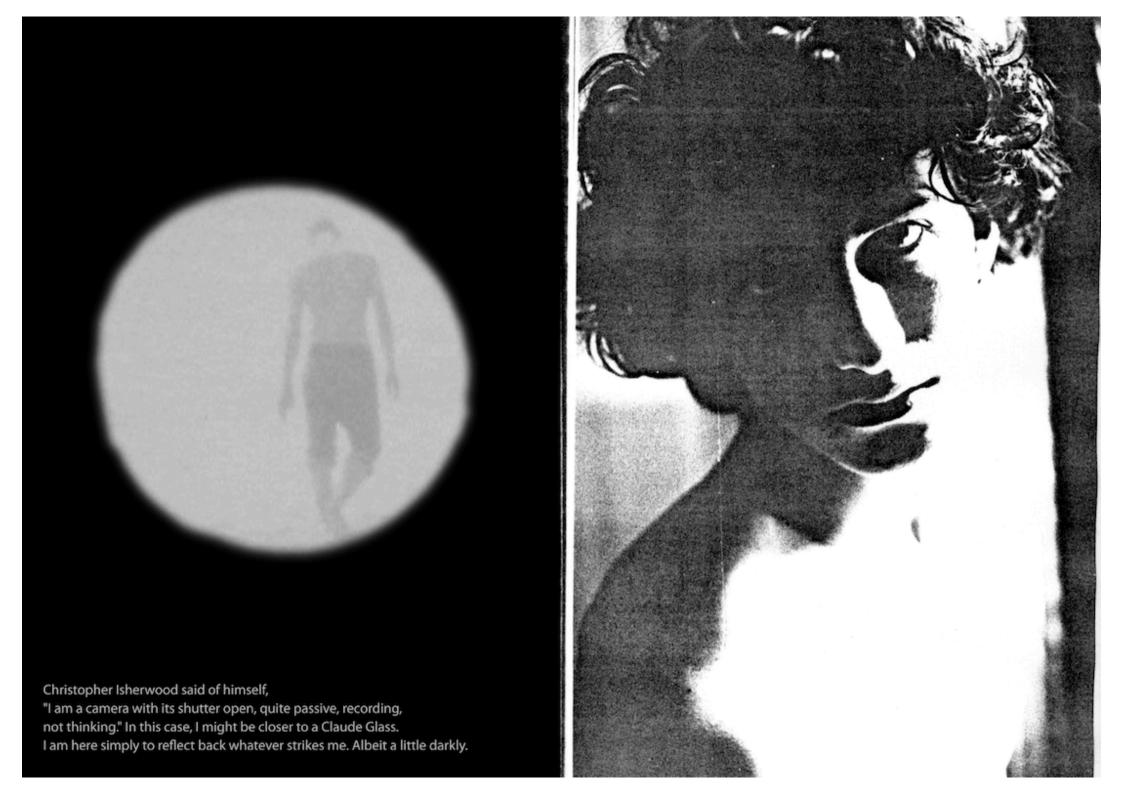
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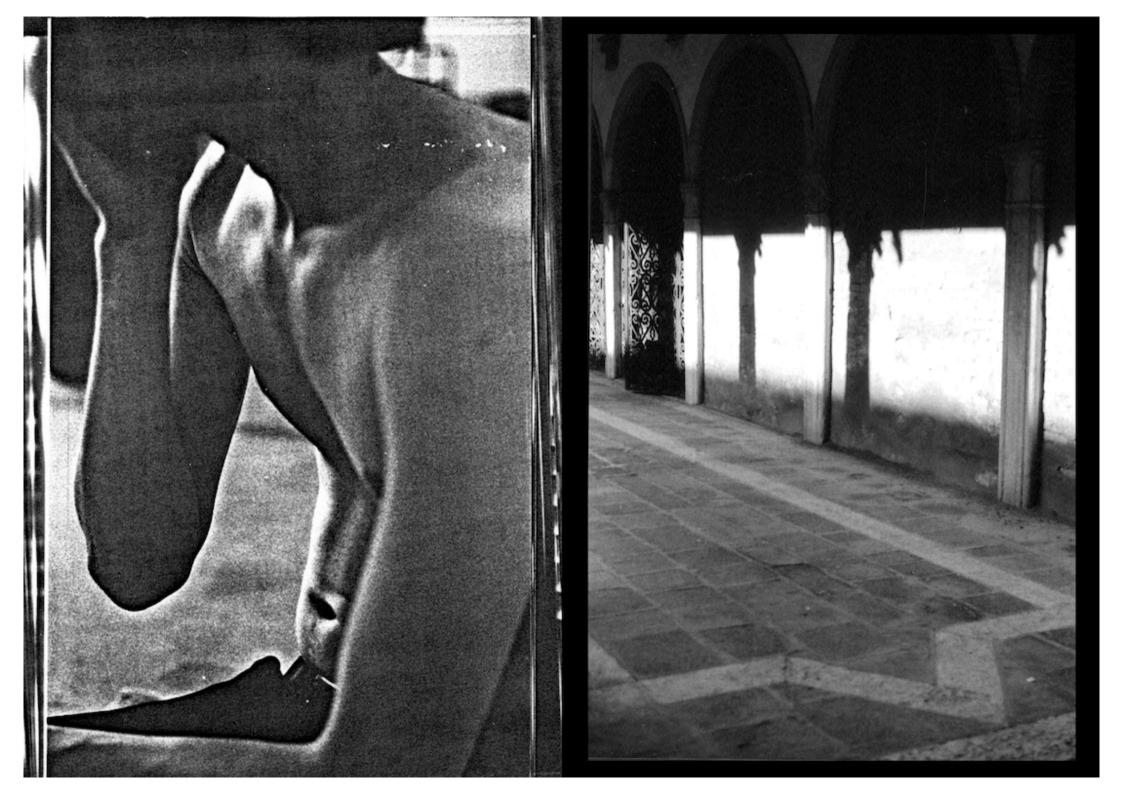


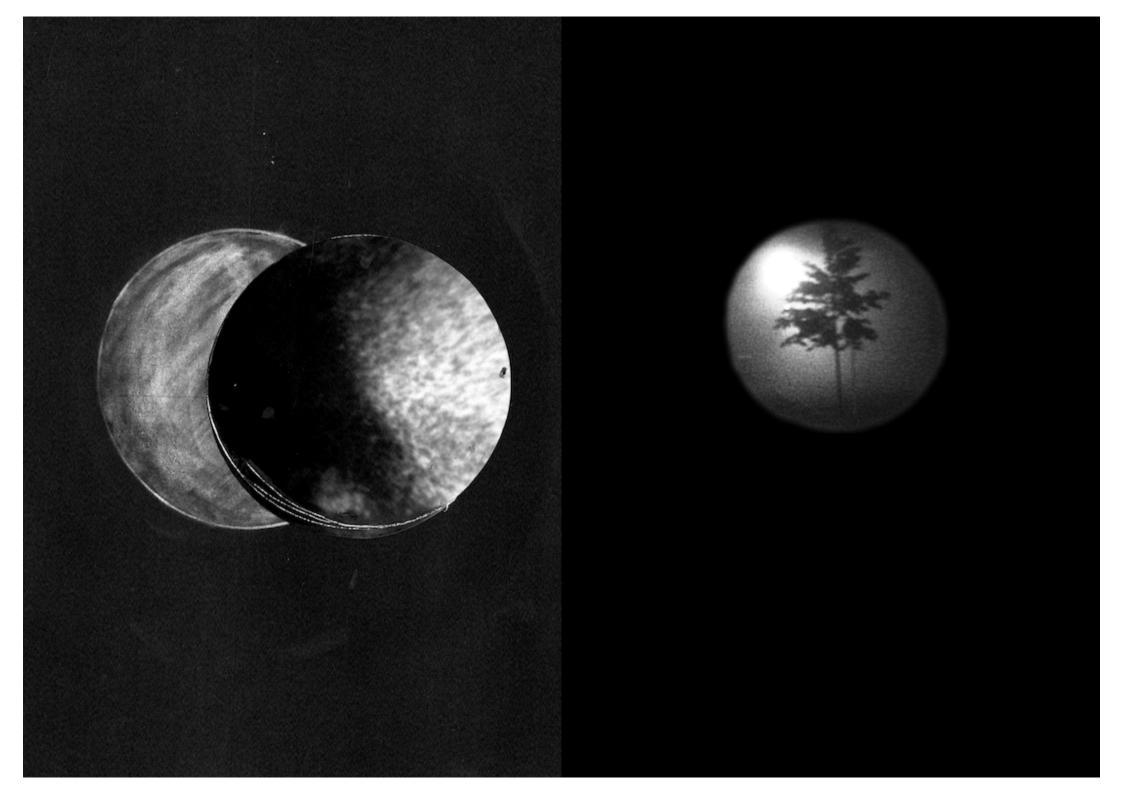
we can now understand why Giordano Bruno (1548–1600) was burned alive at Rome. We had once thought that he was executed for being the great rational champion of Copernicus, but now we know that his much

greater crime was in going too far in defence of the Hermetic tradition. Bruno's interest in heliocentrism was based on his obsession with the Egyptian world picture, which focused on the sun as the source of life and as the chief divinity; Copernicus merely provided some additional mathematical backing for this preconceived idea.

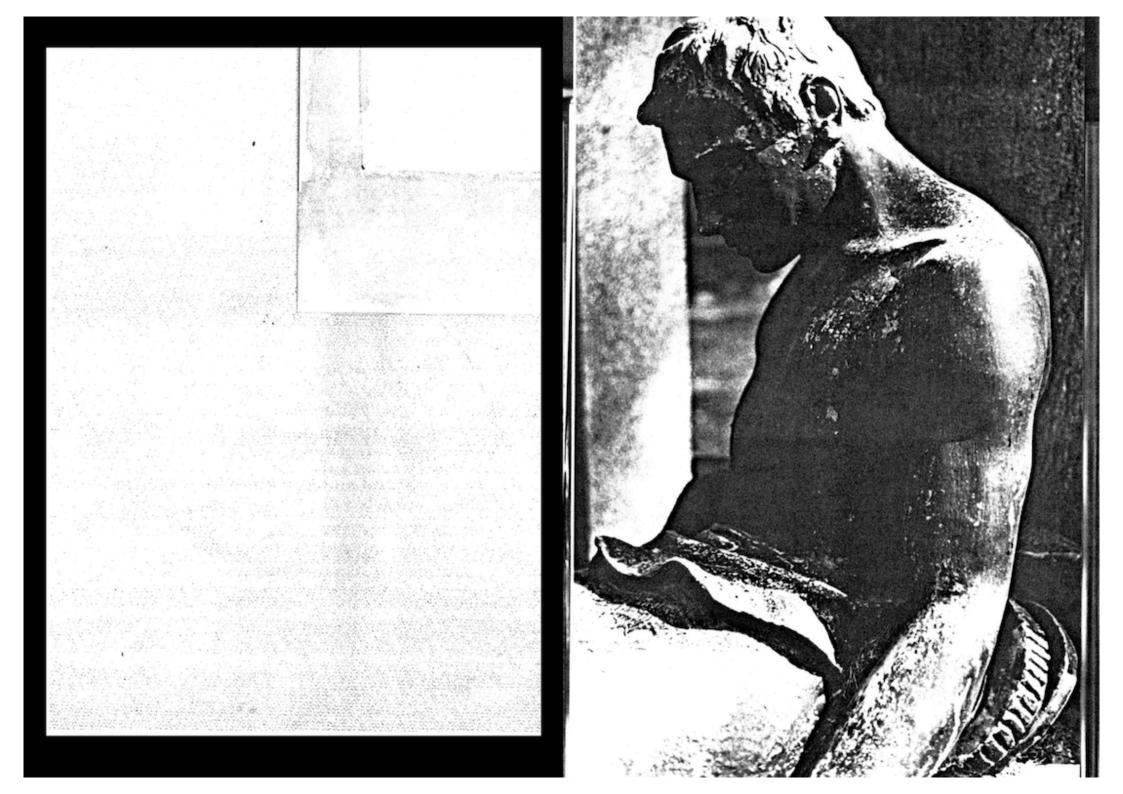






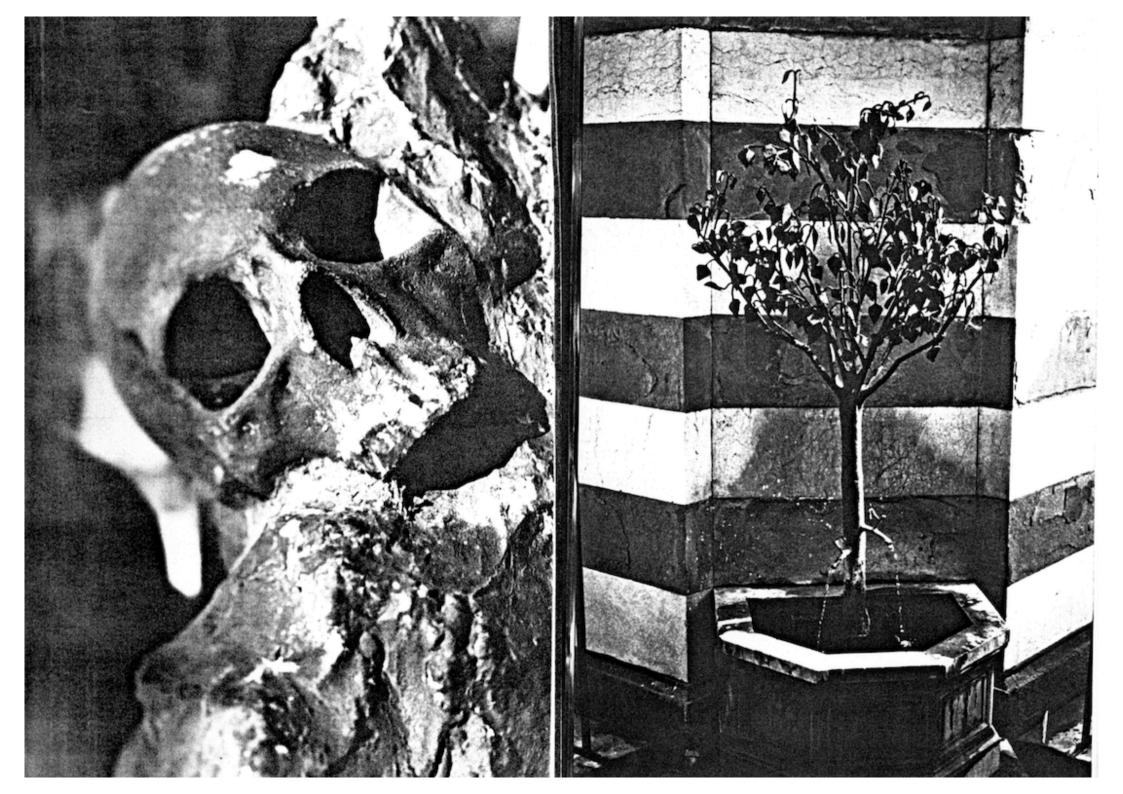












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