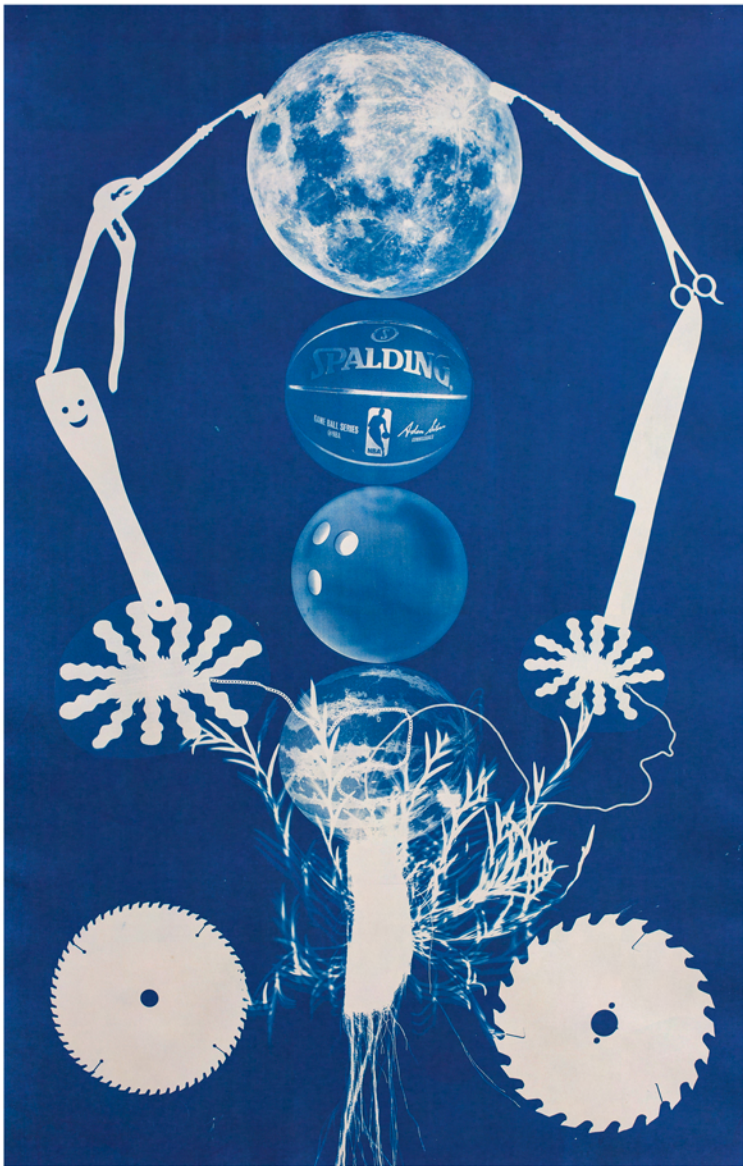


**ARVO LEO**

**SUNSHINE  
PLAYS A  
MAJOR PART  
IN THE  
DAYTIME**

**p.  
65**

A selection of self-portraits  
made by various species of orchid plants  
using the cyanotype process



*AN ORCHID  
GIVING EXCESS MOONLIGHT BACK  
TO THE MOON*

If plants are the beings  
who are able to terrestrialize this magical  
alien energy emitted from the sun,  
they are also the beings who understand  
when they have had enough:  
who will return an excess  
rather than drowning themselves  
in unnecessary abundance.



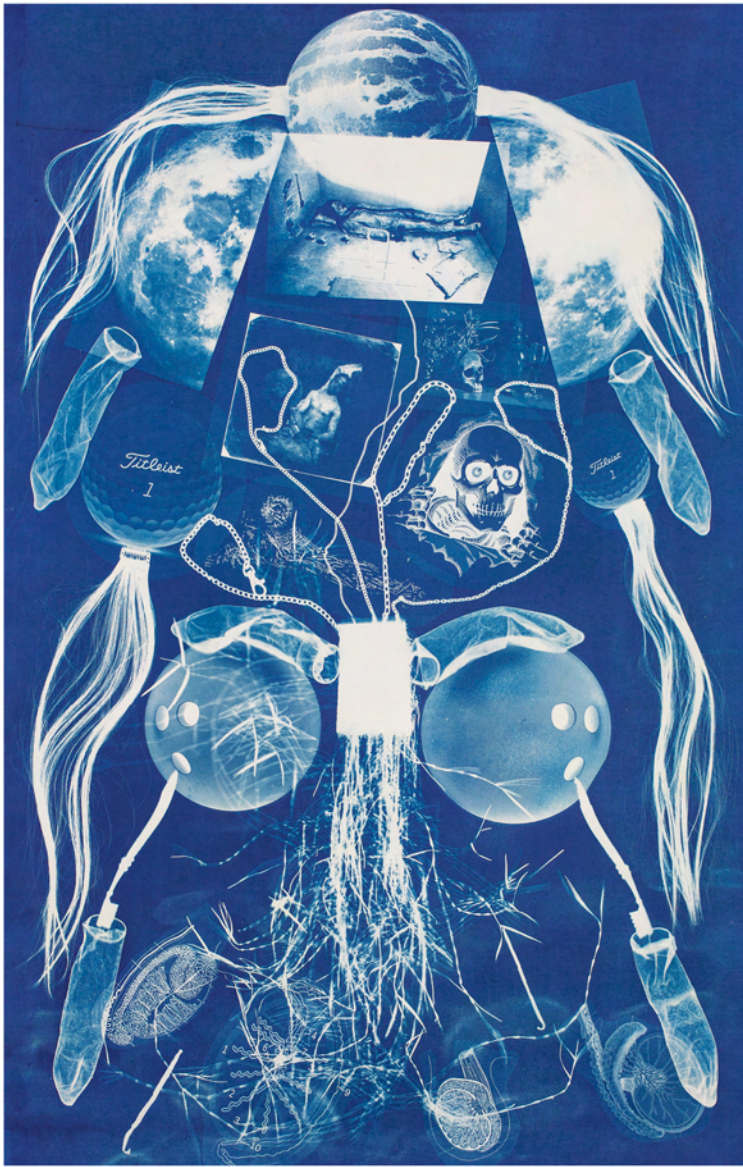
*AN ORCHID  
SURROUNDED BY BUTTERCUP  
FLOWERS, PEANUTS,  
AND DISH-SCRUBBER BODYGUARDS/  
WEARING A WEDDING VEIL WITH  
VANILLA SEEDPOD ANTENNAE/  
BEING FANNED BY A GROUP OF  
CONDOMS HOLDING "UTOPIA HAZE"  
CANNABIS LEAVES*



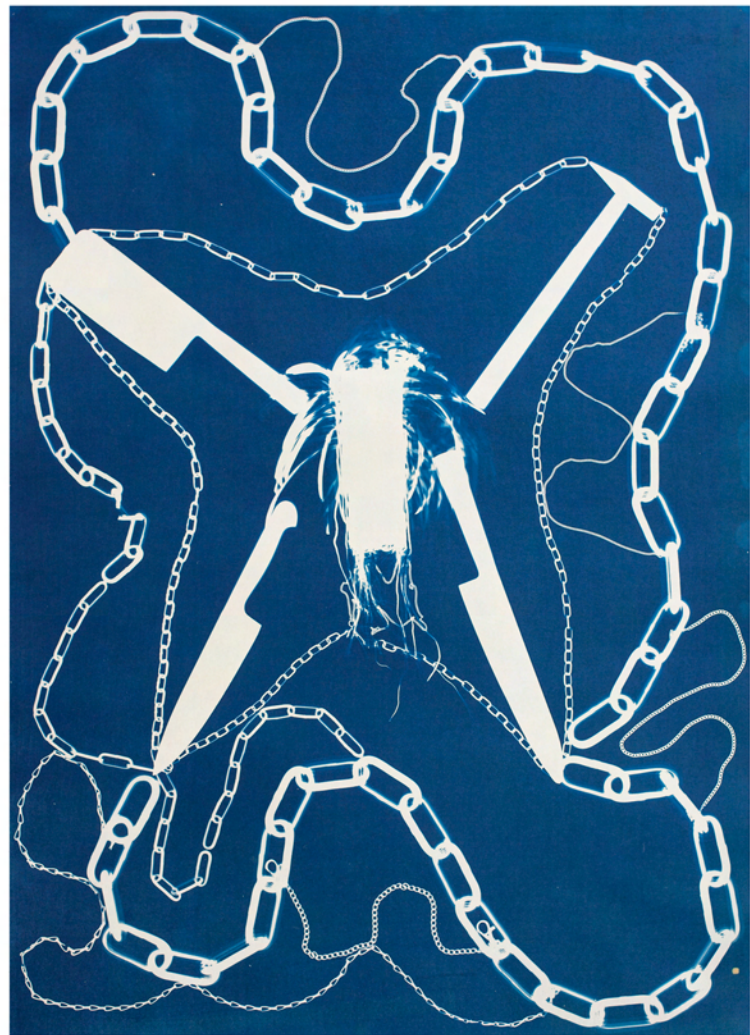
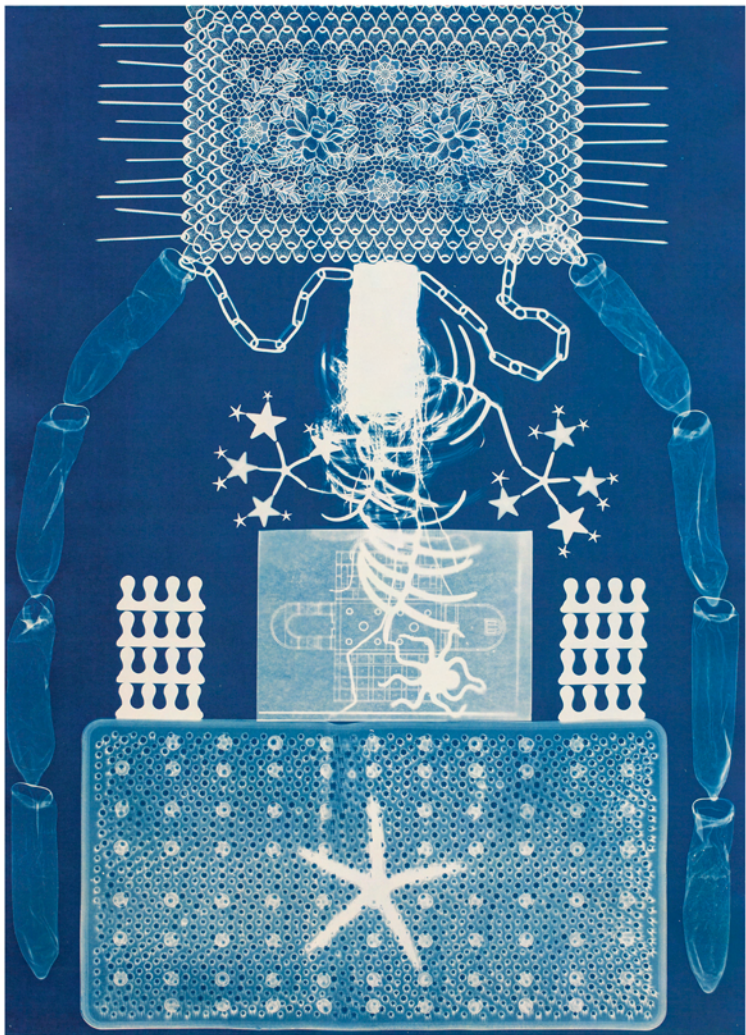
*BLIND DATE WITH  
A TIRED EYE*

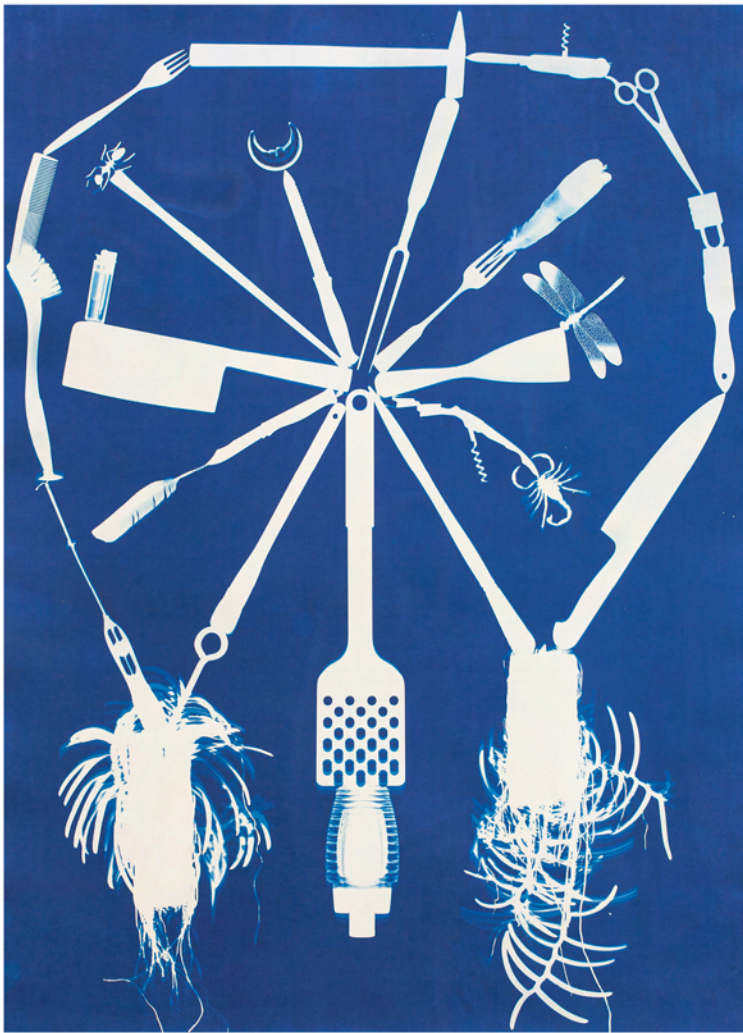
hammer, scissors, lighter,  
swimming goggles, silver necklace,  
smiling spatula, menstrual pads,  
meat fork, toothbrush, dining fork, knife,  
empty gum packet, condoms,  
honey bottle, ginkgo biloba leaves,  
coral from the Amsterdam Shell Museum,  
necklace of glass trade beads, screws,  
puzzle pieces, cannabis leaves, coins,  
clear polka-dotted hair protector,  
wood saw blade, plastic bag, dragon fly,  
chains, vanda orchid, glass ashtray,  
crab, small vibrator.

## THE HISTORY OF BALLS



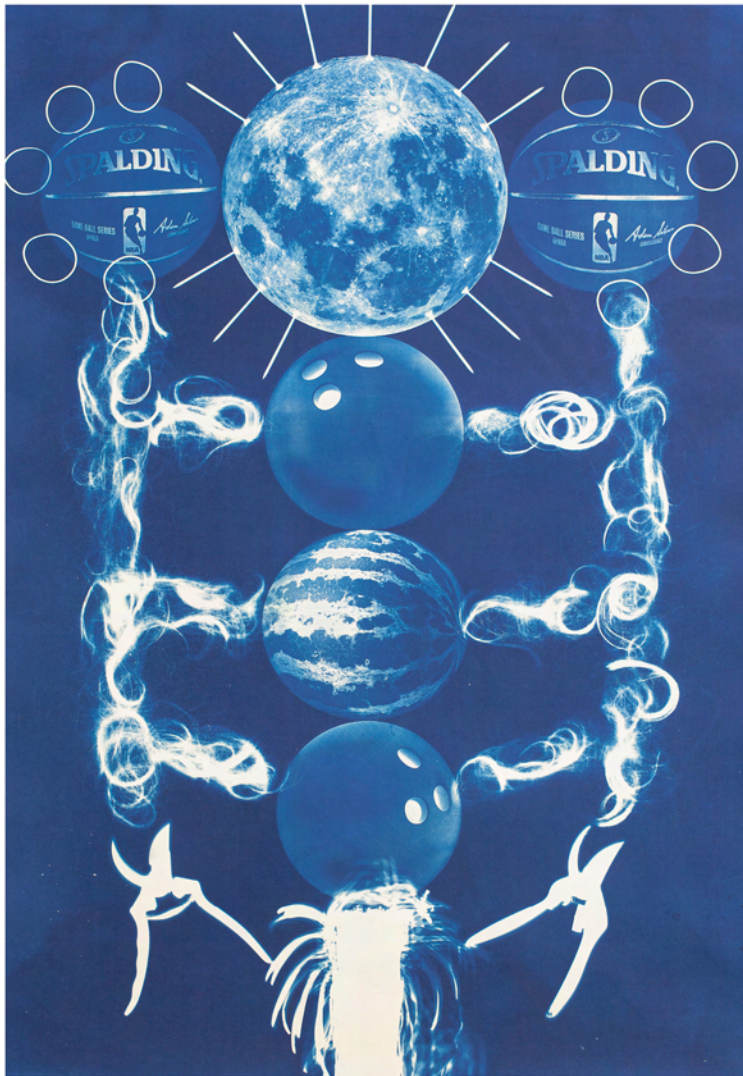
Orchids were named orchids by the Greeks because there is a type of orchid that grows in the ground around Greece that has two underground tubers (food storage balls) that look a lot like testicles (testicle in Greek is *orchis*, ὄρχις ). Here we see an orchid with numerous chain lassos catching some famous male memento mori skeletons in order to pull their canonical legacies out of the history books and into an ossuary (bone house).





*TWO ORCHIDS  
BUILD A CONTRAPTION TO GET HONEY  
OUT OF A PLASTIC BOTTLE*

The orchids apply confused yet elegant McGyverian kinetic survival techniques within an anthropocentric tool-laden studio environment in order to steal the honey back from the humans. In Arvo Leo's film we witness the orchids having a funeral for a dead Ikea orchid that culminates with one of the orchids pouring honey over the deceased plant.



## *INTERGALACTIC HAIRCUT*

After a gang of orchids have cut off the hair of a sleeping/unconscious human they launch the hair into space so it can travel to other galaxies, like light does and like shadows do. Who said hair and fingernails are the most plant-like parts of the human body?