



The Eileen S. Kaminsky
Family Foundation (ESKFF) presents:
Chittrovanu Mazumdar: *undated Nightskin*



Installation view: Chittrovanu Mazumdar, *Untitled*, 2007

April 30–December 22, 2017
3rd Floor Gallery

Public reception: April 30, 2017, from 1PM–6PM

JERSEY CITY, NJ, April 12, 2017—In *undated Nightskin*, illumination and darkness form a central axis in Chittrovanu Mazumdar's work. The Indo-French artist's installations are punctuated by a sense of disembodiment and meditations on the subjective experience of time.

At the heart of Mazumdar's work sits the inevitable tension between dark and light. Darkness forms a first impression. Swelling and pervasive, it evokes vulnerability and desire. In the dark, we experience total blindness, our surroundings are illegible. The artist's work is the story of this long night.

The emergence of light is subdued and revelatory. It is a light that is precious, only allowed to blink and flicker, and dim for fear it will be lost. This is not the light of Kolkata, the artist's home, a sprawling, electrified city in Eastern India. Instead, Mazumdar evokes the light of Jharkhand, a small, impoverished state nearby. He returns to Jharkhand again and again, to the land passed down from his father, experiencing the endless darkness of this alien place. There, light is an encounter beyond commodity. In Jharkhand, light is deified.

—Avni Doshi

ABOUT MANA CONTEMPORARY

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Our philosophy, rooted in rich histories of the Seven Liberal Arts—where interdisciplinarity was seen as a solution to ending conventional thinking—intends to create a dialogue between the liberal arts, visual arts, and new media. Our purpose is to provide the kindling needed to spark opportunities among individuals and communities for the open exchange of ideas—and ultimately exercise our freedom as autonomous thinkers.

PRESS CONTACT

press@manacontemporary.com

Mana Contemporary
888 Newark Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306
manacontemporary.com