



ROWAN ASPINALL

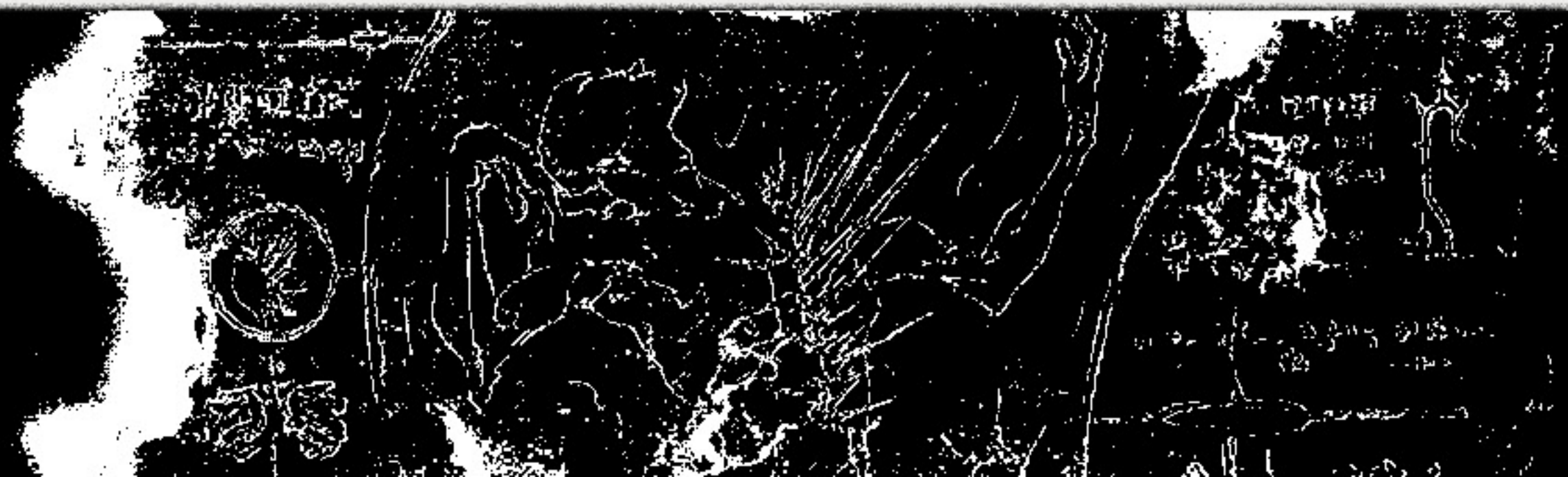


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IG: @sunspitter

rowanaspinall.com

“ R E L I C ”



'Relic' is a showcase of artifacts from two opposing fictional belief systems. I'm fascinated by the idea of visual authenticity and replication in my work, exercising this sentiment through this project's false world-building within our own.

The presentation of these relics attempts to emulate a museum's experience, whilst leading viewers through with fragments of narrative and exposition. 'Relic's original outcome was going to be a zine following a similar format but I was unable to pursue this direction due to my current facilities.





OTUM

noun, \o-tum\

A cult based on the teachings and ritual self-sacrifice of Imis Aal.



INTRA

noun, \'intrəz\

A system of disciplines opposing Otum's philosophies, founded by Imis' brother Una.

*“In resigning oneself to the
ether, we relinquish the ill-fated
path of control.”*

- Imis Aal





Found 1985, Porthor Abedaron

Aine (b. 98 CE)

'Passage of Imis' 150 CE

Engraving on limestone tablet

This tablet illustrates the first Raze of Imis Aal, the genesis of Otum's philosophies. Witnessing his demise, the previous followers of Imis were divided by this act - his brother Una forming the opposing belief of self-agency and preservation known as 'Intra'. This is amongst four of its kind known as the 'Nil' tablets, engraved by Imis' follower Aine.



• **OTUM**

Unknown (N/A)

'Raze' ring, 205 CE

Otum Brass Ecclesiastical ring

The term 'Raze' defines the Otum ritual of self-sacrifice first committed by the harbinger Imis Aal. Described as becoming 'one with all', the act embodied a resignation of control and agency over the outside world. This ring depicts the torso of Imis following the first Raze, his ribcage contorting and cracking as "light spilled from his chest". Otum's symbol is said to represent the appearance of Imis' sternum, also visible in this ring.



Found 2003, Omev Strand Connemara



"..and in the raze, the light poured from his chest, his ribcage appearing like an angel's hands."

- Passage Of Imis, Nil tablets

• **OTUM**



"I wish not for my sacrifice to influence others, but perhaps inspire them."

- Imis Aal, Nil tablets

• OTUM



Unknown (N/A)

'Ou', 223 CE

Oil painting on linen

The 'Ou' is a prominent symbol of Otum appearing in the later stages of the belief's timeline. Other than the familiar Raze symbology depicted by the emblem there is very little known about the painting; appearing unfinished in areas such as the middle and fourth finger.

*“Wear this withdrawl like armour; for
inside, we are surely infinite.”*

- Una Aal





Found 1995, Marros Pendine

Meso Carne (b. 134 CE)

'Oevi', 171 CE

Intra etching on parchment

Etched by Intra scholar Carne, the *Oevi* signifies the purest form of self-retraction. This etching portrays the human eye encased by rock, symbolising Intra's philosophy of knowledge through total introspection. However the meaning of the surrounding ring-like form is somewhat unclear - often speculated to represent the five human senses.

*"Wear this withdrawl like armour; for
inside, we are surely infinite."*

- *Omni scriptures*



Found 2011, Mwnt Ceredigion

Miser (b. 108 CE)

***Laum Idol* , 155 CE**

Intra Oil painting on linen

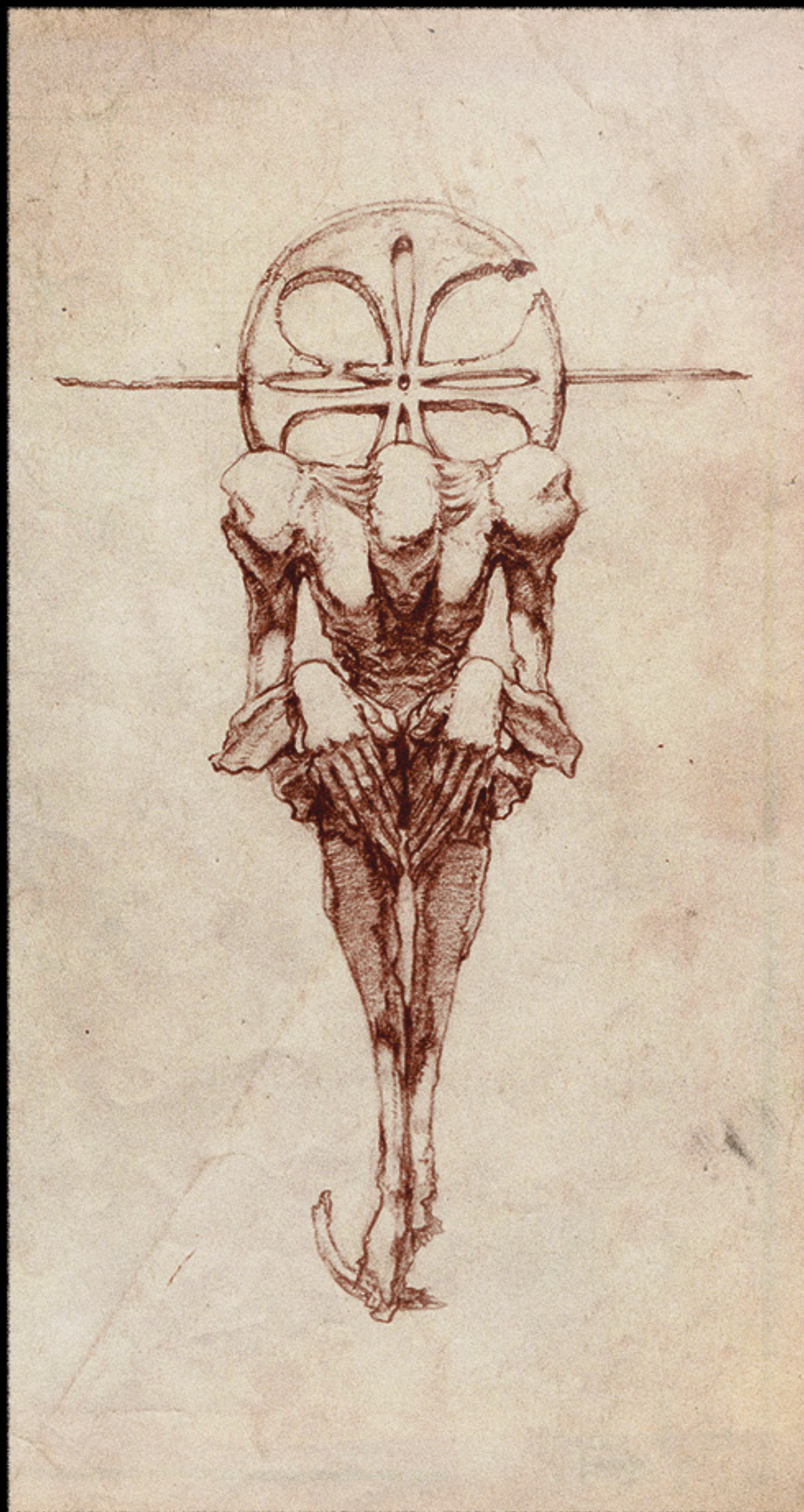
The artist Miser was a renowned follower and early pupil of Una Aal, founder of the Intra philosophy. The term Laum is defined by the self in a 'retractive state', signified by aspects of the idol such as appearing asleep and the lower half's decay. Curiously, the spiked insignia appears to be a clear nod to Otum's Raze symbolism; its decay indicative of Intra's rejection of their cult-like beliefs.



"Unseeing, unbeing. The silence gave way to clarity."

- Una Aal, 'In the Wake of Waste'

• **INTRA**



Found 1970, Tywyn Point Monastery



"Within, I can see him again. My foolish naive brother."

- Una Aal, 'In the Wake of Waste'

• **INTRA**

Miser (b. 108 CE)

***Laum Idol*, 156 CE**

Intra silverpoint drawing on paper

It is believed that Miser's complex oil paintings were preceded by silverpoint drawings, this being the sole evidence. Like the other Idol of the same name, it is amongst several symbolic depictions of the retractive state described as 'Laum'. The meaning of the decorative symbol behind the idol remains unknown.



WATCH THE PROCESS:



Thanks to:

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@sunspitter

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