

# Ad Lucem- to the light- στο φως

***Cecilia Ömalm (artist) and Göran Östlin (astronomer)***

Cyanotype: One of the earliest photographic processes, invented 1842 by astronomer John Herschel.

Mixing two ironsalts create a UV-sensitive emulsion which when developed in water results in blue images.

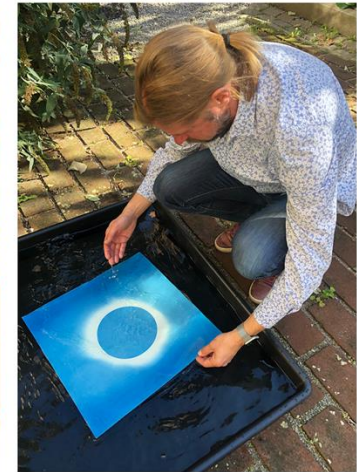
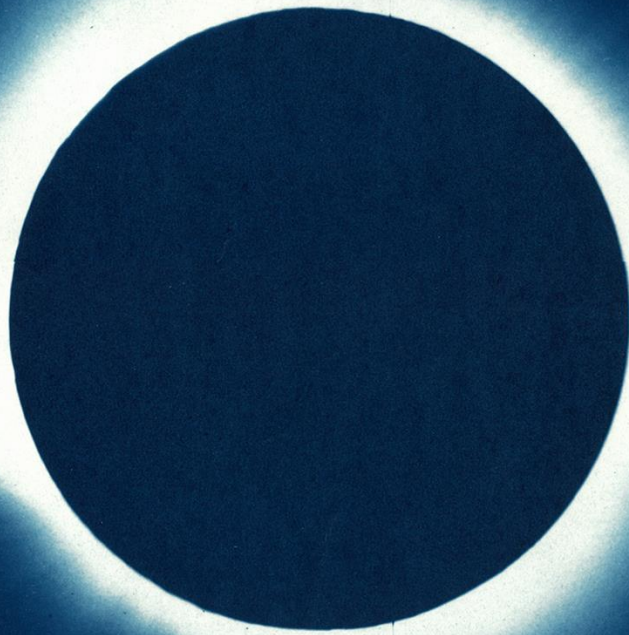
Historically mostly used for blueprints (architectural and engineering drawings) and photograms (e.g. Anna Atkins).

In Ad Lucem we use historical and modern material from space. We work with original old glass plates and new glass negatives that we produce from digital image files.

Ongoing project includes collaboration with: the Swedish Royal Academy of Science, Villa san Michele (Capri), and the Paris-Meudon observatory.

Ad Lucem has been shown at: Liljevalch museum of art (Stockholm), Fotografiska (Stockholm). Upcoming exhibition at Runde Taarn (Copenhagen), Fotografiska (Tallinn, Estonia).

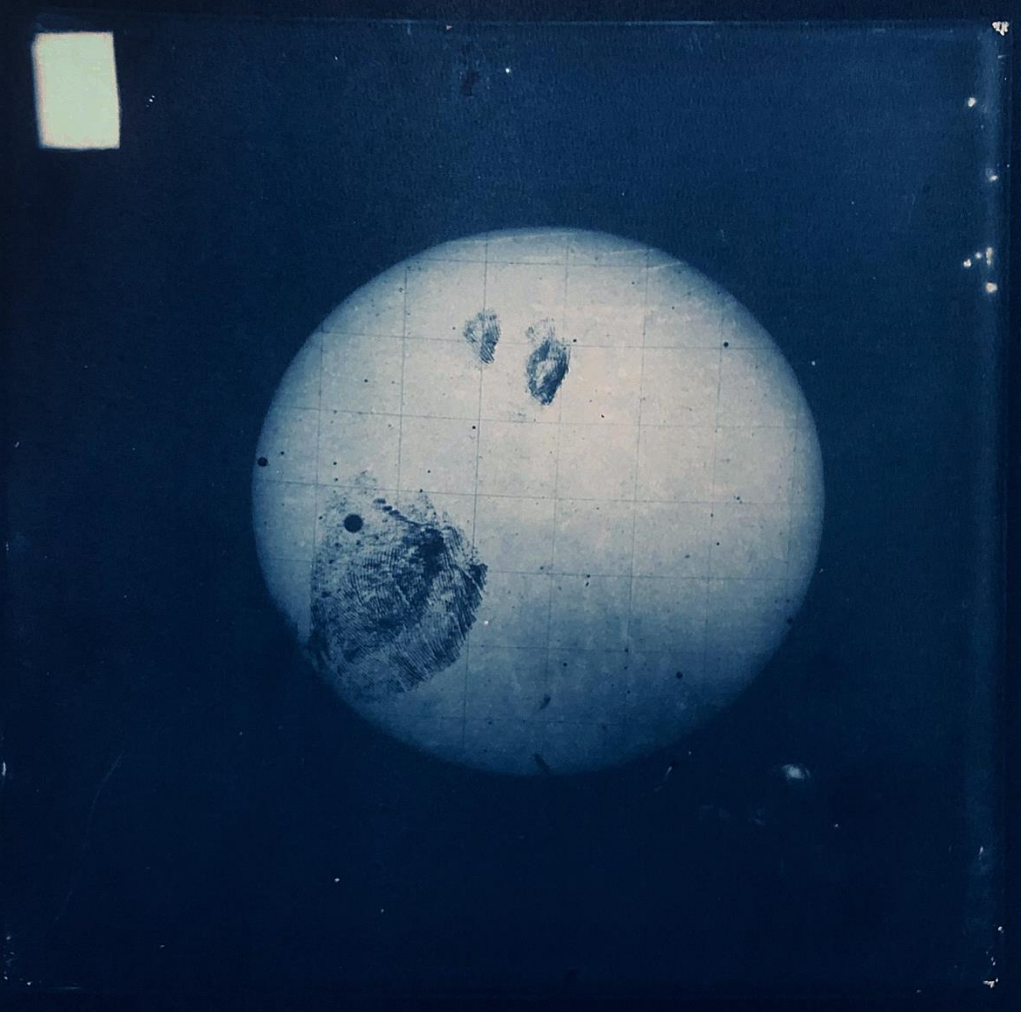
At this conference, you will have the opportunity to try to create your own cyanotype. On Thursday (coffee and lunch breaks, TBC)



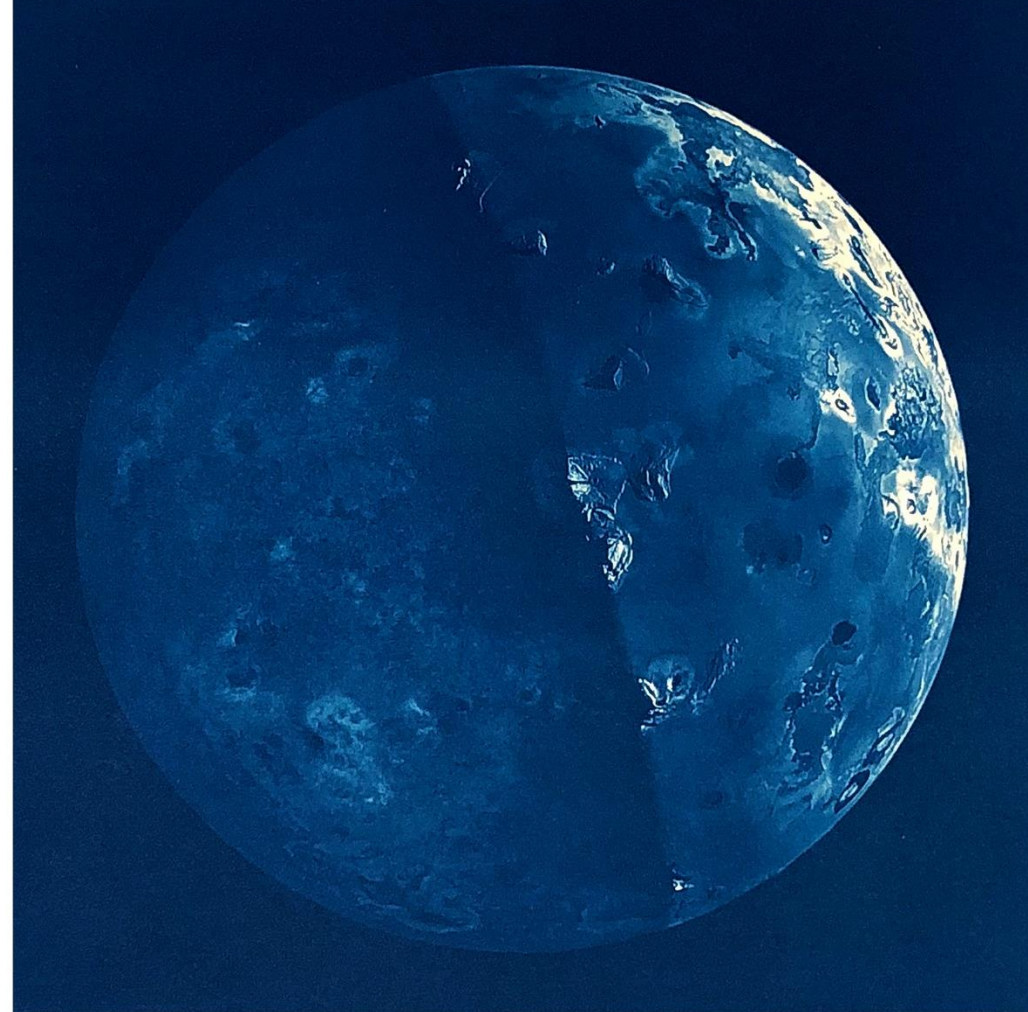
Left: *Total solar eclipse IV*. Observation from the 1914 expedition of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA) to Sollefteå, Sweden. Cyanotype produced in 2021 with original glass plate at KVA. (41 x 41 cm)

Above: Production images from working on site with original negative in September 2021.





*Venus Transit*, the transit of Venus in front of the sun, observed in 1882 from Patagonia. Unique handprint from the unidentified observer. Cyanotype produced in 2022 with original glassplate at the Observatoire Paris-Meudon site. (24 x 24 cm)



*Io*, the Jupiter moon Io observed by the Juno space probe 2023/2024. The daylight side is illuminated by the sun while the nightside shines from reflected light from Jupiter. Cyanotype produced with digitally reprocessed and printed glass negative in 2024. Original image source NASA/JPL and Emma Wälimäki (Creative Commons). (52 x 52 cm)





*Cosmic Landscape in the Carina nebula, cyanotype produced with digitally reprocessed and printed glass negative in 2024. Original image source from the James Webb Space Telescope, 2022. (128 x 82 cm)*





*IRAS 14568-6304*, newly formed star photographed with the Hubble Space Telescope. Cyanotype produced with digitally reprocessed and printed glass negative in 2021. (56 x 76 cm)



*Abandoned Solar Telescope, Capri*, cyanotype produced with digitally reprocessed and printed glass negative in 2022. Photographer Cecilia Ömalm. (56 x 76 cm)





Installation view from *Stockholm Cosmology* at Liljevalchs Art Museum in Stockholm 14/6-18/8 2024. Shown in image are 13 of the 29 exhibited cyanotypic works as well as the original glass negative from the KVA 1914 solar eclipse expedition. (see images on page 1)