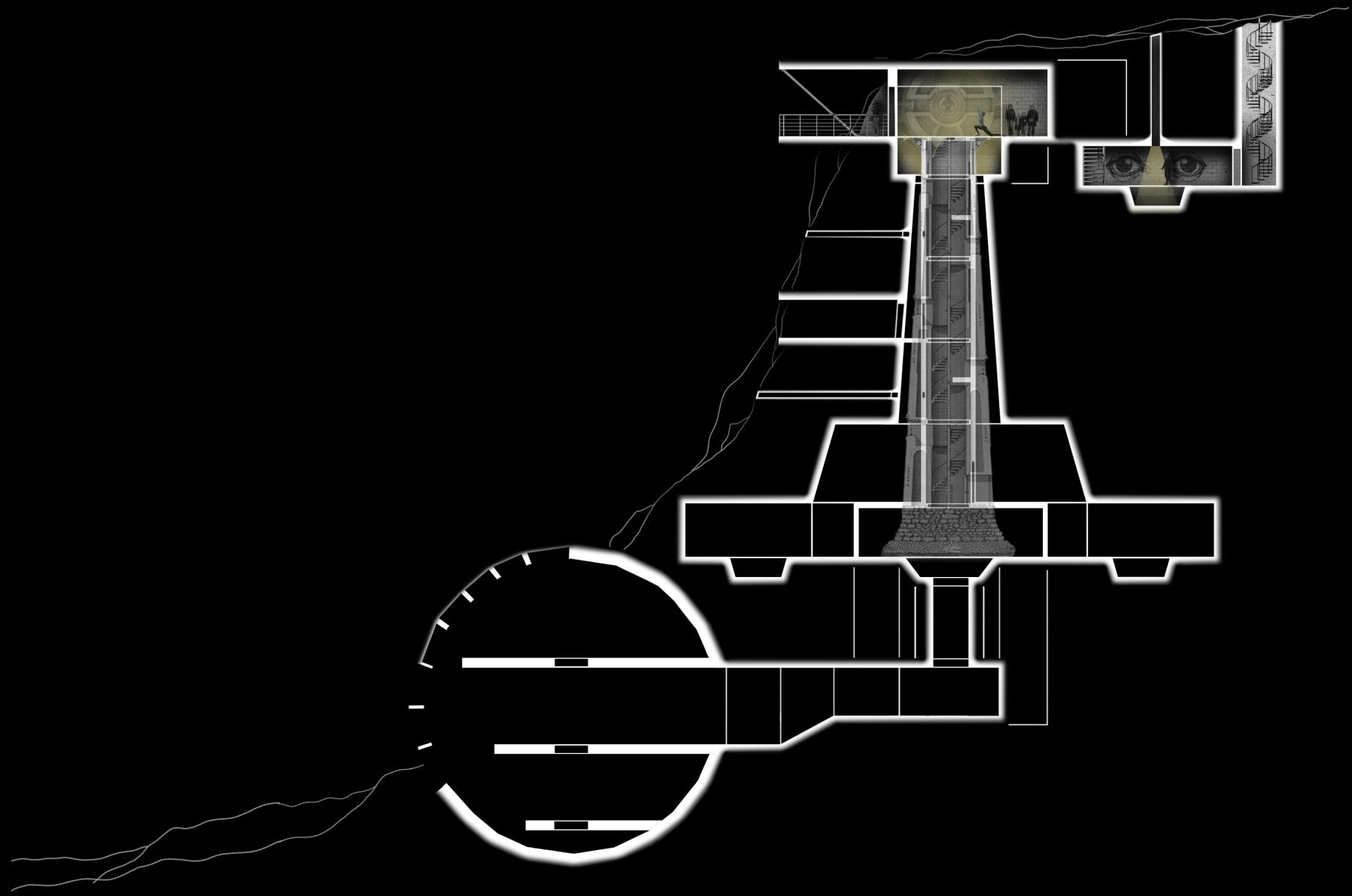
The risk for man is to be uprooted not only from his reality, from his world, but also from himself. If we think meditatively, however, we allow ourselves to be aware of the risk implied in the technological age and its usefulness, and we can hence act upon it.

Barbara Pezze

Heidegger on Gelassenheit



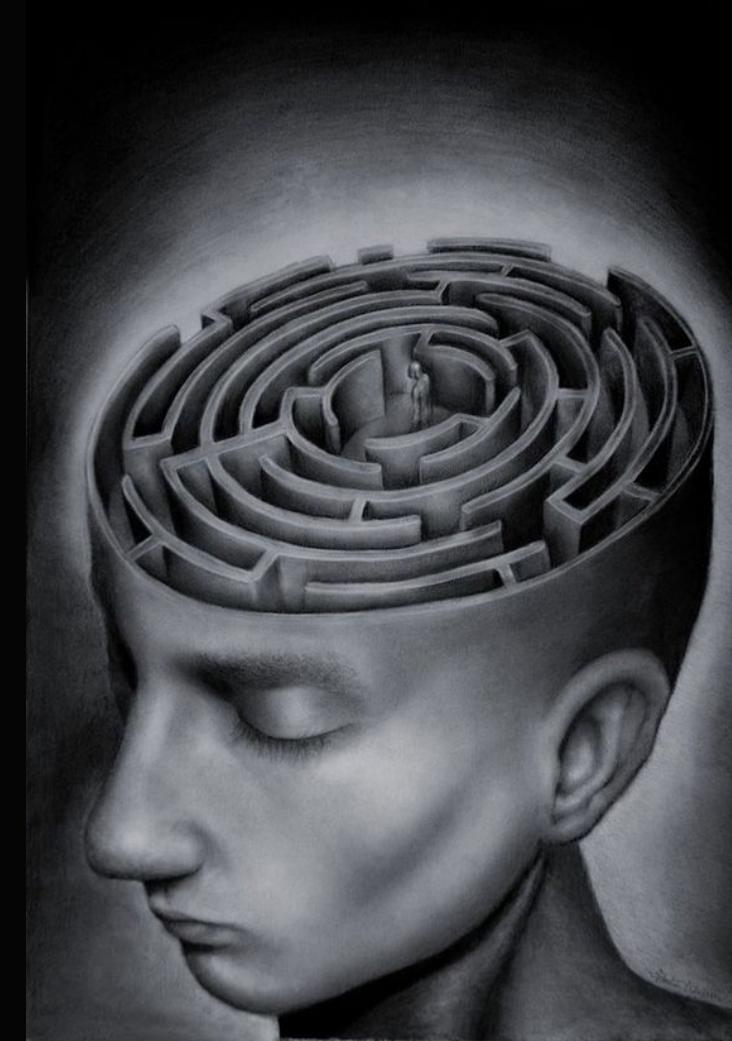




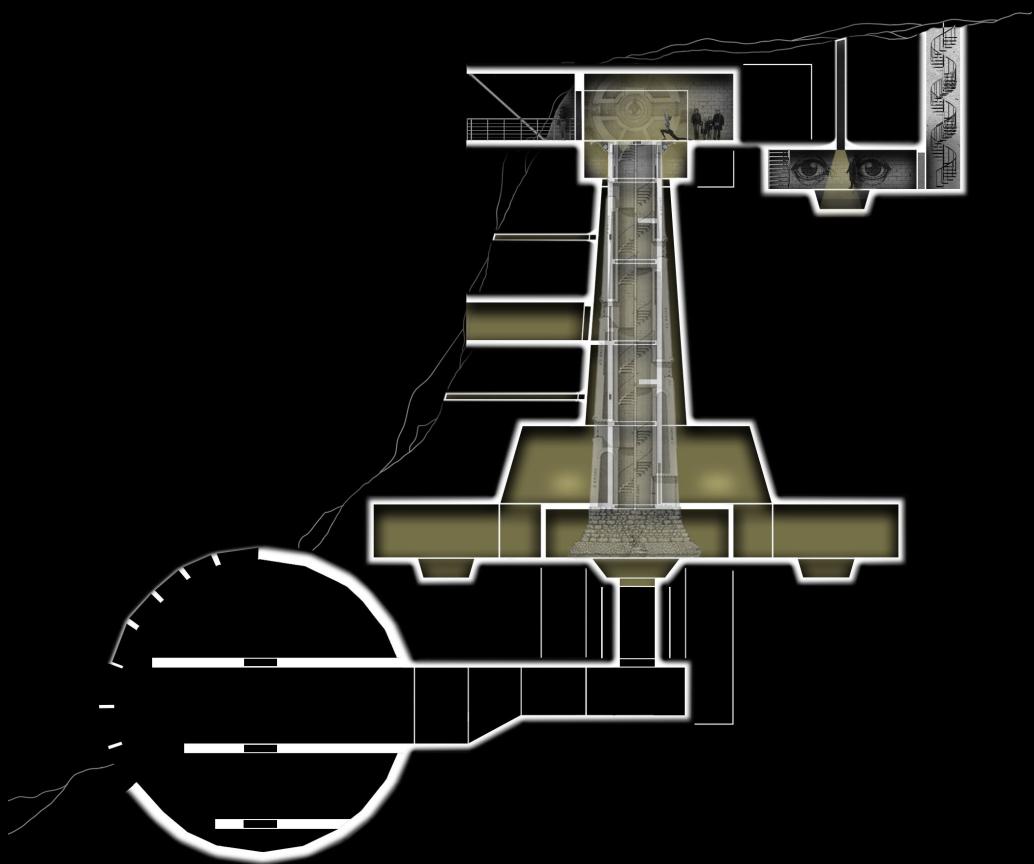
The mythical labyrinth has death-dealing but also regenerative powers. It is structured as a series of obstacles and initiations to keep the weak and unworthy away from its sacred center. In addition, the labyrinth is explicitly spatial; its dark, mysterious spaces, inaccessible to instant perspectival vision, must be negotiated through the movement of the body.

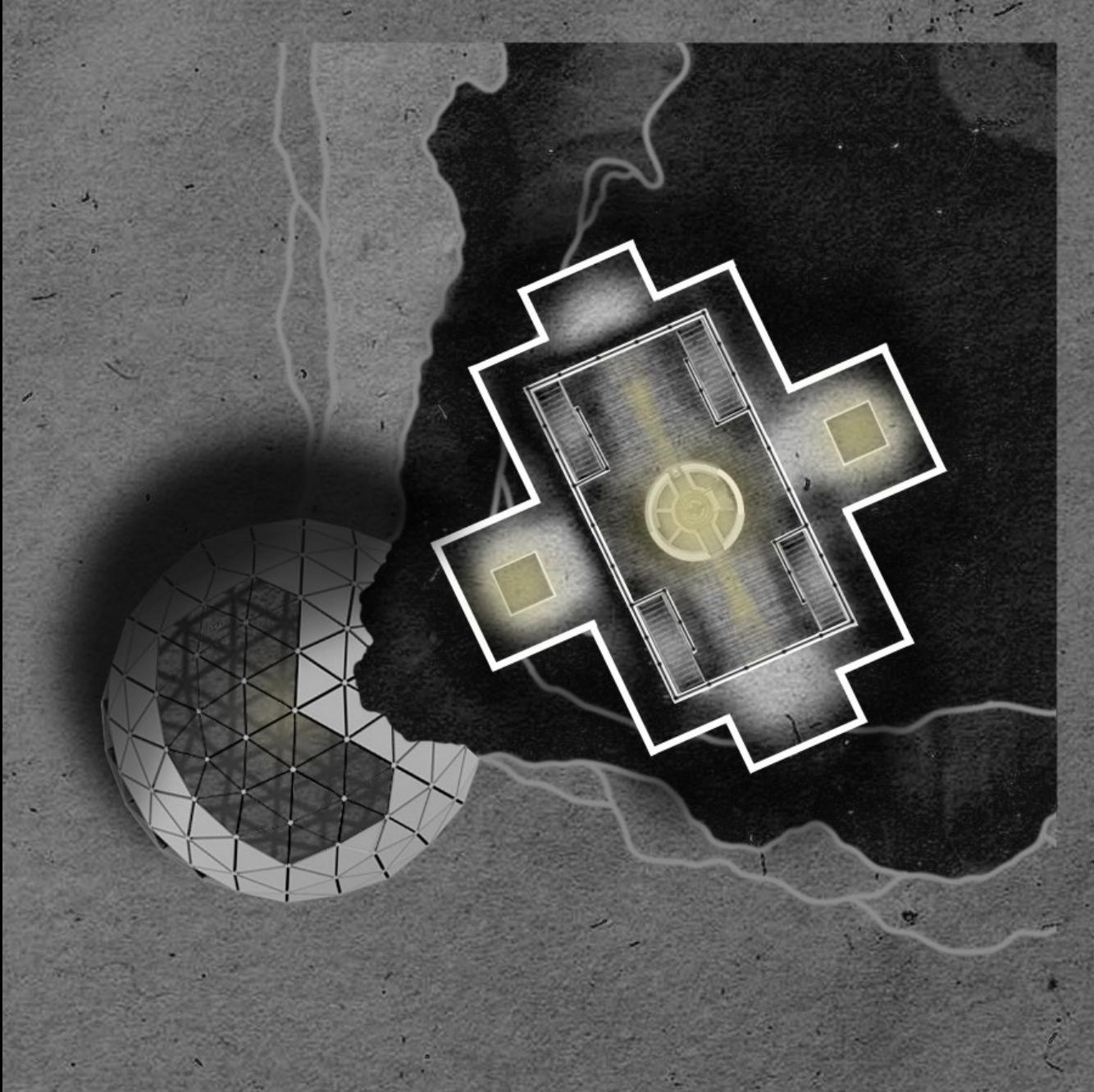
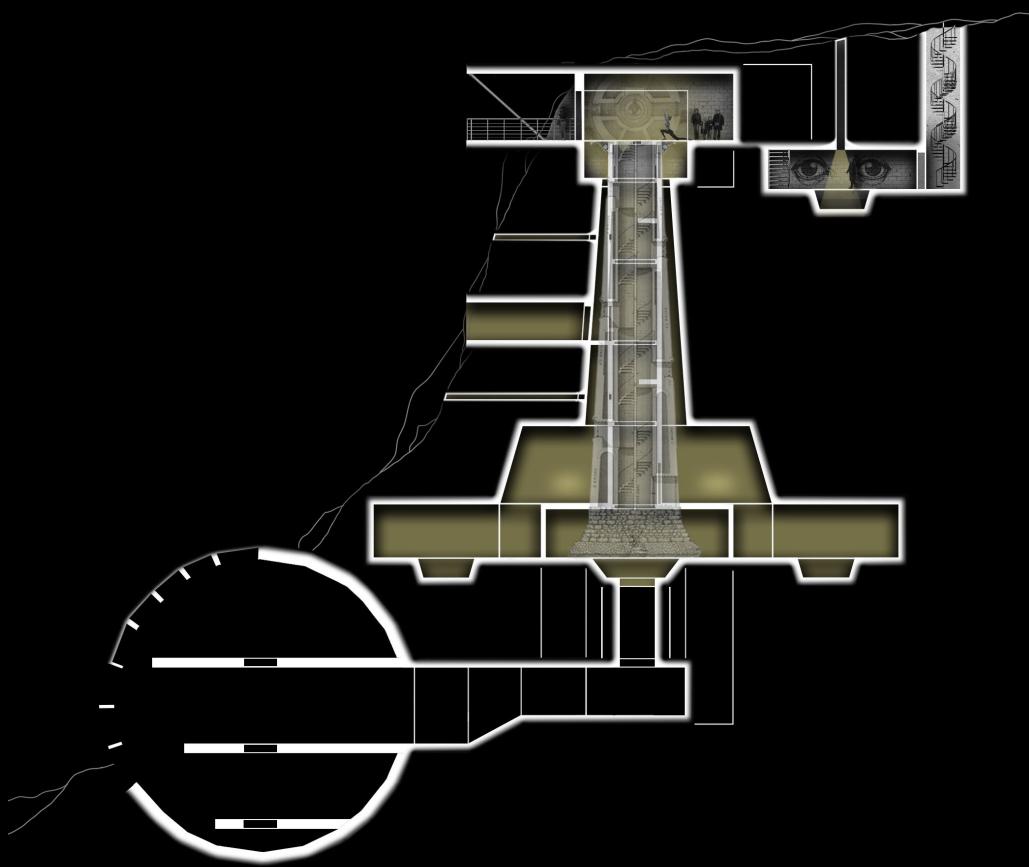
Dagmar Weston

Surrealist Paris



Sebastian Eriksson | Lost in thoughts

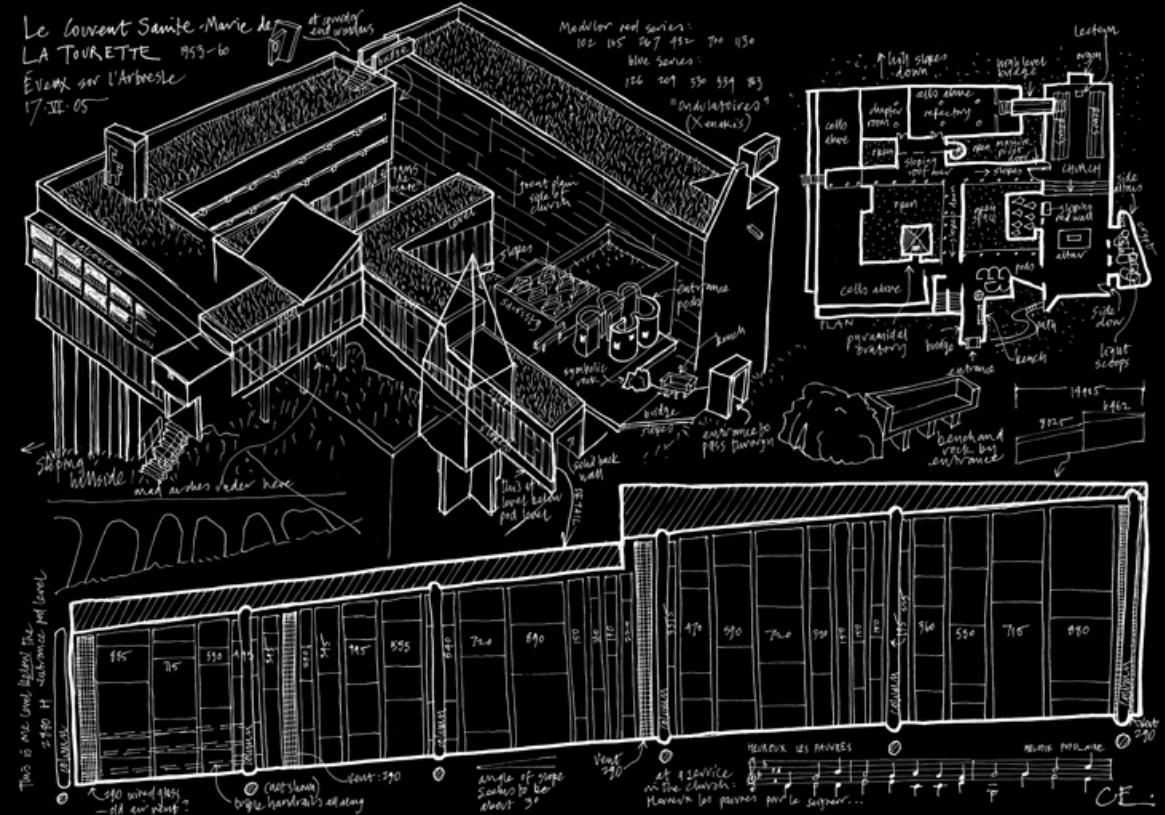




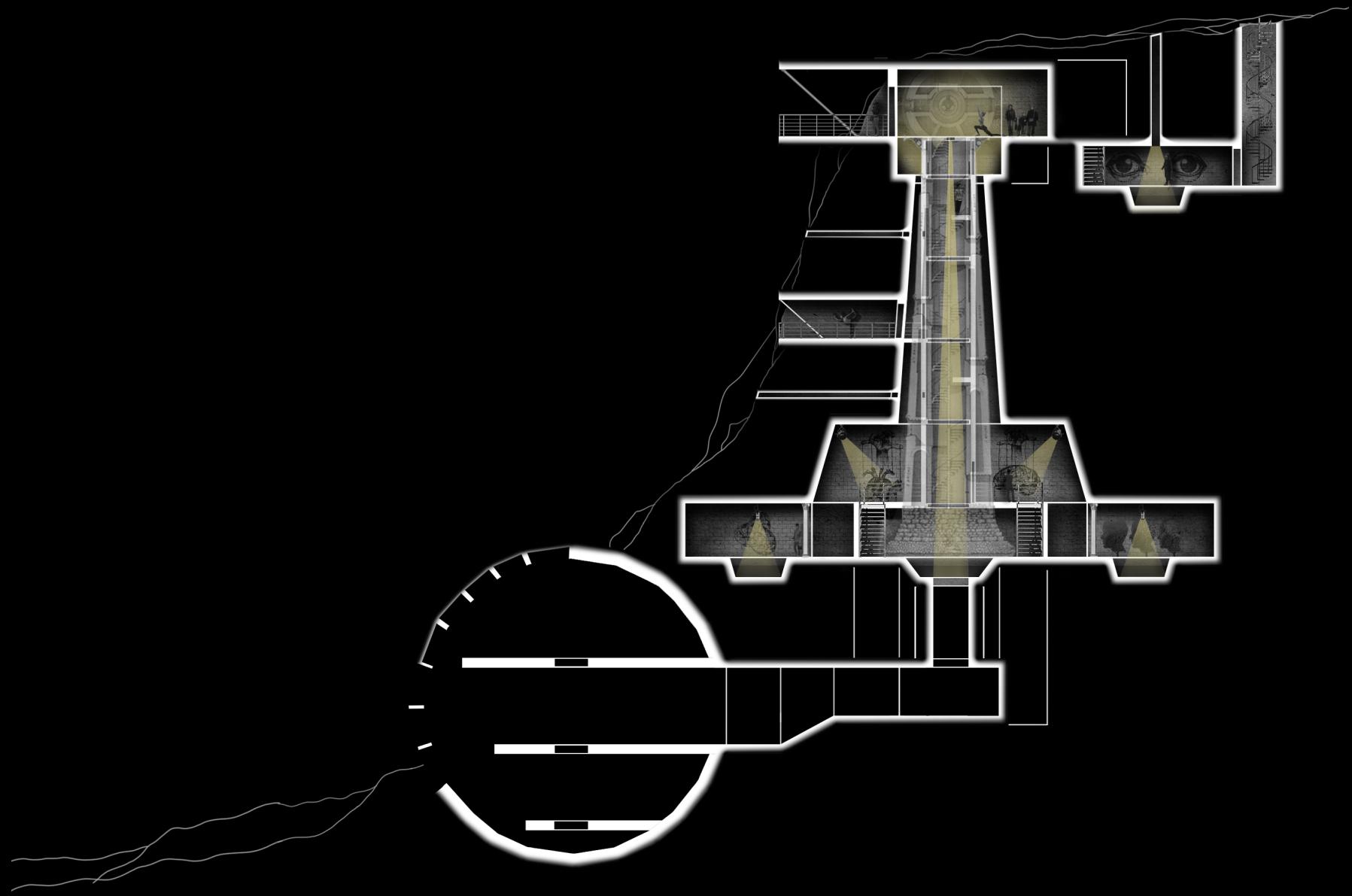
La Tourette is a true ‘analogical’ monastery, operating like a mirror that reflects something so that we can clearly see it, something slightly different that reveals what is already present but has never been truly seen.

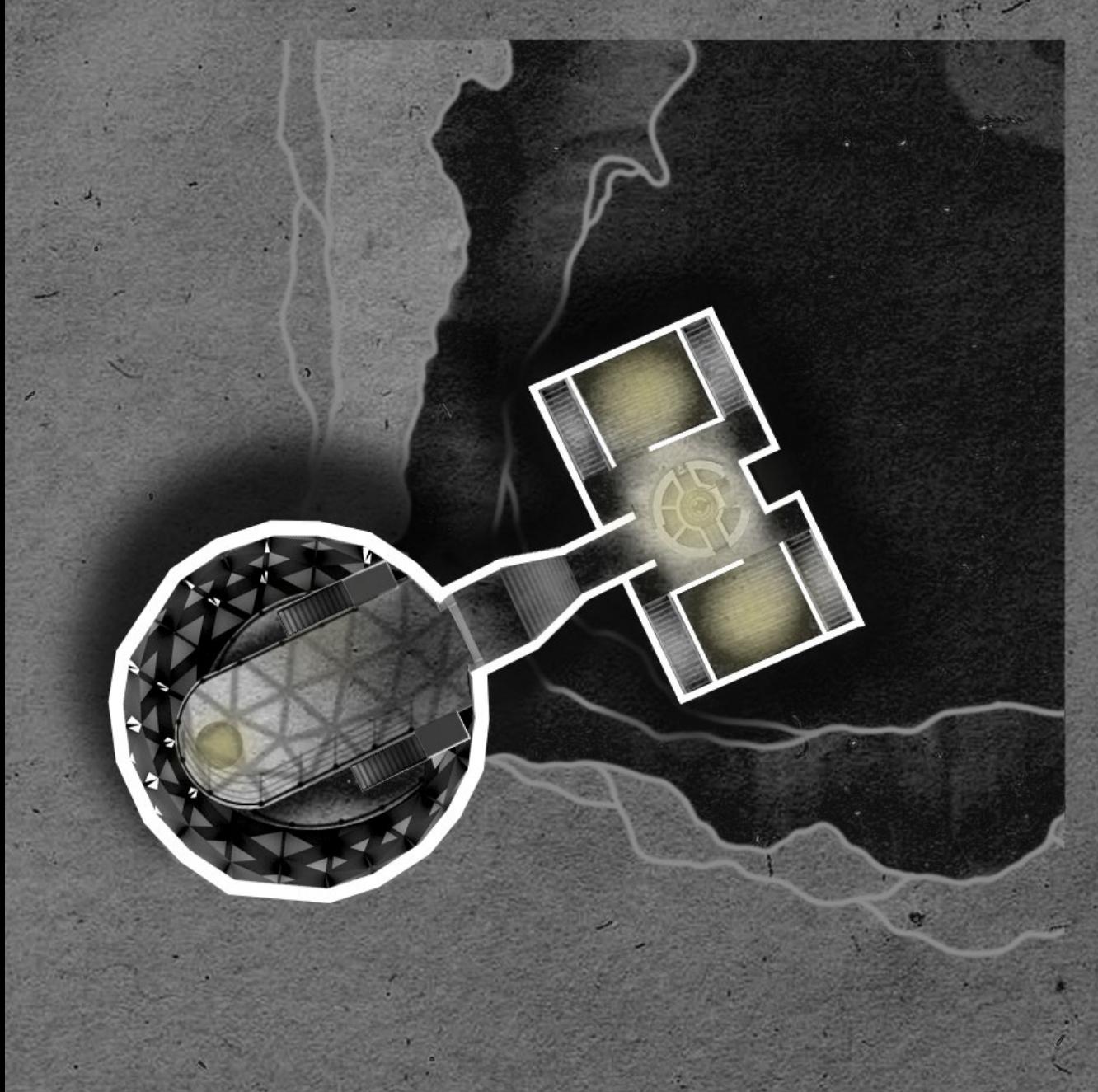
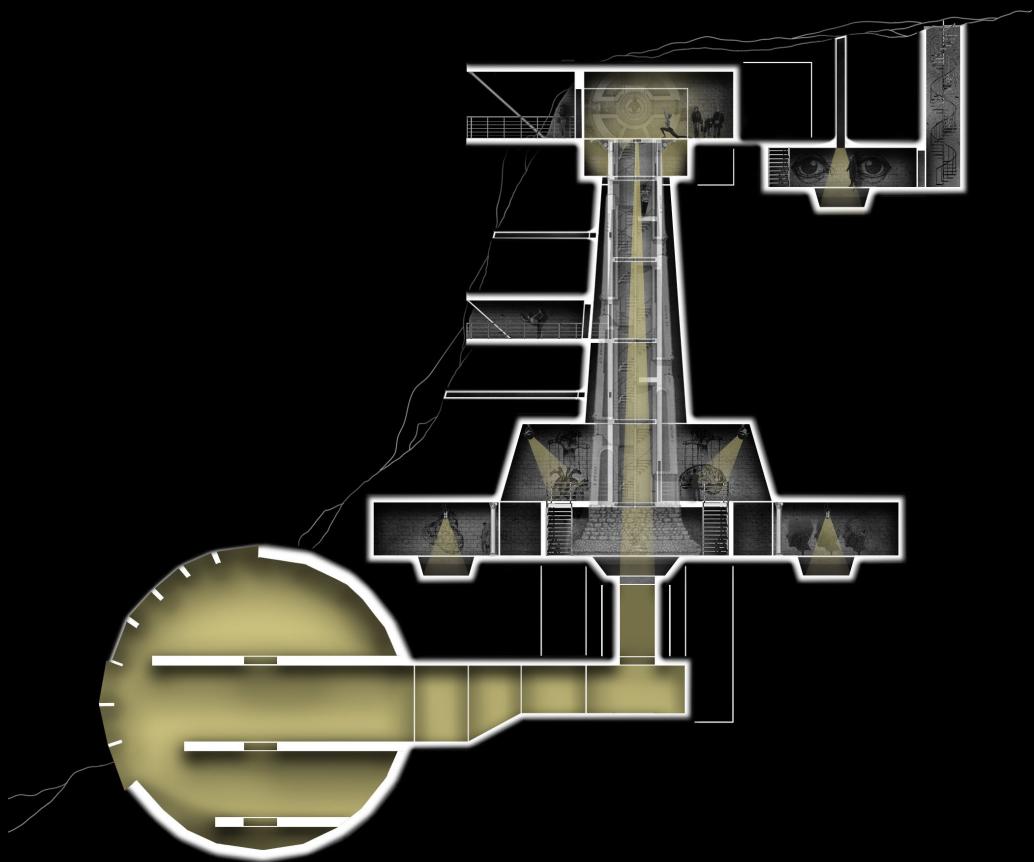
Alberto Pérez-Gómez

Architectural Representation and the Perspective Hinge



Le Corbusier | Couvent de La Tourette



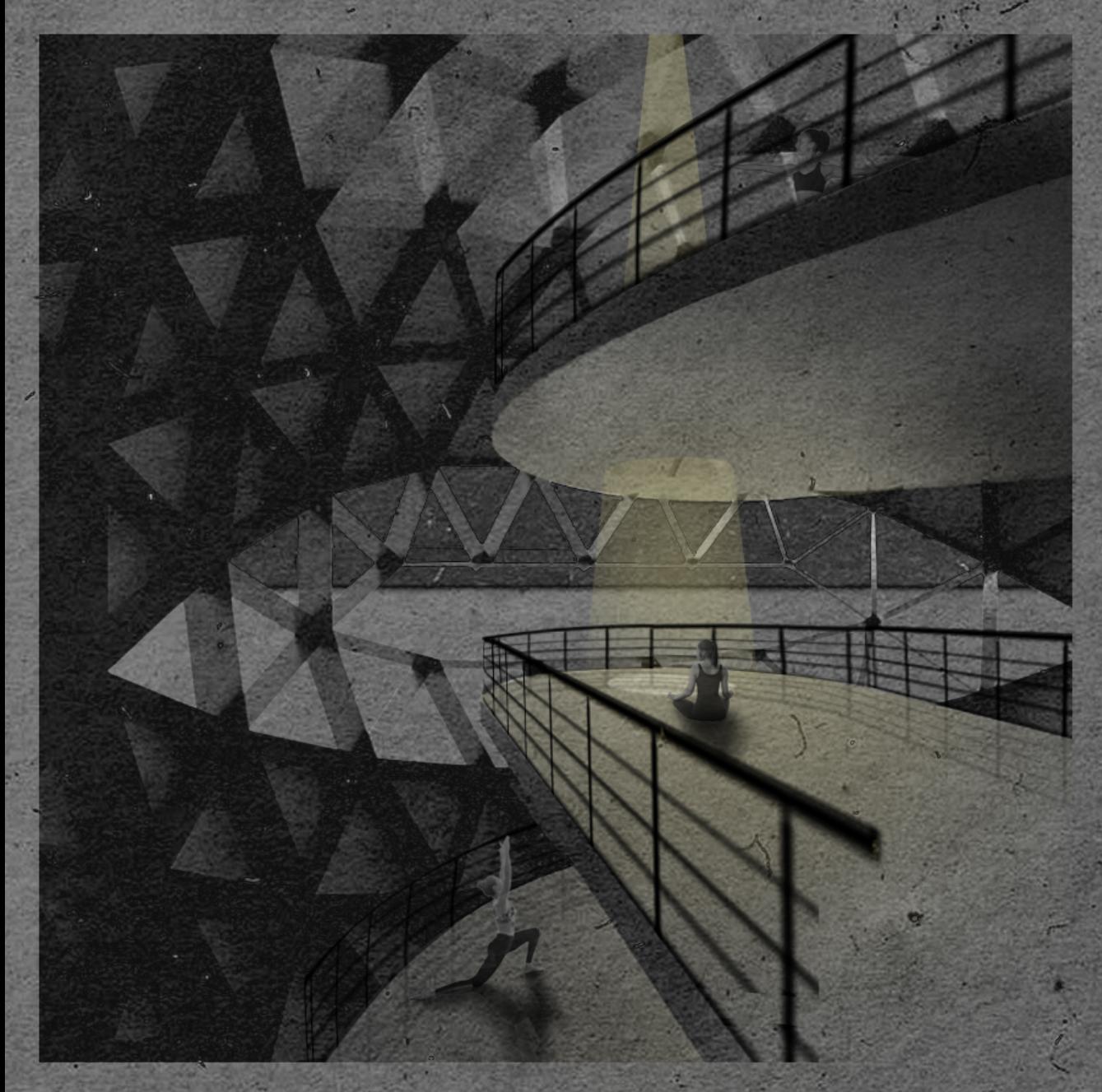
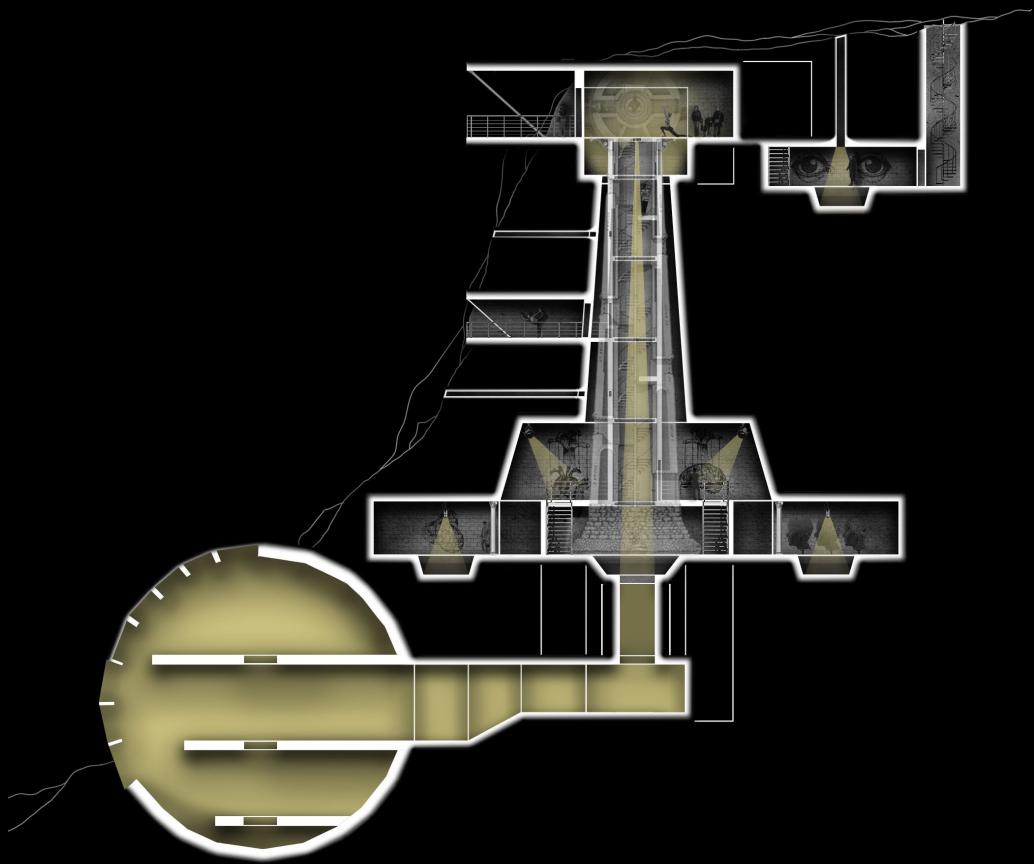


Our common sense tells us that the things
of this earth barely exists, that actual
reality is
only in
our
dreams.

Charles Baudelaire
Les Paradis Artificiels



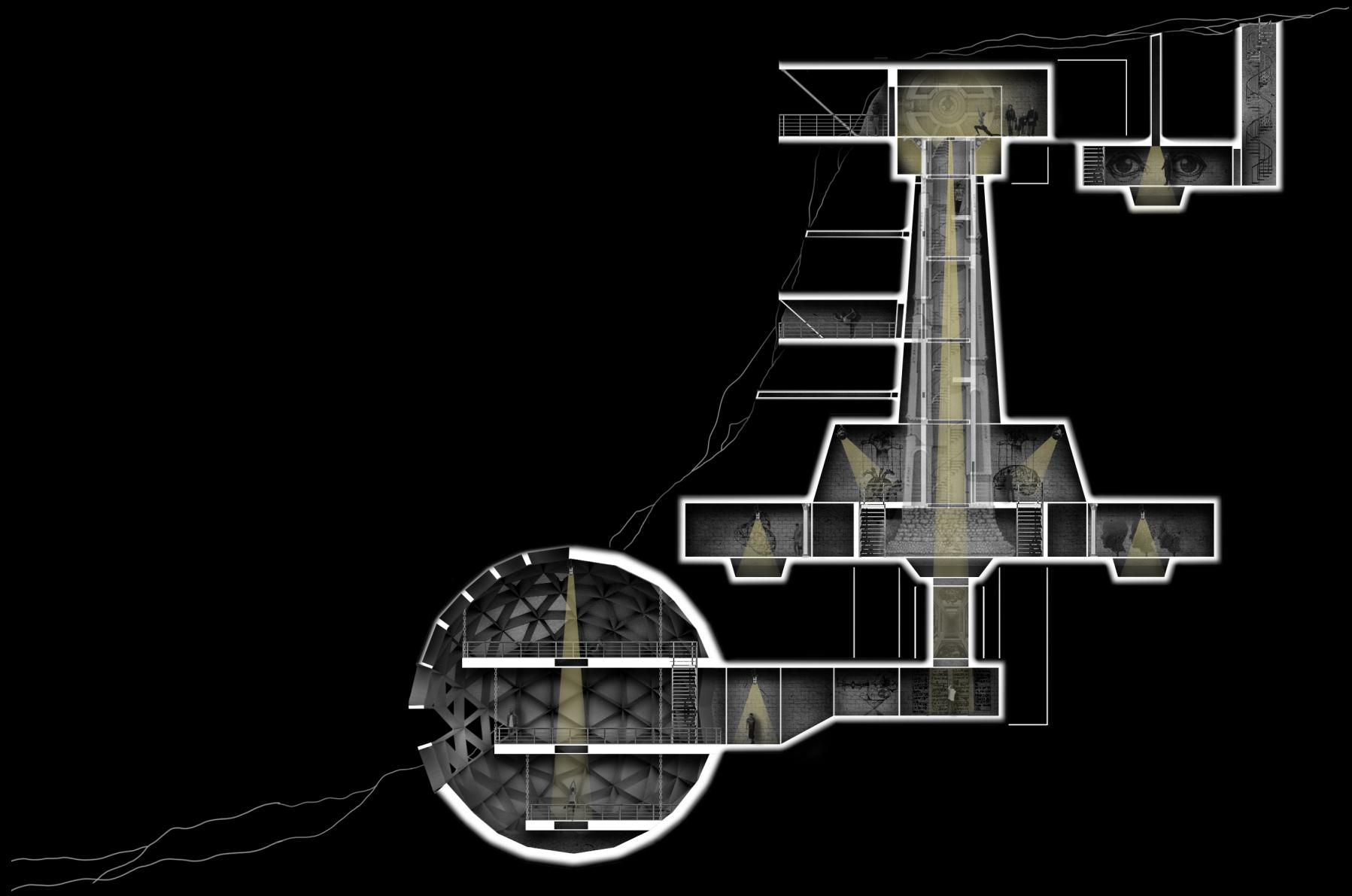
René Magritte | The False Mirror

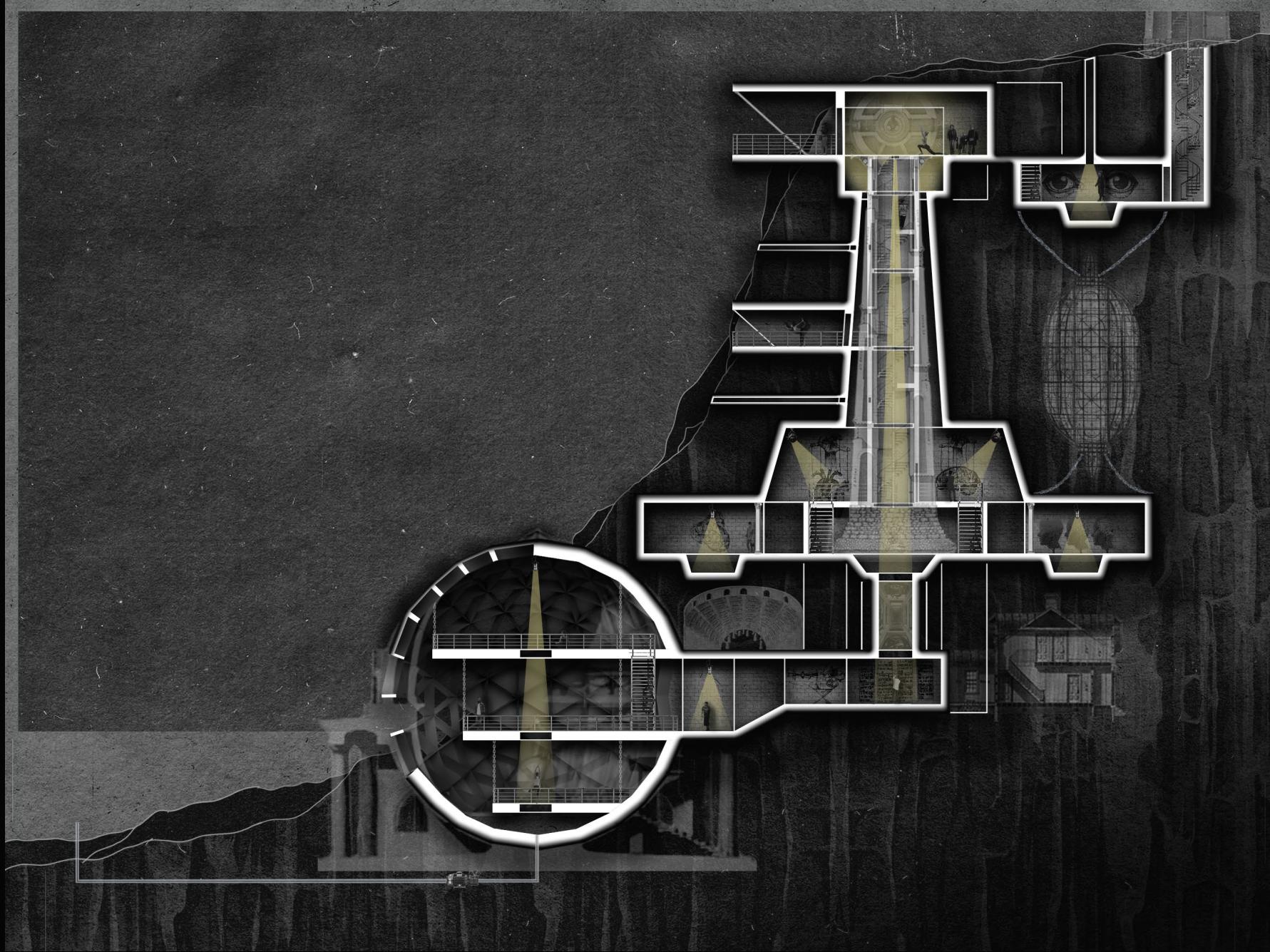


Remember
To fly midway, for if you dip too low
The waves will weight your wings with thick saltwater,
And if you fly too high the flames of heaven
Will burn them from your sides. Then take your flight
Between the two

Ovid
The Metamorphoses



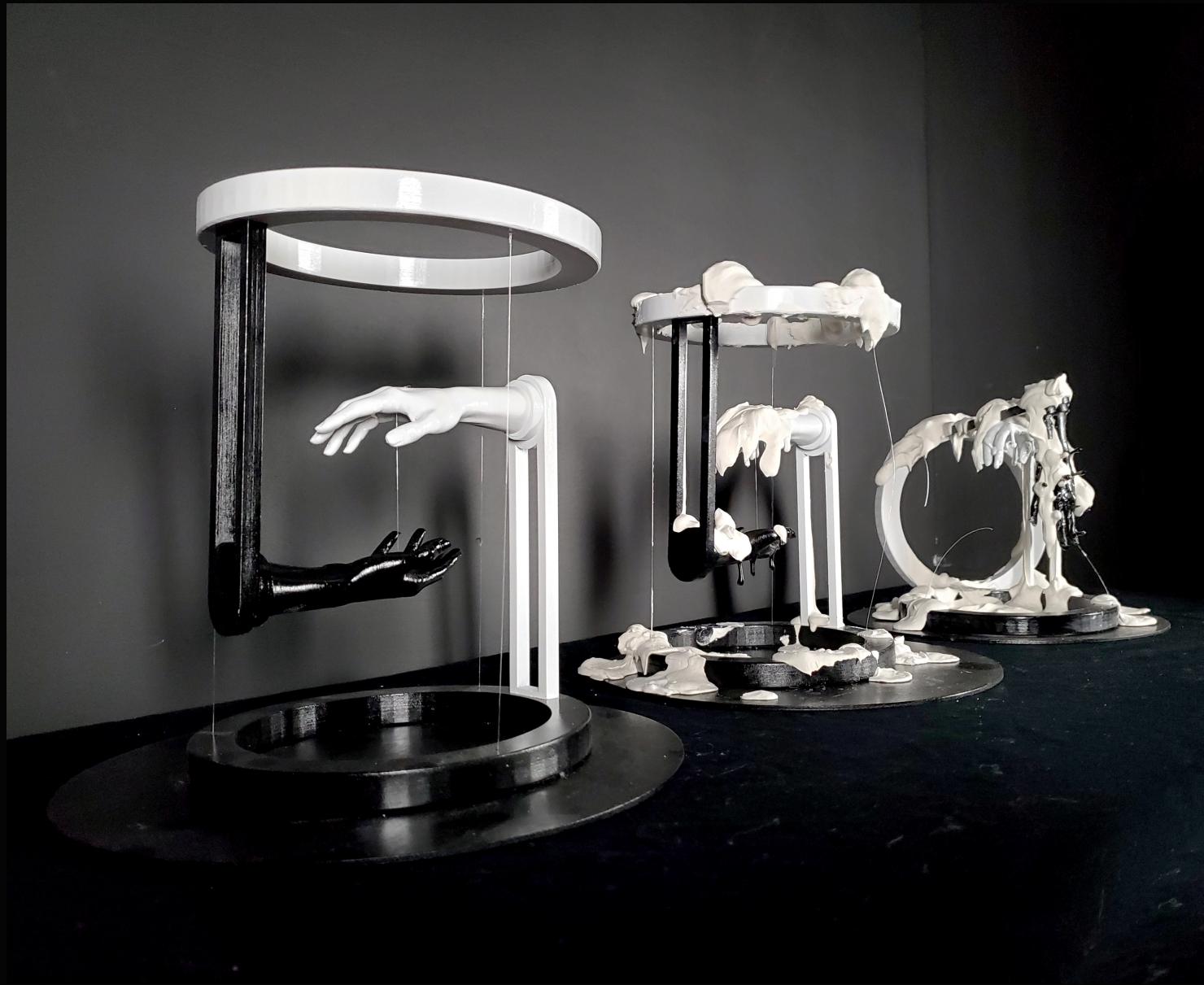




Will we ever be able to close our eyes,
waking from the **dream** we call **reality**?



As the pages turn, we find ourselves catching each other's glace, knowing nothing more than the fact that our fates are somehow intertwined. The night so dark, we would remain strangers, if we had known each other at all. We stare over the side boat, fixated on the black oily waves that systematically lap against its hull.



We enter the labyrinth, hoping for a beacon of light to direct the lost and weary traveler. We search for the sacred center, hoping to find the paradise carved out within the stone, moments before its impending collapse. When the journey has been completed, does the dim light slowly fade to black, or come rushing right back?



Now escaping to the sky, the sun throws its magically golden rays. Lost amongst the clouds, we remain there for it to find. Its intensity grows until we are nothing more than prisoners, blinded as if it is something never seen before. The flames begin to speak. The flames begin to scream, asking if this is nothing but a dream.

