

Density of Tommaso Campanella
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In oblique trajectory, at high speed, Tommaso Campanella's poetry comes back in my work, and I would like it to come back here on *Arshake*, day after day, for everyone. I took thirty texts from the original 1622 edition of Campanella's *Selected Philosophical Poems*, trying to highlight two interwoven themes: the metaphysical, cosmic, immaterial and conceptual reflection, to which Campanella is able to give an incredible poetic thickness; and, on the other hand, the body of the real, starting from Campanella's own physical suffering, Campanella tortured in prison because of a historical change of paradigm to which his thought and his actions took part like the ones of other 17th century European figures (Galileo, Bruno, Descartes, Spinoza, etc.). Their stories create a link with our times, in which more sophisticated and (sometimes, at least in Western countries) less violent forms of exclusion and political control of free thought take place every day. I vectorised and reorganised certain parts of the digital version of the original edition of the philosophical poems by Campanella and I put them together – for the non Italian visitors – with Sherry Roush's remarkable English translations, previously published in 2011 in a volume titled *Selected Philosophical Poems of Tommaso Campanella* (The University of Chicago Press). As often in my artistic work, poetry is both conceptual and spatial. Conceptual because of the “semi-immaterial” nature of language, which permanently exceeds its physical manifestation, particularly in the emotional and semantic wideness of the poetic word. Spatial because such semi-immaterial nature is precisely not entirely immaterial, since it stems from a certain typographical disposition, from a typo-carto-graphy subversively affecting real and digital spaces with its semantic and thus newly physical density (also in the German sense of *Dichtung*, accordingly to a false but beautiful etymology). This oblique textual surface is made for experience. Concept and space are reunited in it under the aegis of the poetic language.