

Darkness.  
Silence.  
*Stained Moons.*



“Years ago, we discovered some beautiful abandoned and derelict glass-houses and we became obsessed with the lichen and algae on the glass panels - a natural expression of time - it became a precious material for us. Light projections through the glass create silhouettes that evoke the lunar surface – another ancient symbol of chronology – the moon is an anchor of time. Mussenden Temple exudes the presence of an observatory, and is a powerfully elemental location to exhibit our installation ‘*Stained Moons*’. We invite visitors to experience the landscape, the Temple and the artworks wordlessly. Silence leaves space to focus our attention on our place – and time – in the world.”

( JAMESPLUMB)

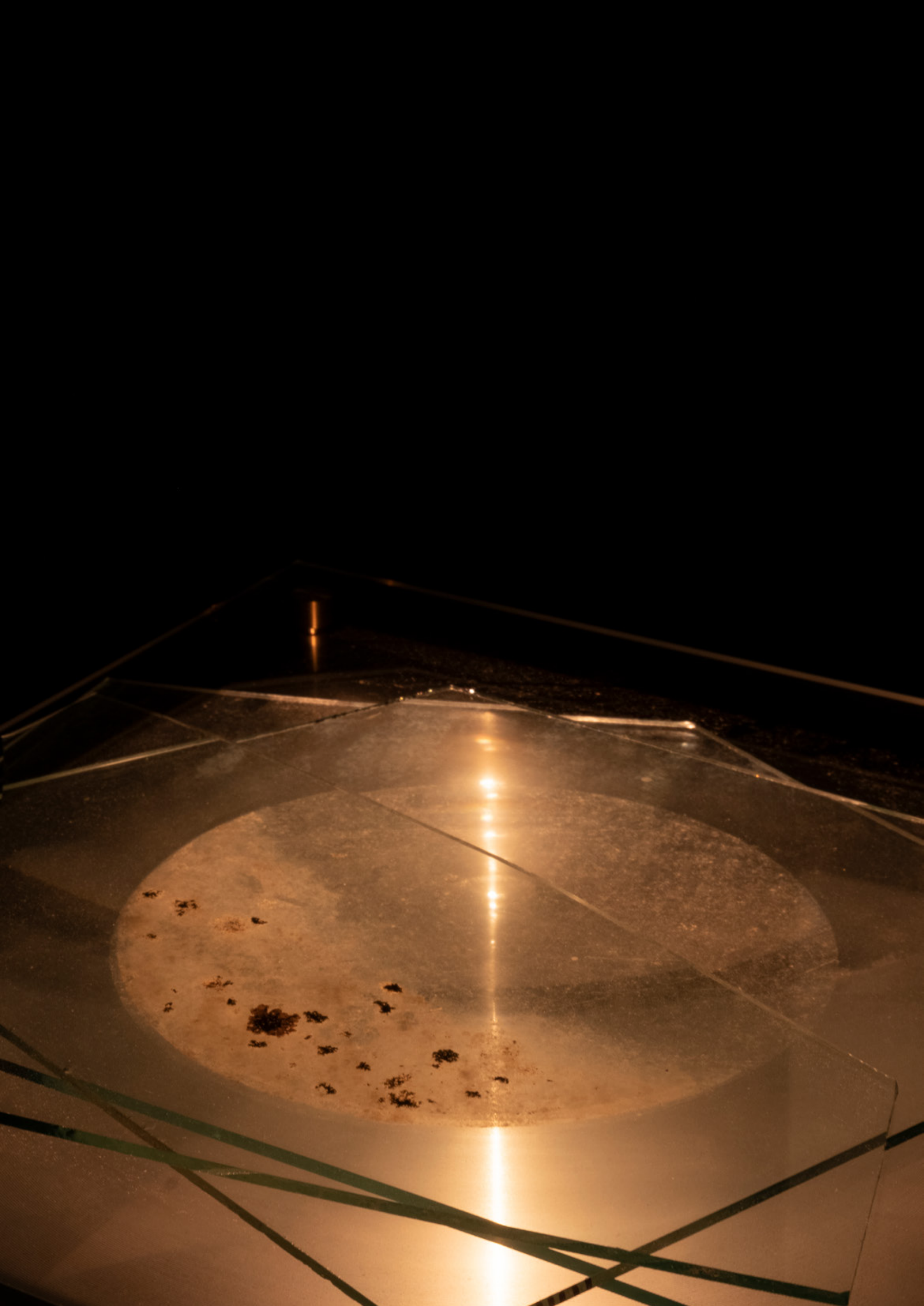




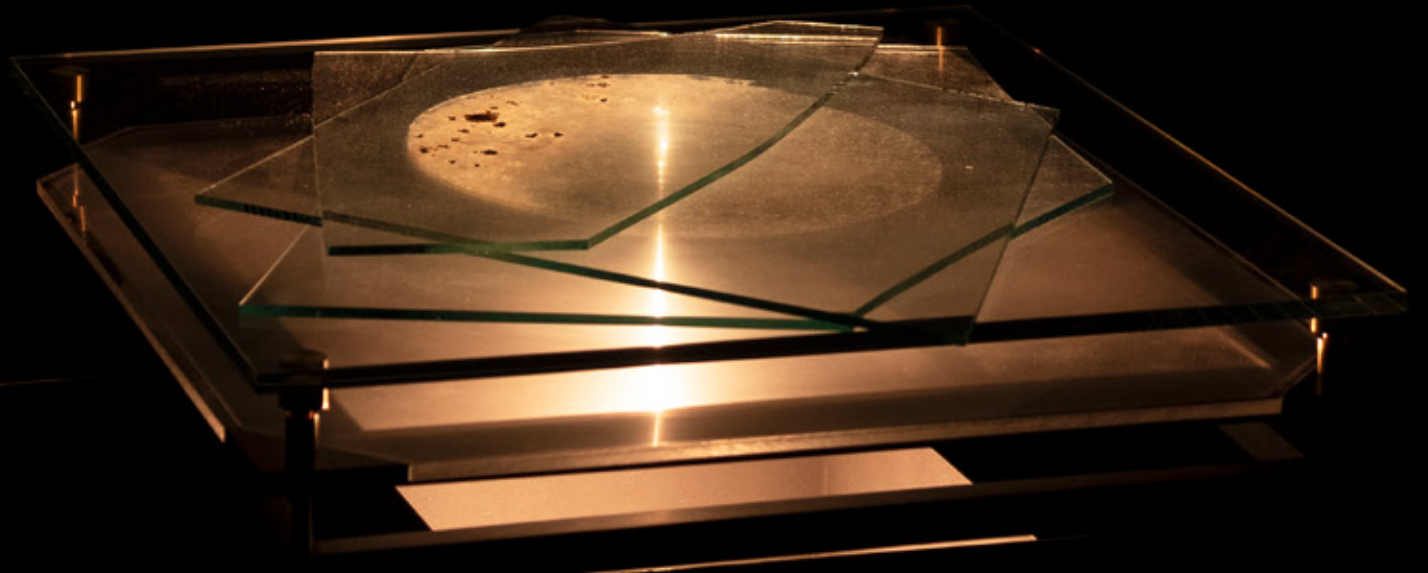
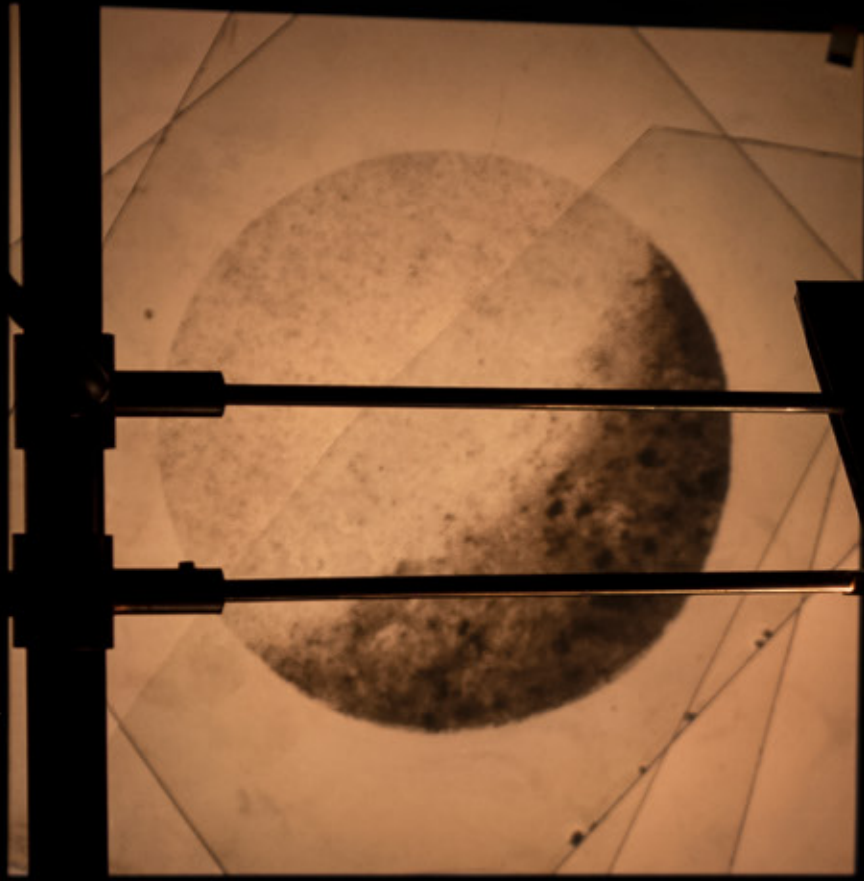


SILENT LIGHT (*Exhibition*, 2020) · National Trust Northern Ireland and JAMESPLUMB present '*Silent Light*', a light installation and dark sky experience at Downhill Demesne and Mussenden Temple, from 9<sup>th</sup>–23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020. Visitors will be steeped in the landscape. Embarking on a silent walk to Mussenden Temple which sits perched at the edge of a 120ft cliff overlooking the North Atlantic Ocean. *Exposed. Yet protective.* Within the Temple, an installation of '*Stained Moons*' awaits. The viewings are in *silence* and in *darkness*, after twilight, for fourteen nights in February 2020. The first during the *Full Moon* on 9<sup>th</sup> February. The last on the *New Moon* on 23<sup>rd</sup> February. '*Stained Moons*' is an installation of light and shadow, evoking the eight phases of the moon. The images are found within the broken glass reclaimed from an abandoned and overgrown greenhouse. *Stained glass. Stained by time.* Each panel has been carefully chosen for the intricate patterns of lichen and dirt. The formation of the image is realised through a dual process. A selective and delicate removal of the patina leaves precisely formed spheres and crescents on the panels intact. In parallel, a constant interviewing, stacking and combining of the plates creates the image. The image of light and shadow, reflecting back to us from the Earth's Moon. A series of optical instruments with carefully calibrated lenses and mirrors project the images onto delicate hanging screens. The elusive and distant moon is brought near. *Silent Light* sees the artwork cloaked within the circular Mussenden Temple. Originally built as a library in the late eighteenth-century by the eccentric Earl Bishop, the Temple exudes the presence of an observatory in an area of dark skies. The location is powerfully elemental, and the emphasis on silence – an evening of wordlessness – leaves space for a focus on the experiential. Viewings will be choreographed with timed tickets which are available now through the National Trust website:

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/downhill-demesne-and-hezlett-house](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/downhill-demesne-and-hezlett-house)







( Notes to Editors )

For High Resolution images of Stained Moons and Mussenden Temple, or for enquiries about JAMESPLUMB, please contact:

*+44 (0) 207 738 7721 Email: [contact@jamesplumb.co.uk](mailto:contact@jamesplumb.co.uk)*

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( About Mussenden Temple )

Mussenden Temple is located in the beautiful surroundings of Downhill Demesne near Castlerock in County Londonderry. It perches dramatically on a 120 ft cliff top, high above the Atlantic Ocean on the north-western coast of Northern Ireland, offering spectacular views east and west.

The Temple was built in 1785 and forms part of the estate of Frederick Augustus Hervey, Bishop of Derry and Earl of Bristol (or the Earl Bishop). The temple was built as a summer library and its architecture was inspired by the Temple of Vesta in Tivoli, near Rome. It is dedicated to the memory of Hervey's cousin Frideswide Mussenden. Both the Temple and the surrounding views are among the most photographed scenes in Ireland.

*<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/downhill-demesne-and-hezlett-house>*

( About JAMESPLUMB )

A creative studio in South London, founded by artists James Russell and Hannah Plumb. They make both Objects and Environments. Their Objects include sculptures, furniture, and fine art installations. They exhibit their work with galleries and at fairs internationally and work directly with private clients on commissions. Their Environments encompass interior, event, or architectural design, and creative direction. Projects are commercial or residential, and are both permanent or impermanent.

*[www.jamesplumb.co.uk](http://www.jamesplumb.co.uk)*

*Instagram: [@jamesplumbstudio](https://www.instagram.com/jamesplumbstudio)*



( About the National Trust in Northern Ireland )

The National Trust is a conservation charity founded in 1895 by three people who saw the importance of our nation's heritage and open spaces and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. Over 100 years later these values are still at the heart of everything we do. We look after coastlines, forests, woods, beaches, farmland, moorland, islands, archaeological remains, nature reserves, villages, historic houses, gardens, mills and pubs. We restore them, protect them and open them up to everyone. We are actively supported by over 99,000 members and around 3,000 volunteers in Northern Ireland. Over two million visitors enjoy our sites every year. We encourage everyone to enjoy and care for our nature and heritage. In doing so, we also advocate for the protection of the environment across all of Northern Ireland, not just at our own sites. For more information and our full calendar of autumn activities and adventures, go to:

*<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/days-out/northern-ireland>*

SILENT LIGHT

*9th – 23rd February, 2020.*

JAMESPLUMB present '*Stained Moons*'.

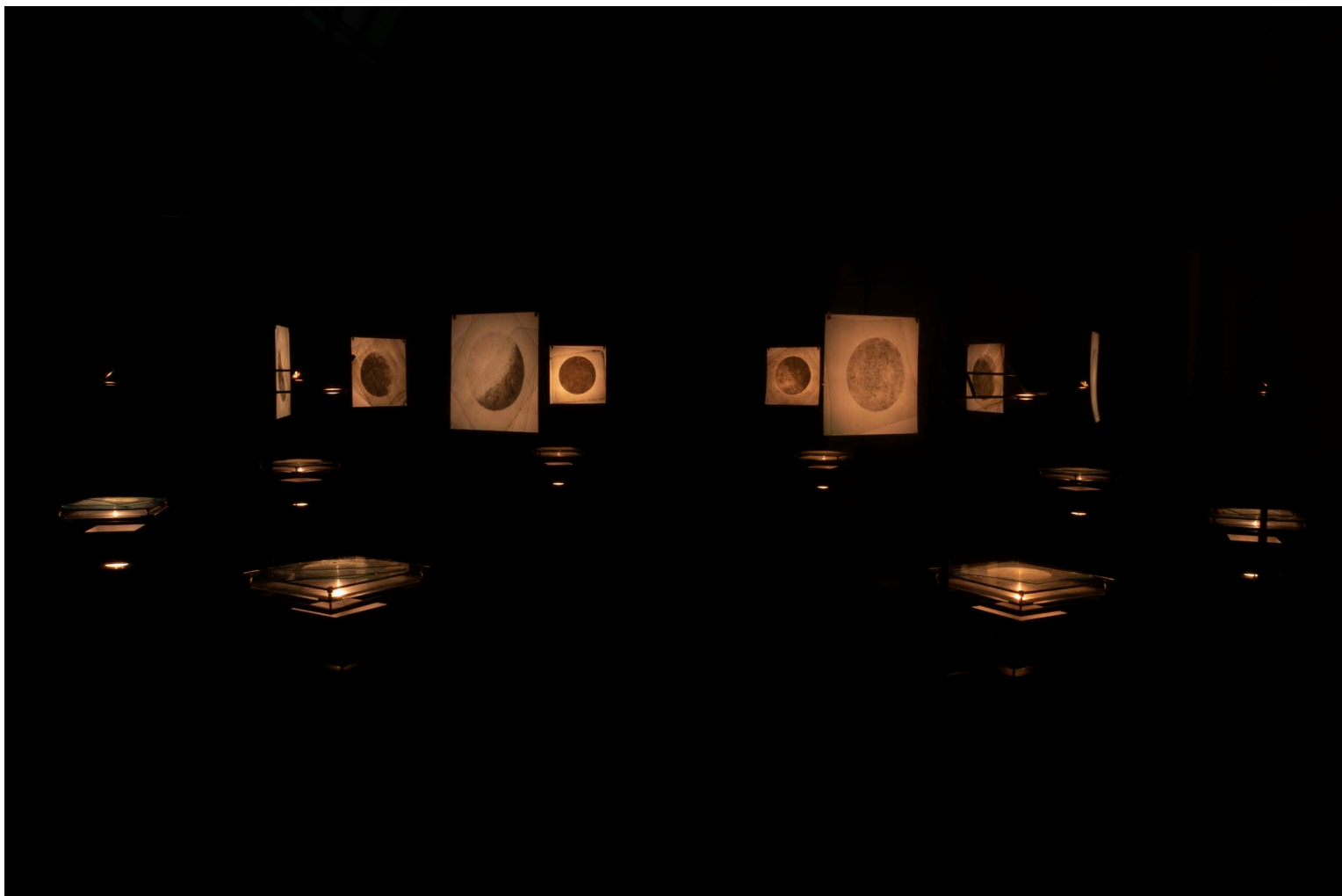
In collaboration with the National Trust Northern Ireland.

At Mussenden Temple, Downhill Demesne.

*[www.jamesplumb.co.uk/silentlight](http://www.jamesplumb.co.uk/silentlight)*

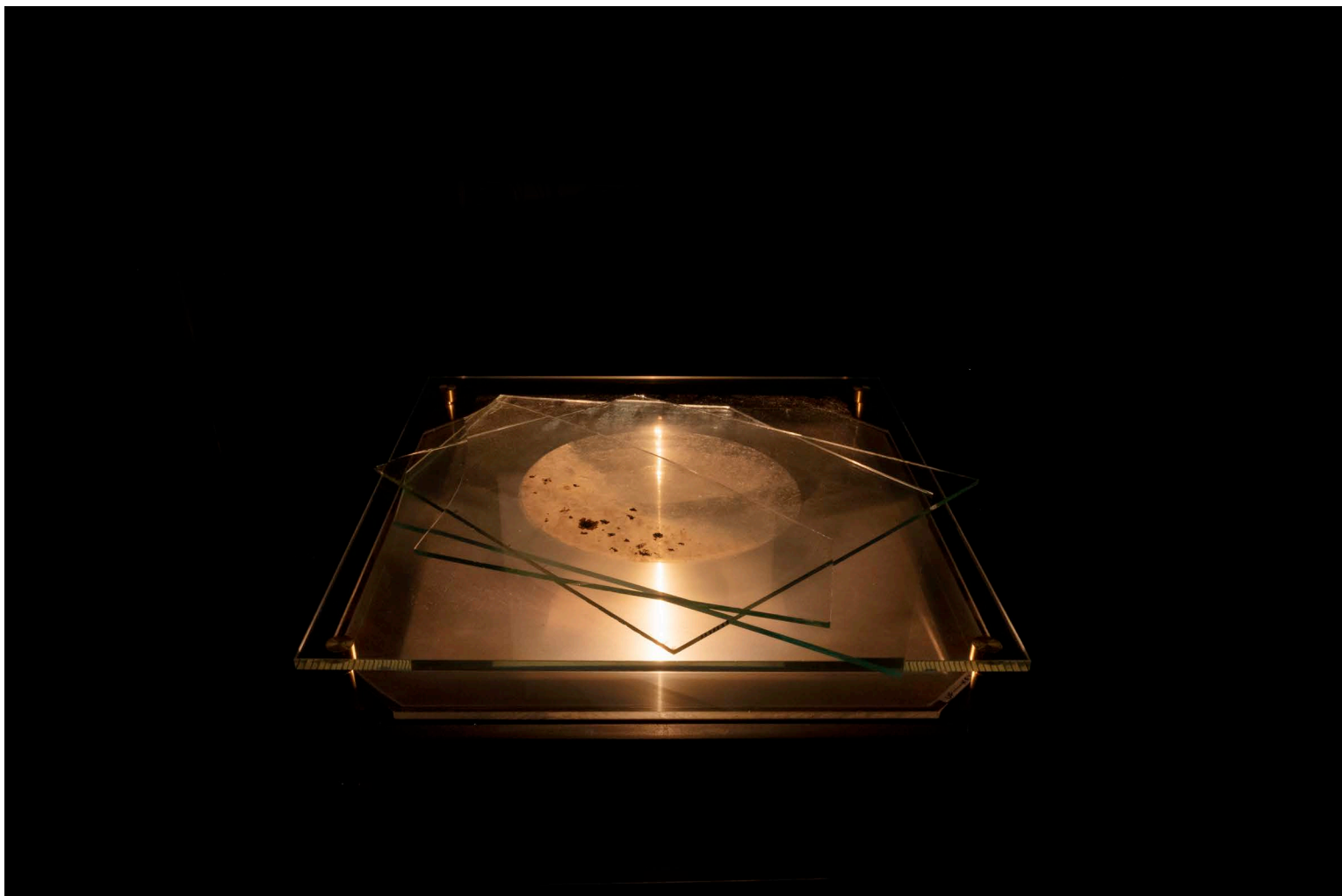


STAINED MOONS (*Series of Objects*, 2020—*present*) · An installation of light and shadow, evoking the eight phases of the moon. The images are found within the broken glass reclaimed from an abandoned and overgrown greenhouse. *Stained glass. Stained by time.* Each panel has been carefully chosen for the intricate patterns of lichen and dirt. The formation of the image is realised through a dual process. A selective and delicate removal of the patina leaves precisely formed spheres and crescents on the panels intact. In parallel, a constant interviewing, stacking and combining of the plates creates the image. *The image of light and shadow, reflecting back to us from the Earth's Moon.* A series of optical instruments with carefully calibrated lenses and mirrors project the images onto delicate hanging screens. The elusive and distant moon is brought near. “Years ago, we discovered some beautiful abandoned and derelict glass-houses and we became obsessed with the lichen and algae on the glass panels – a natural expression of time – it became a precious material for us. Light projections through the glass create silhouettes that evoke the lunar surface – another ancient symbol of chronology – the moon is an anchor of time.”



STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



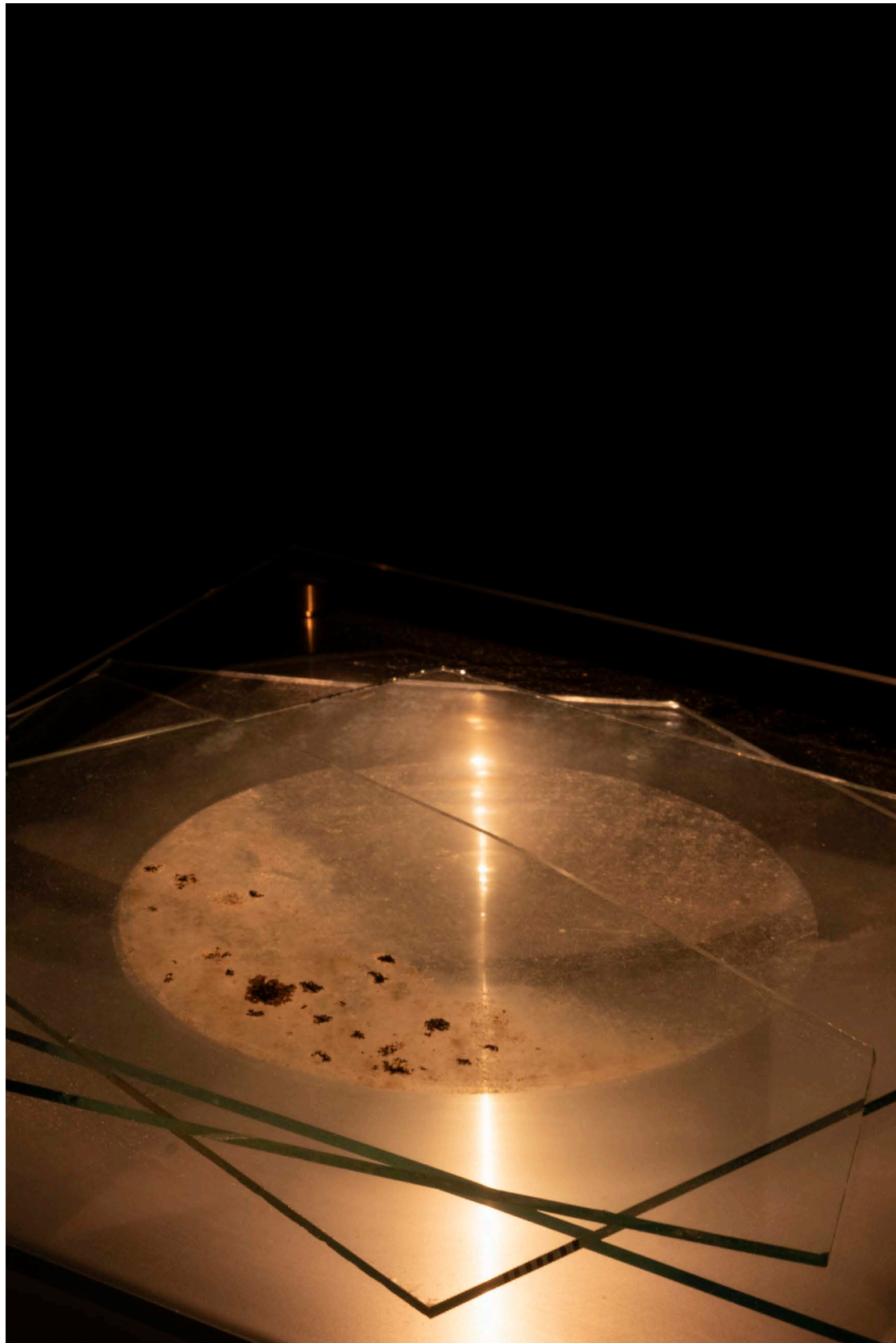


STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece (*Detail of Waxing Gibbous phase*)  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE

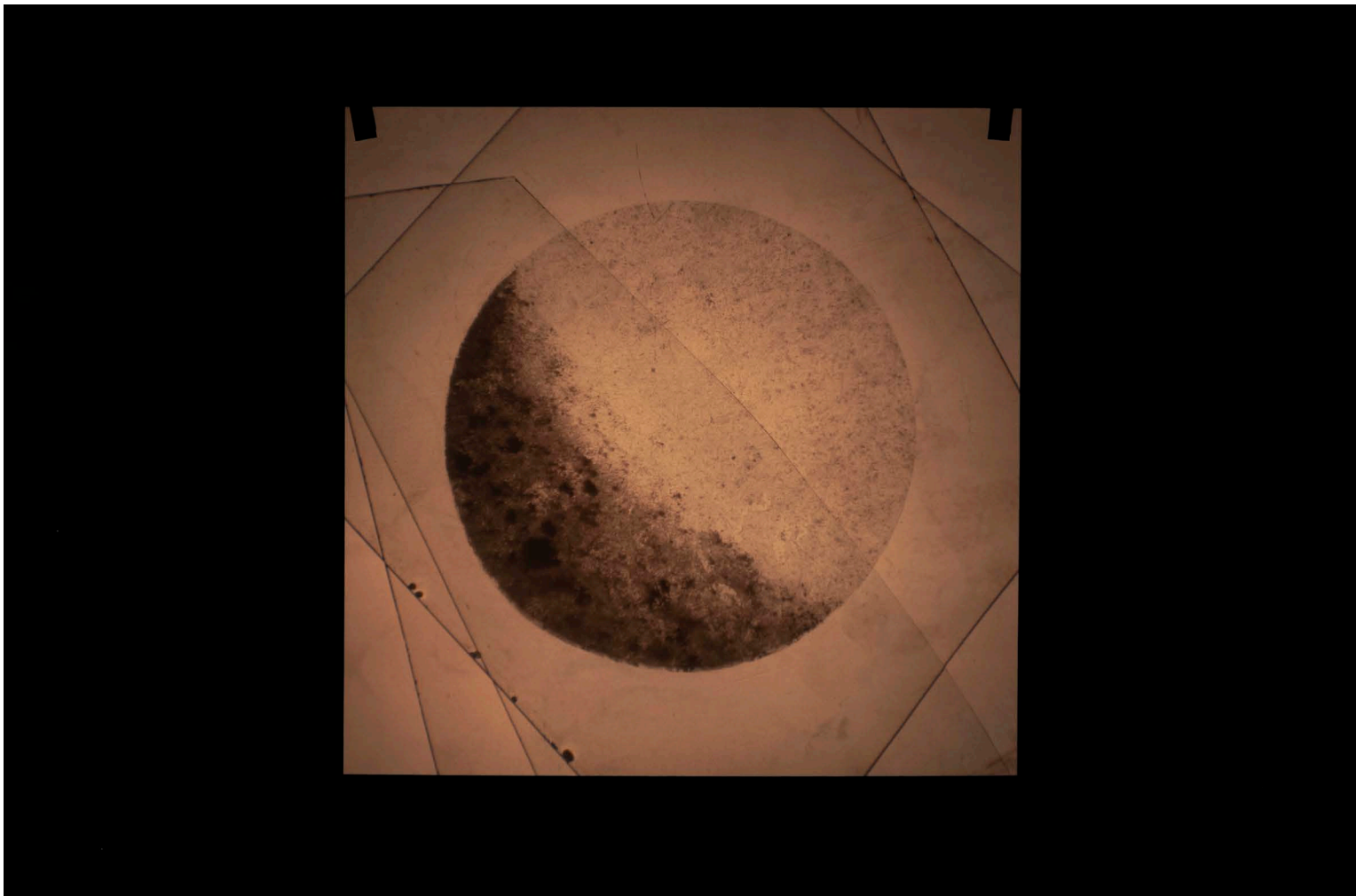


STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece (*Detail of Waxing Gibbous phase*)  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



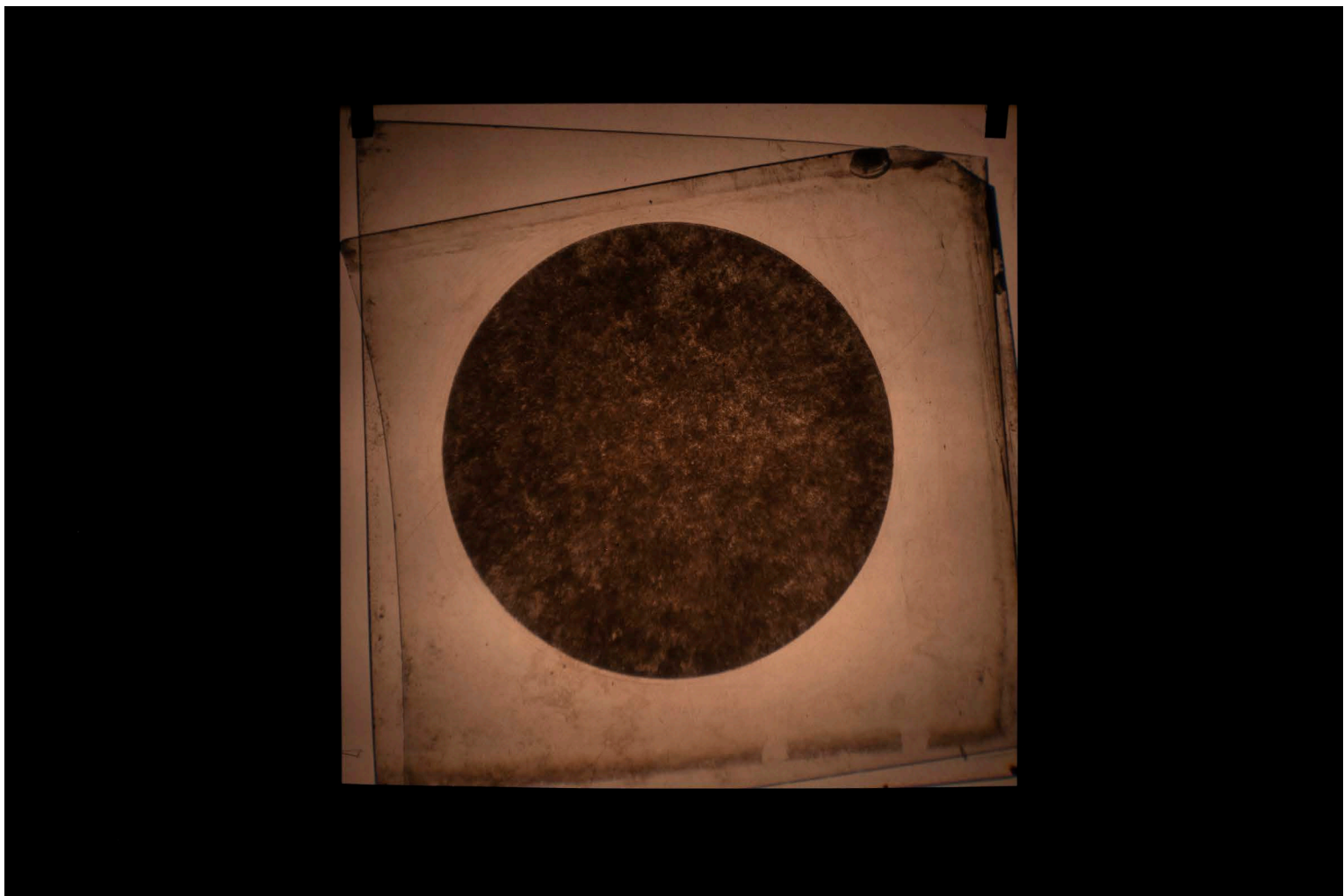


STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece (*Detail of Waxing Gibbous phase*)  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE

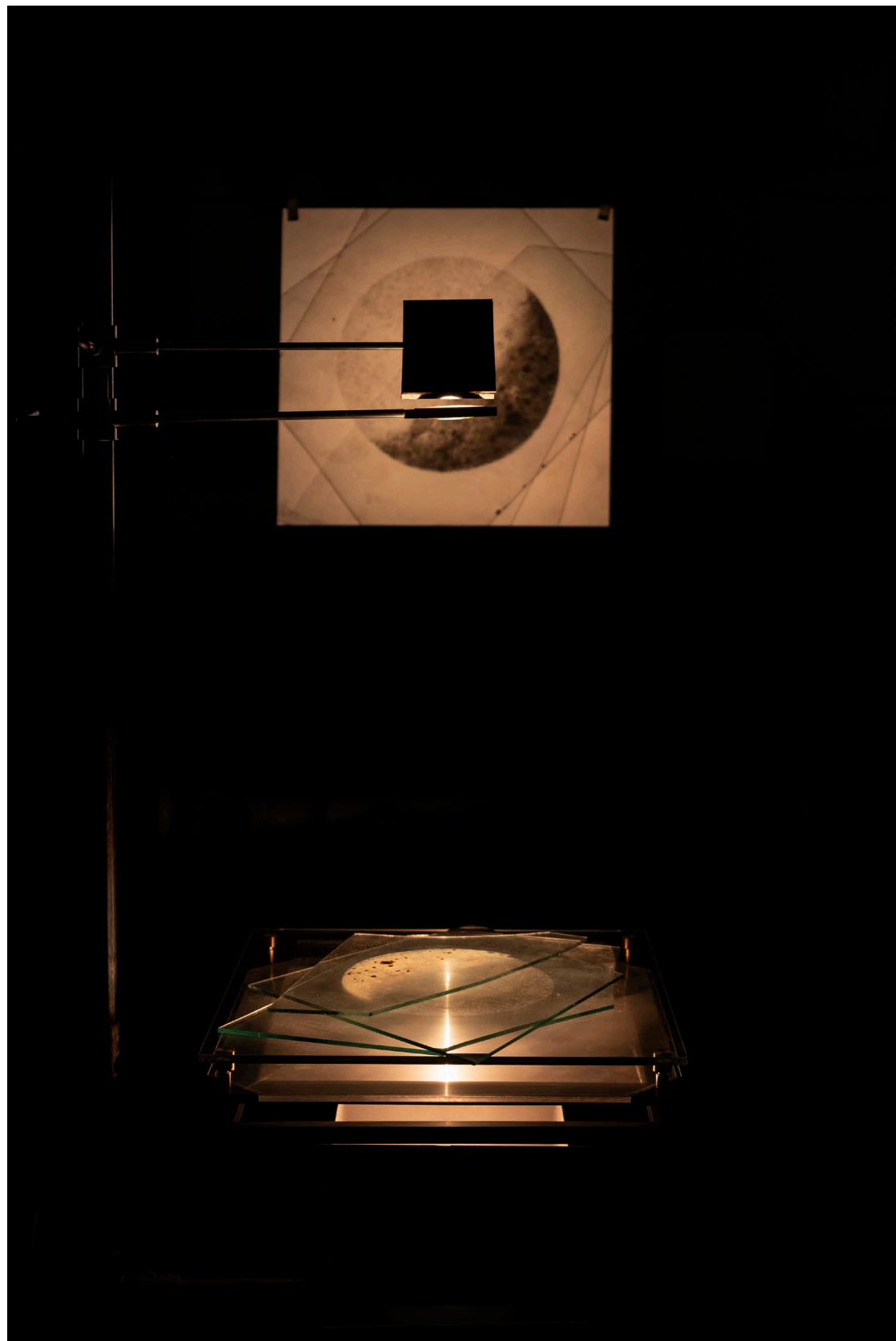


STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece (*Detail of Waxing Gibbous phase*)  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE





STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece (*Detail of New Moon phase*)  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses—  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



STAINED MOONS (2020)  
Unique Piece (*Detail of Waxing Gibbous phase*)  
Light and shadow installation of eight moon phases  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



STAINED MOON WANING GIBBOUS (2020)  
Unique Piece  
Glass, Lichen, Steel, Brass, Concrete, Lenses  
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE