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### Reflected Dispositions

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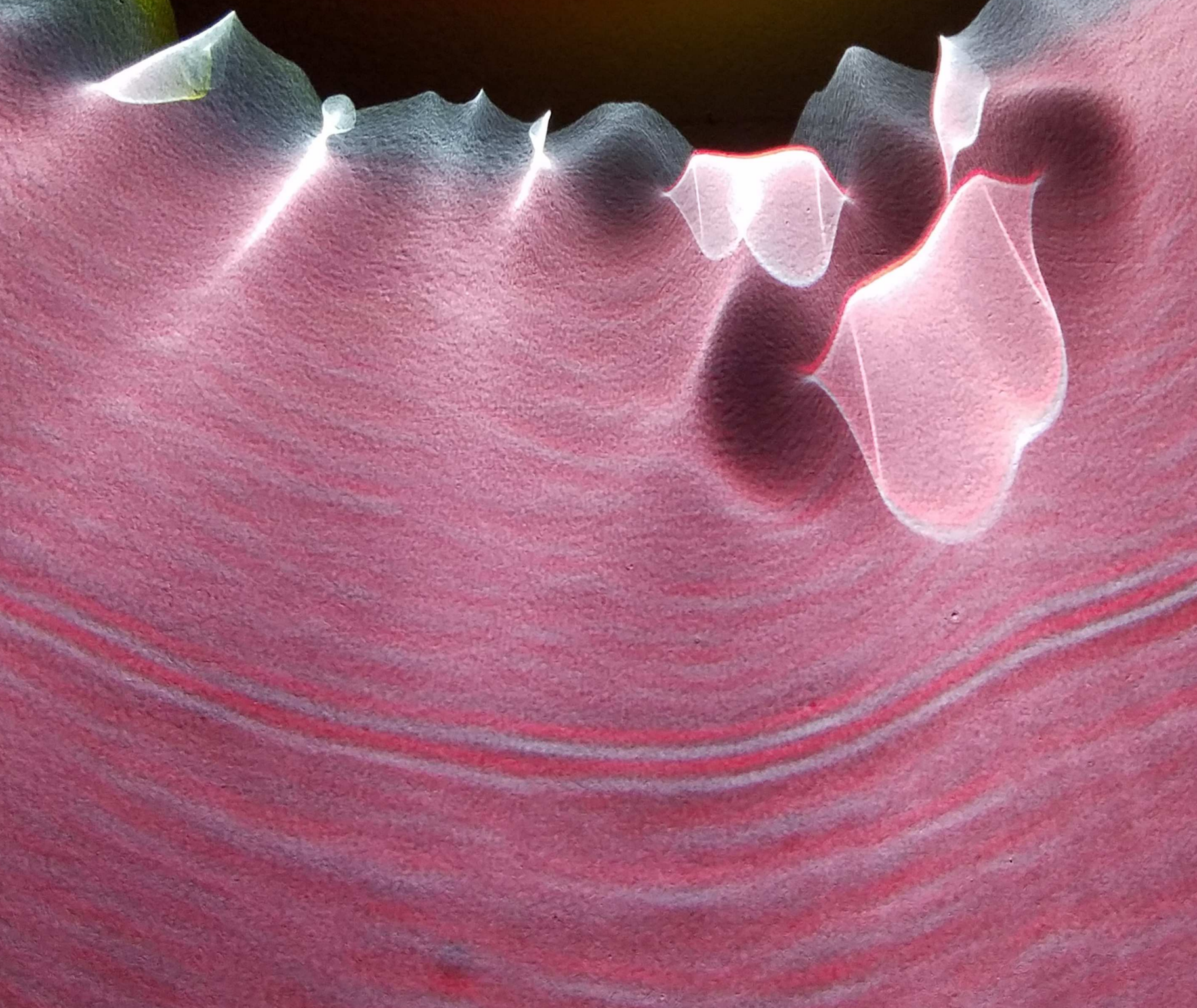
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# *Reflected Dispositions*

Taylor Hedum

MFA Thesis Exhibition  
University of New Mexico  
Department of Art

reflect | rə'flekt | verb

- 1**     *[with object]* (of a surface or body) throw back (heat, light, or sound) without absorbing it
- 2**     *[no object]* (reflect on/upon) think deeply or carefully about

disposition | ,dispə'ziʃ(ə)n | noun

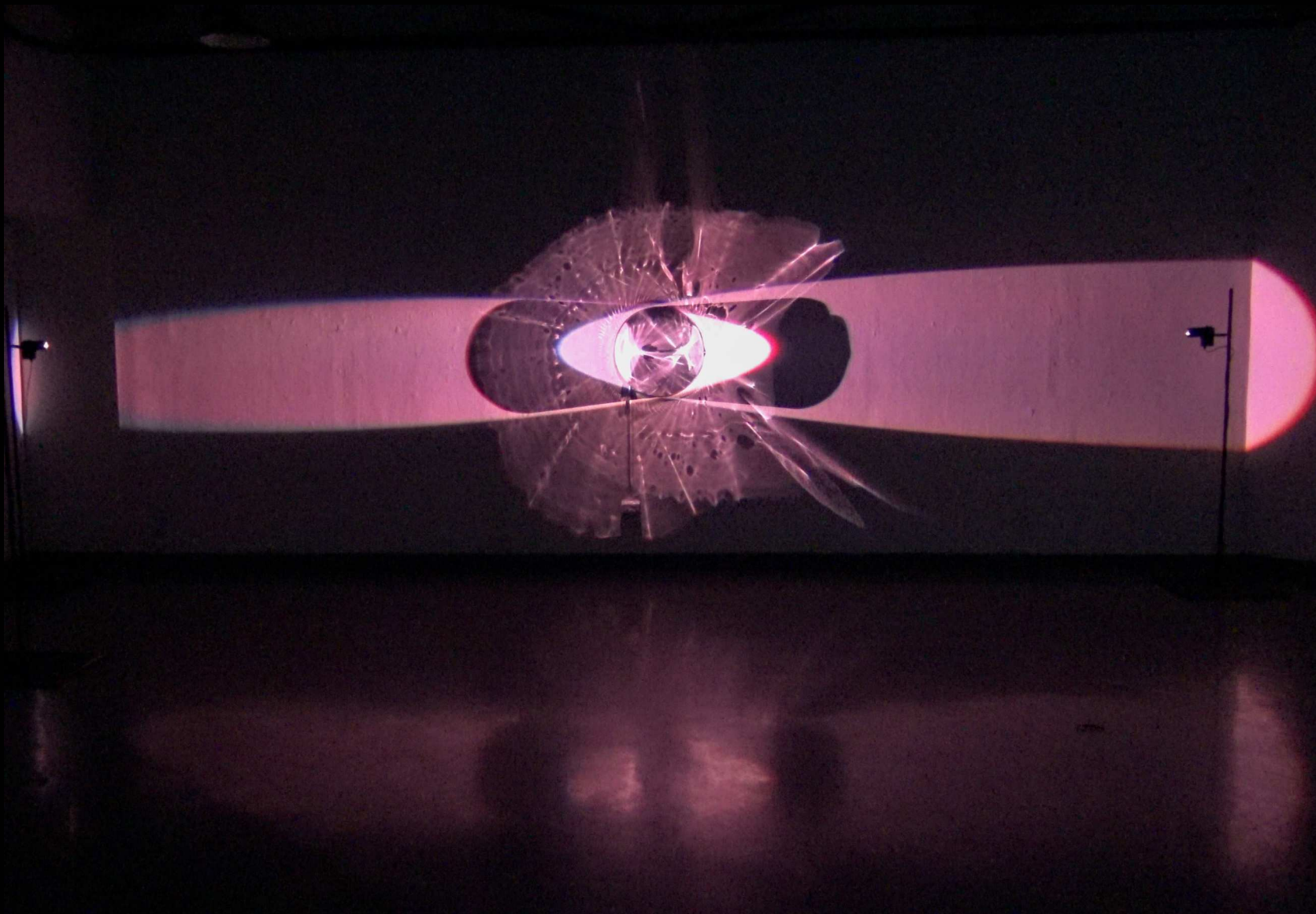
- 1**     a person's inherent qualities of mind and character
- 2**     the way in which something is placed or arranged, especially in relation to other things

## Artist Statement

My MFA Thesis Exhibition, *Reflected Dispositions*, features an installation of sculptural objects and light projections in an unconventionally dark gallery setting. Spotlights shine onto the reflective sculptures, and the light is cast onto the surrounding environment. Motors or water deform the sculptures to create dynamic motion in the projections, with the cyclical changes and tempo meant to evoke a state of reflection in the audience. The percepts magnify the nuances of the material; to reveal the previously unseen.

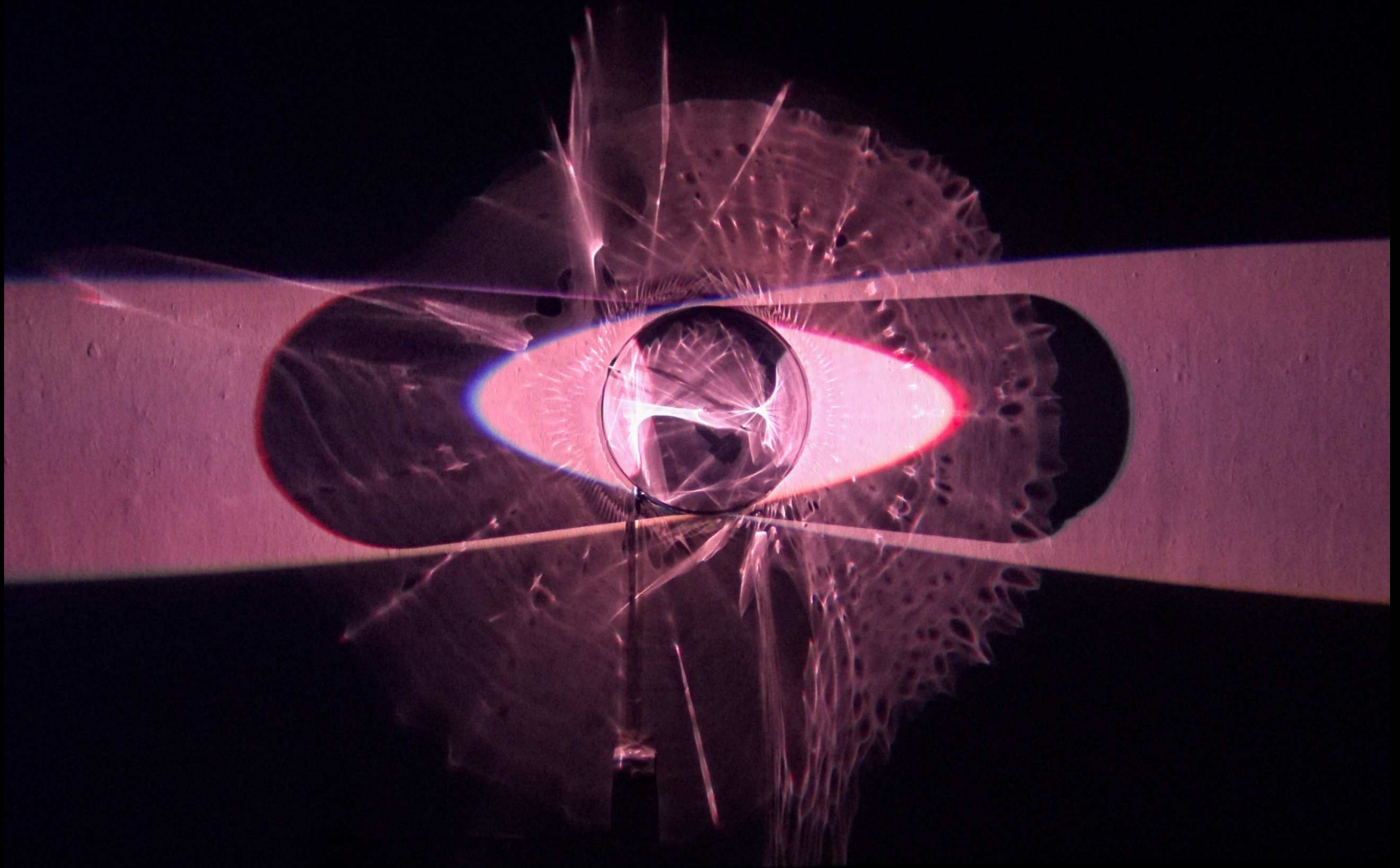
My interest to control light stems from experiments with materials and the unexpected reflections that they produce. Since then, I have learned to relinquish some control. The materials have a mind of their own (or – at the very least – structural memory), so it becomes a collaboration between artist and object. None of these works are perfectly reproducible after their life in the exhibition. The installation is contingent to the space, and thus each work has a unique connection with where they are.

Thematically, my work revolves around the phenomenon of visual perception, through an investigation of: the physics of light, the physiology of eyes, and the psychology of processing sensations. With consideration for these elements and the complexity of visual systems, my aesthetic focus has shifted toward motion, color, and scale. The projections are abstractions of the reductive sculptures, and yet, they have potential to be something different; like seeing animals in the clouds. I want to create spaces that encourage us to slow down. To sit with. To project onto and reflect.

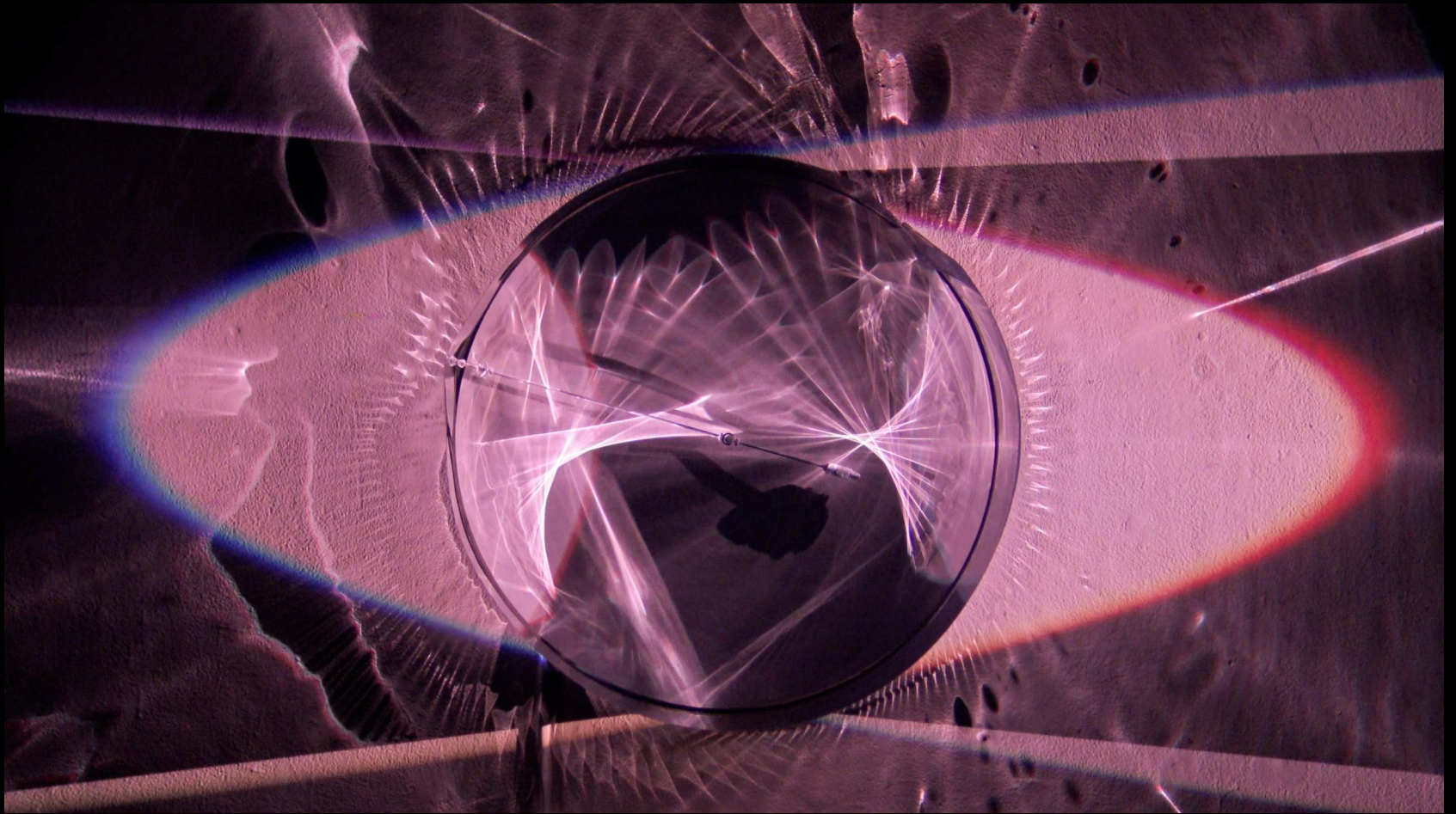


*Counter (Clockwise), 2019*

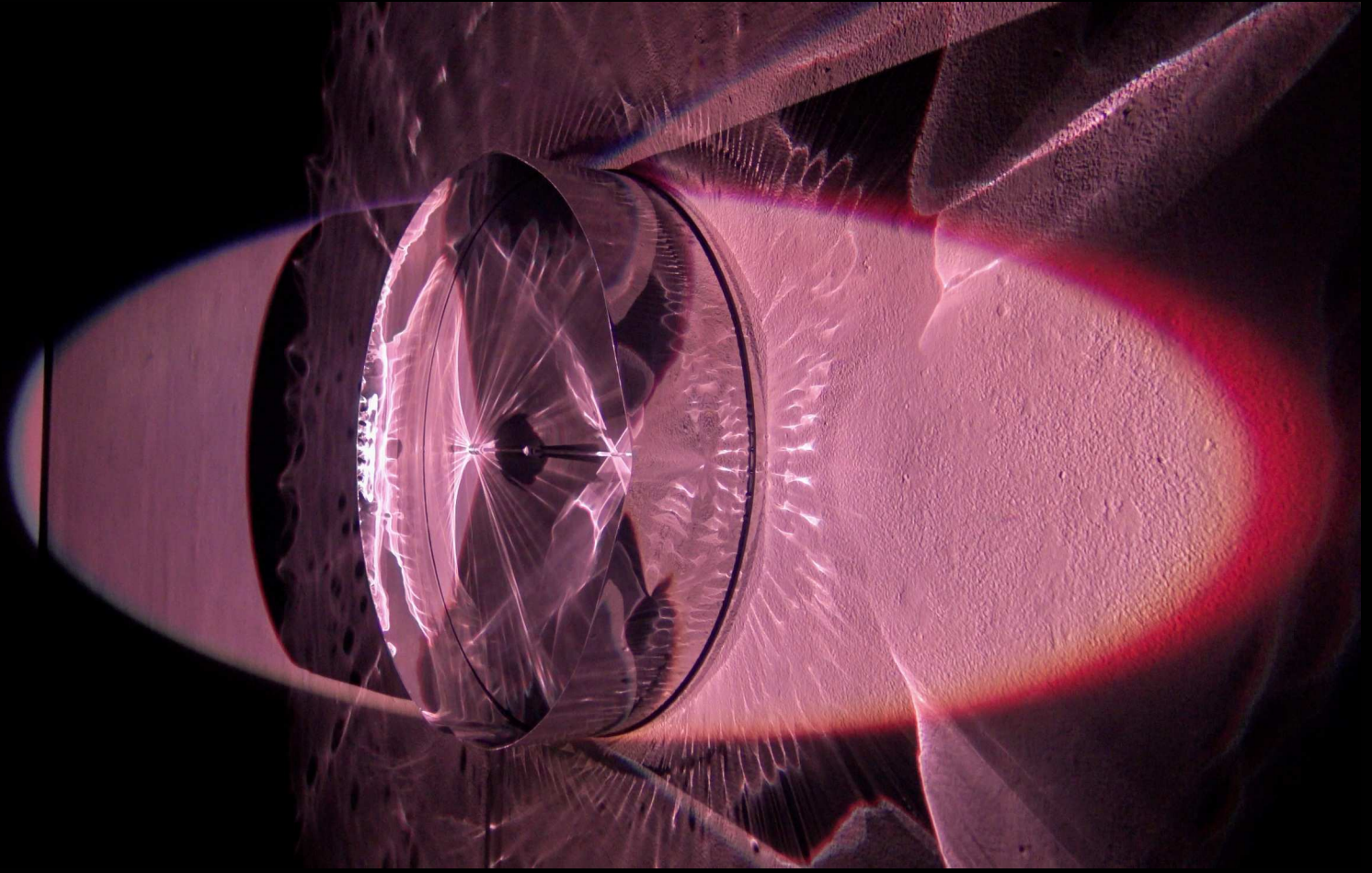
Mylar, acrylic cylinder, wooden discs, threaded rod, hardware, nitrile cord,  
DC motor, Arduino, circuit, power cables, LED spotlights, light stands

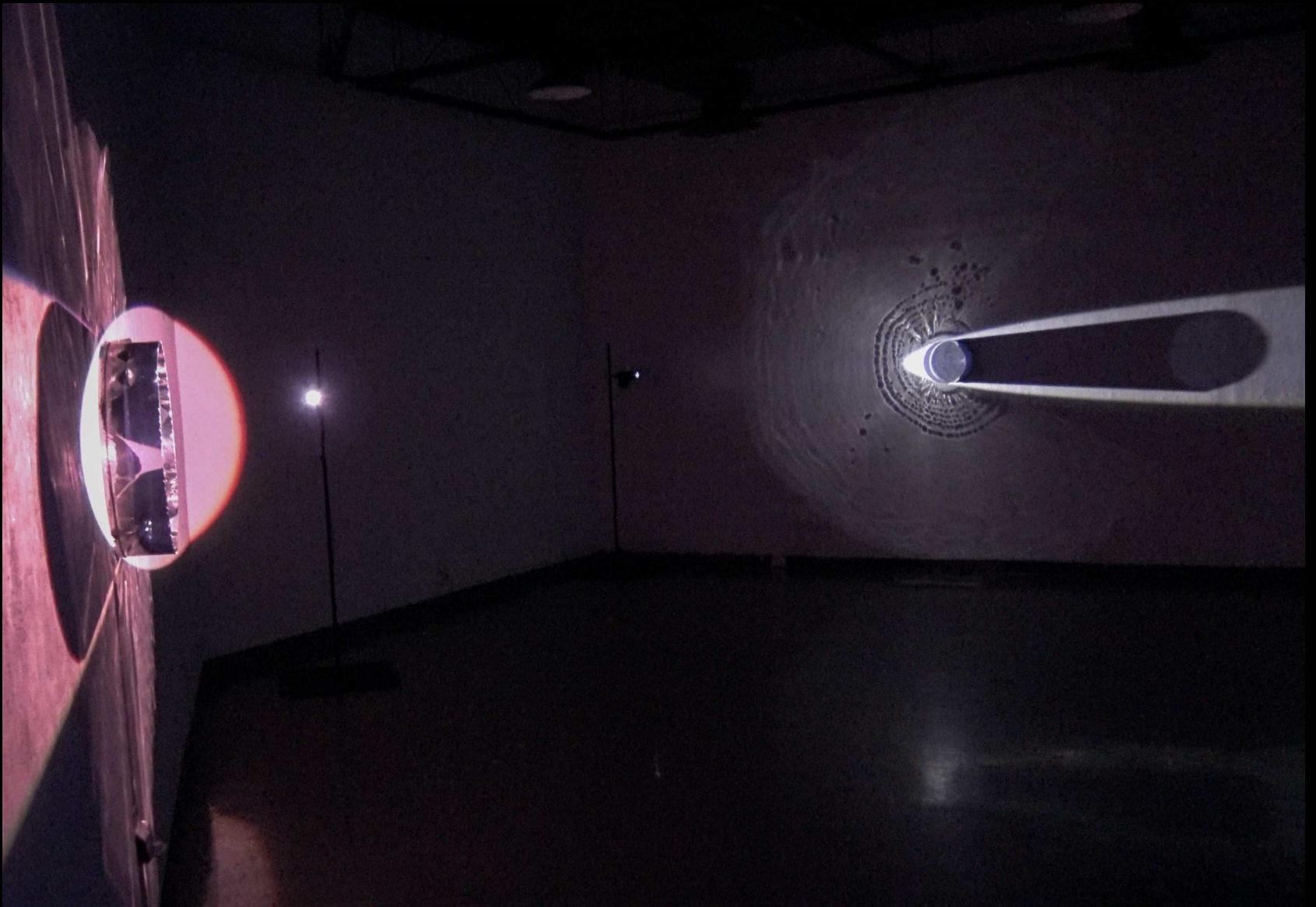






Detail views, Counter (Clockwise).





Installation view, *Counter (Clockwise)* and *Keeping Tally*.

// Changing

Moments of motion

The push and pull

A rise and fall

It comes in waves

Cycles of energy

Movements of matter

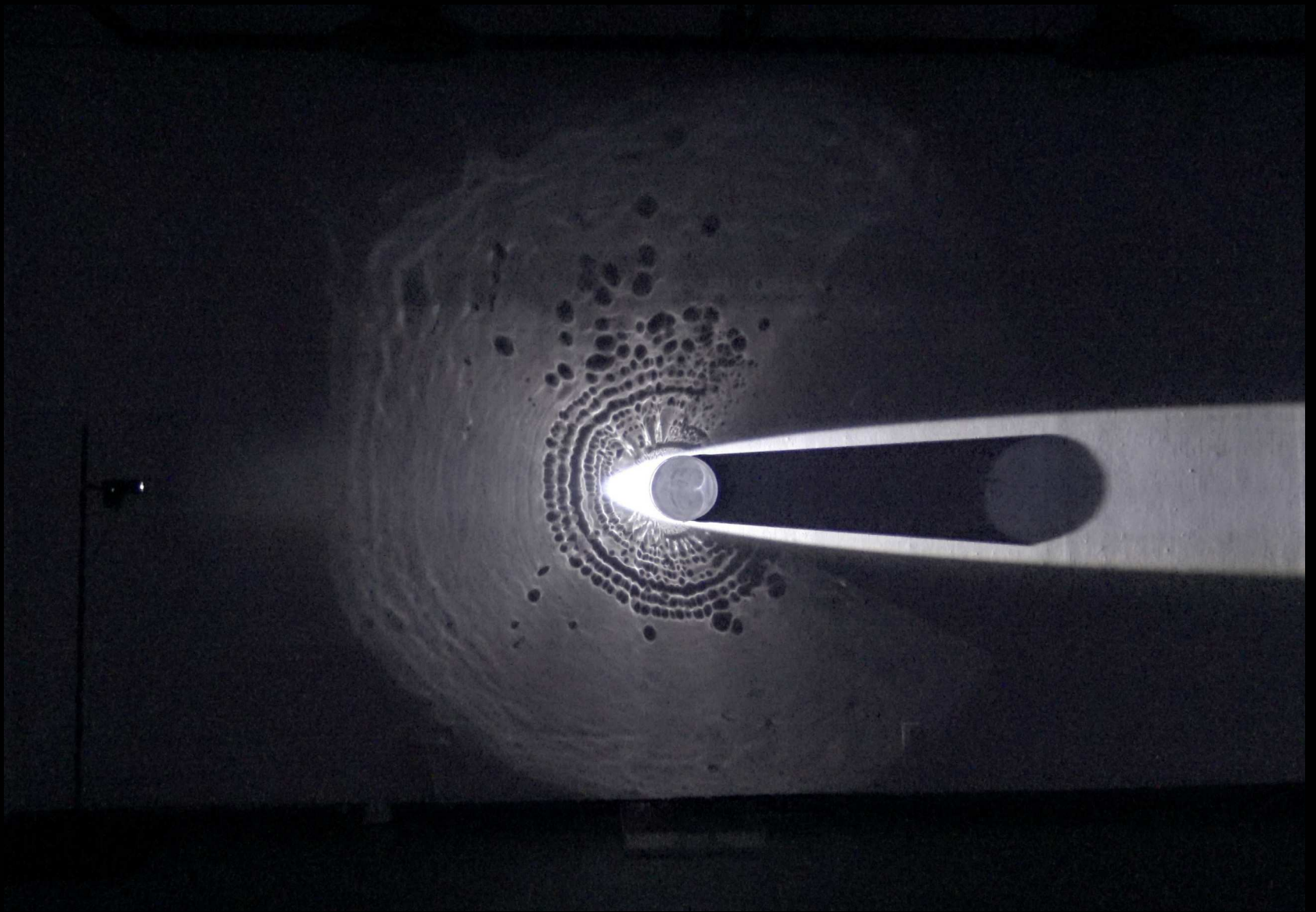
Constant change

In a dance, bodies revolve

Orbits of attraction

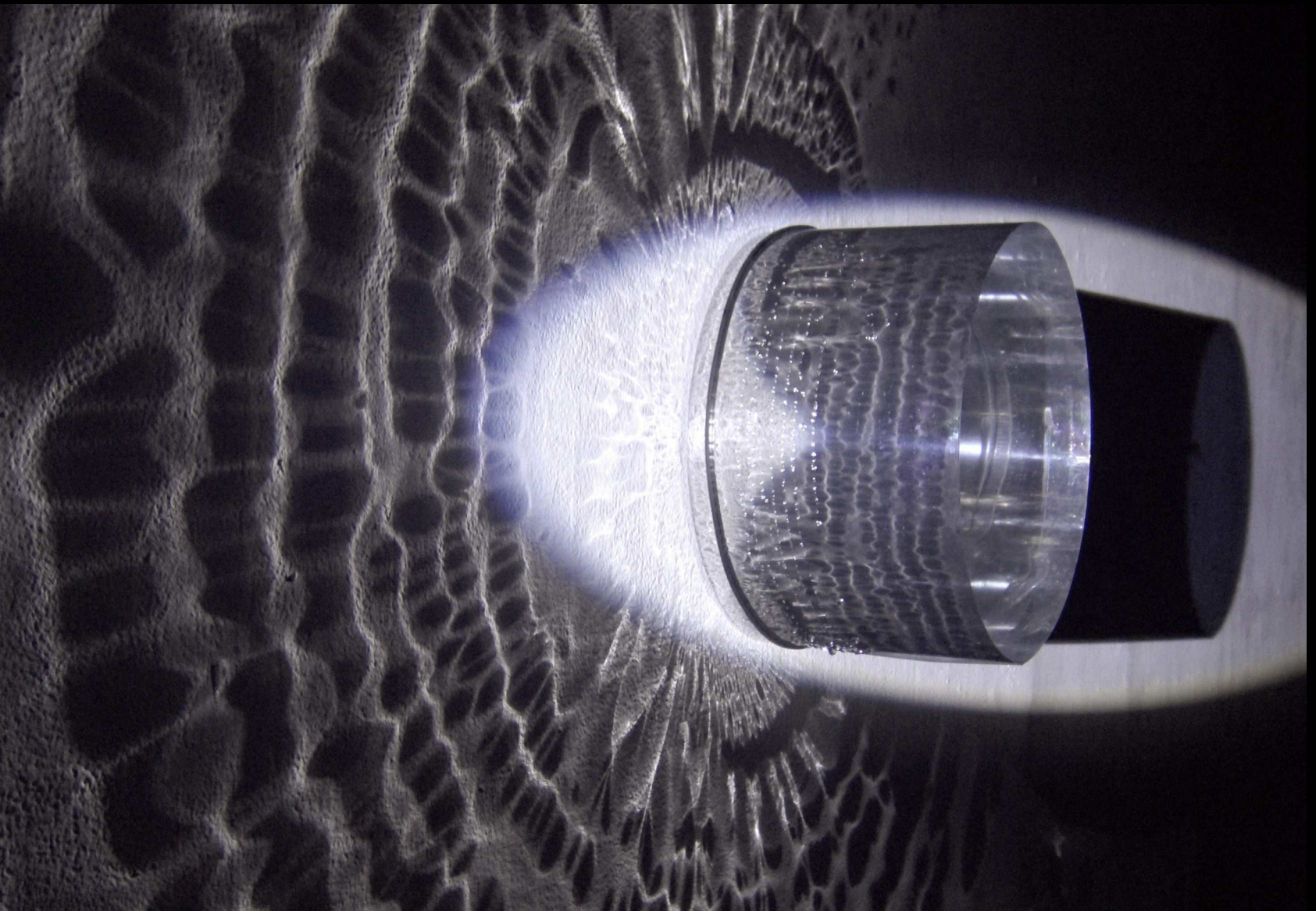
An influence from afar

Elliptically imperfect balance



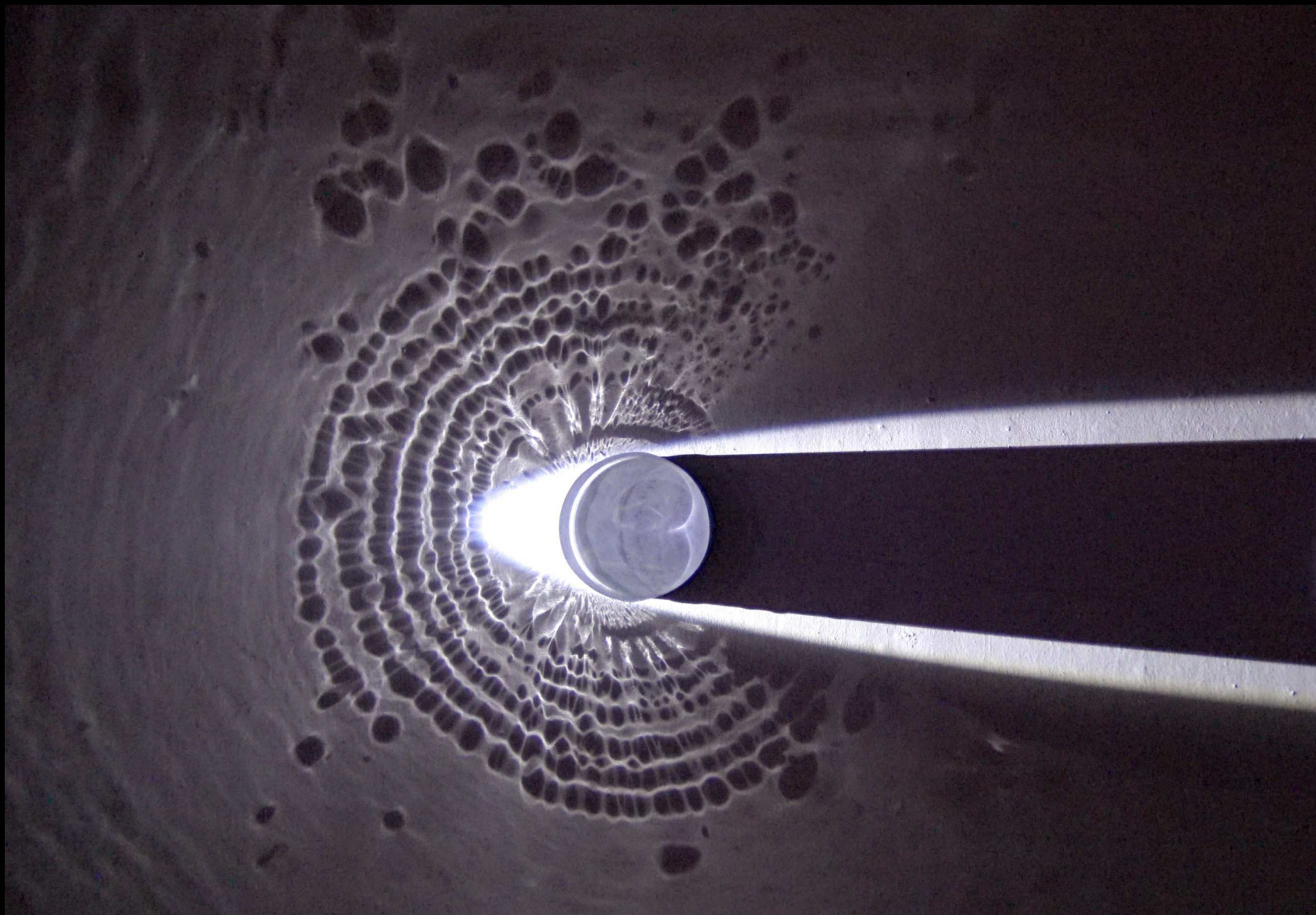
*Keeping Tally, 2019*

Mylar, acrylic cylinder, peristaltic pump, rubber hose, distilled water, nitrile cord,  
clear acrylic water reservoir, Arduino, circuit, power cables, LED spotlight, light stand

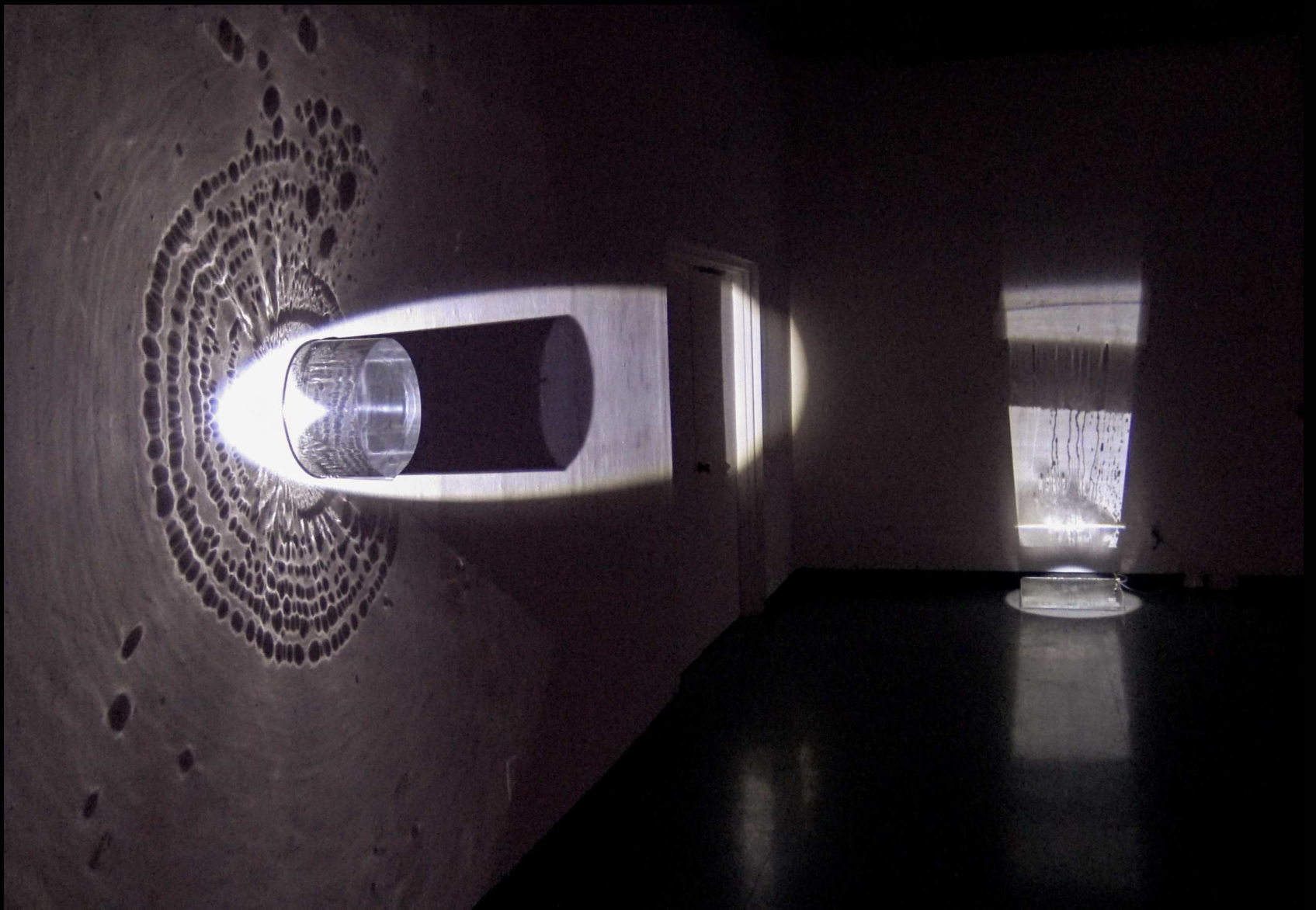




Detail views, *Keeping Tally*.







Installation view, *Keeping Tally* and *The Path of Least Resistance*.

// Sensing

Organs send and receive

Processed to perceive

Programmed to believe

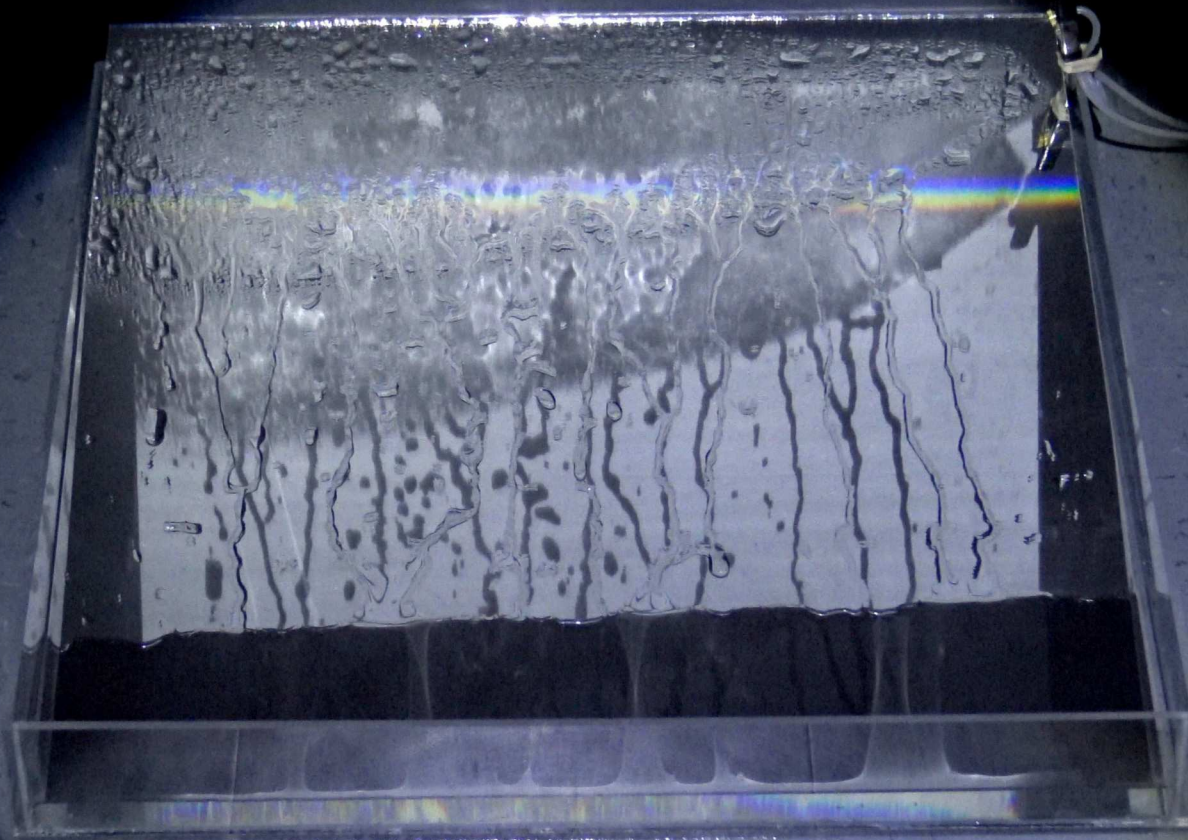
The most important information

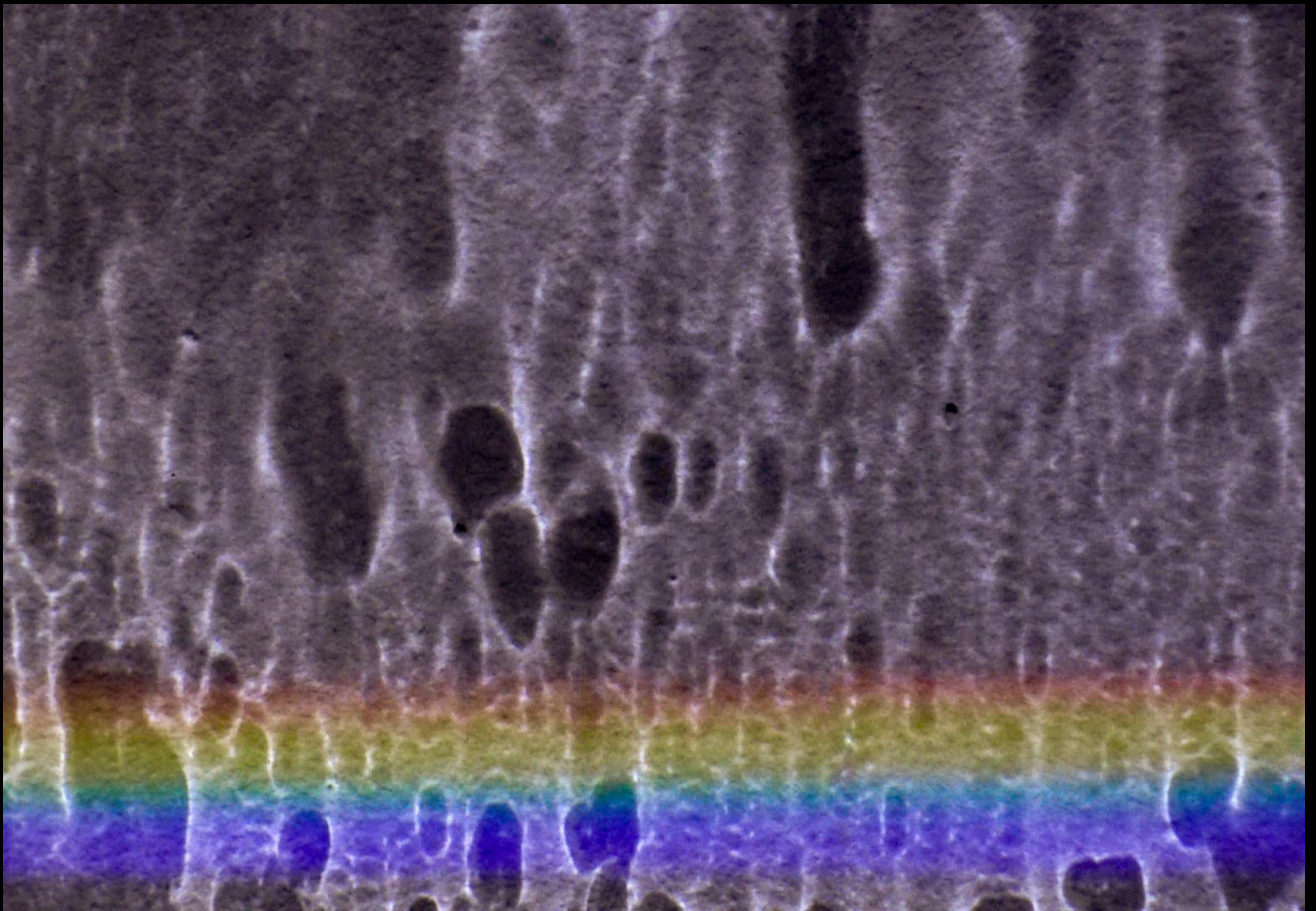
In an ocean of invisible waves



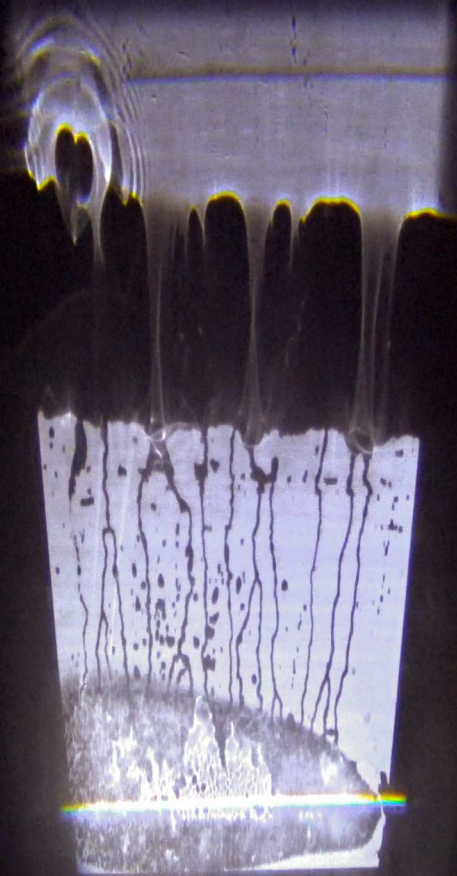
*The Path of Least Resistance, 2019*

mirror, peristaltic pump, mist nozzle, rubber hose, distilled water,  
clear acrylic water reservoir, Arduino, circuit, power cables, LED spotlight





Detail views, *The Path of Least Resistance*.





Installation view, *The Path of Least Resistance and Dancing Flame*.

// Seeing

Life from light  
In our eyes  
In our heads  
In our hearts

There's destruction in these motions  
and birth from those movements  
and beauty in the moments

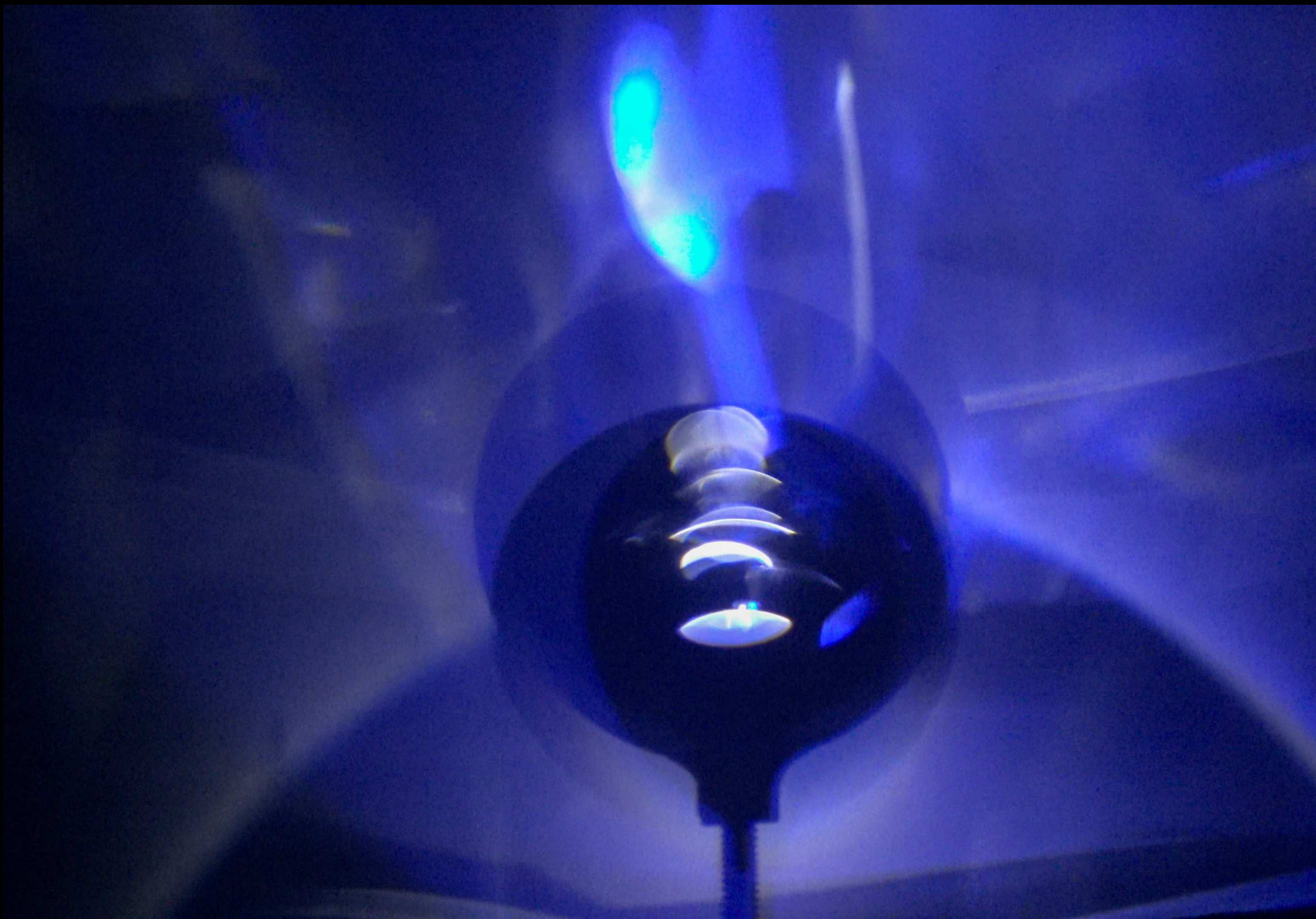
Is what you see what you get?

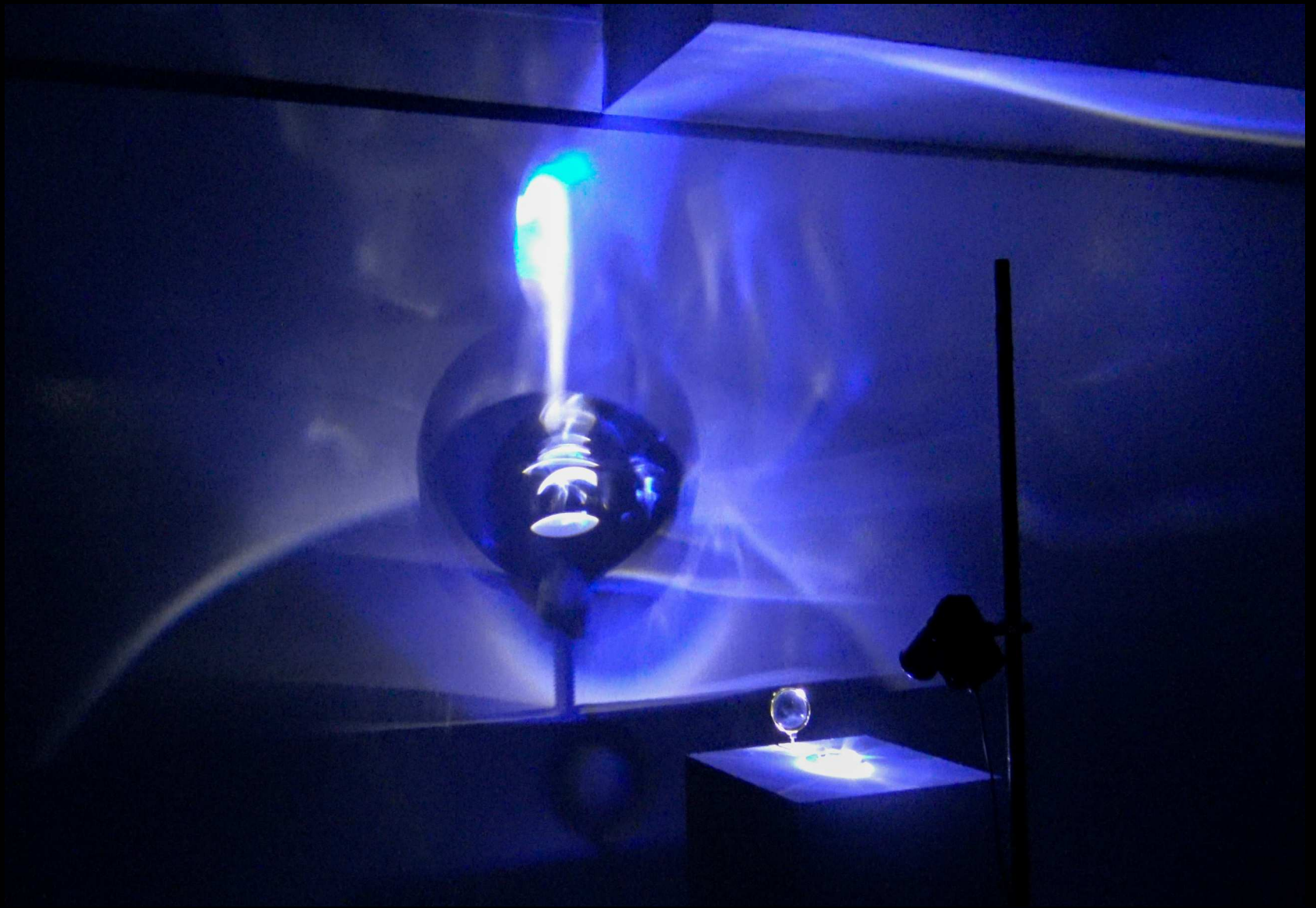




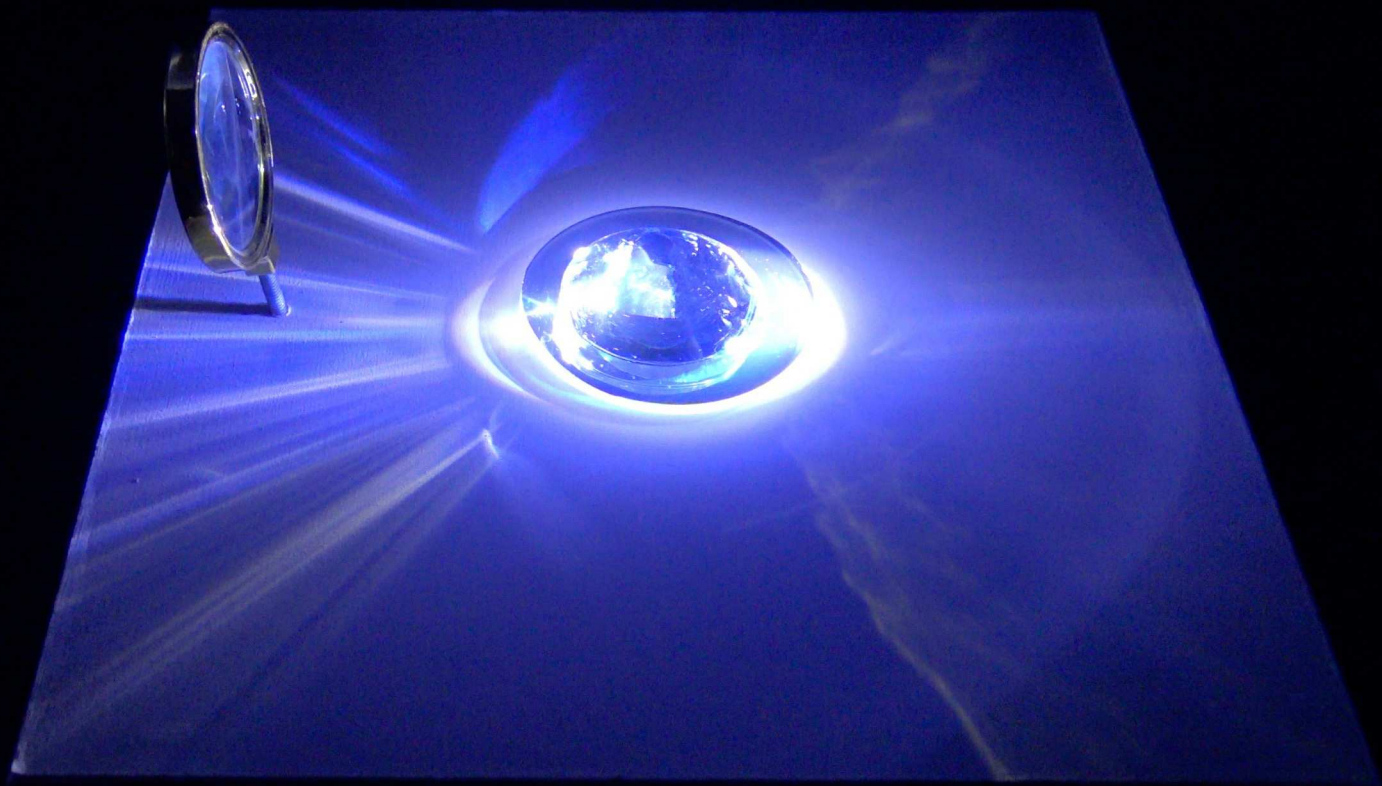
*Dancing Flame, 2019*

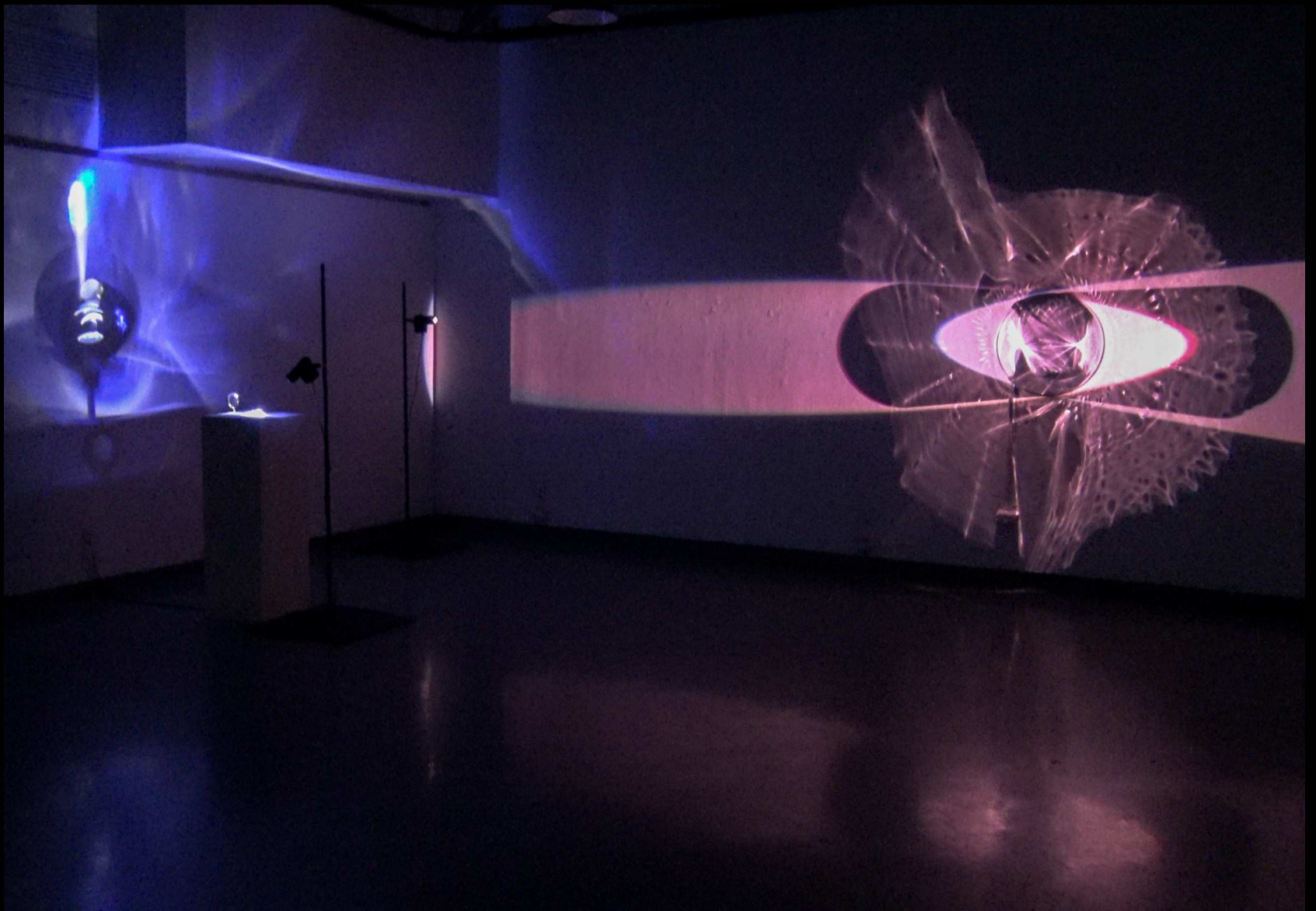
biconvex lens, clear acrylic disc, mylar discs, magnifying glass, threaded rod, pedestal,  
motor, Arduino, circuit, power cables, LED spotlight, light stand





Detail views, *Dancing Flame*.





Installation view, *Dancing Flame and Counter* (Clockwise).

// Reflecting

Fleeting moments  
and captured memories

A give and take  
of time and space

The experience of  
being  
doing  
having (lost)

Willing the risk  
Could I have projected  
What would be, as is now?  
Would I want it any other way?



Thank you to everyone who has helped me along the way,  
I could not be where I am without the support and feedback.  
A very special thanks to my committee members and chair:

Claudia X. Valdes – Experimental Art + Technology  
Ray Hernández-Durán – Art History  
Szu-Han Ho – Art and Ecology  
Ellen Babcock – Foundations







