



Iván Navarro The missing monument for Washington DC

biennial	opening	www
May 1st to June 13th, 2010	May 1st, 2010 at 6 pm. (progressive opening of the biennial on the day of Saturday May 1st, 2010)	manifdart.org

From May 1st to June 13th, 2010, LA CHAMBRE BLANCHE and the Manif d'art 5 present *The missing monument for Washington DC* by Iván Navarro. Transforming lighting fixtures into sculptural elements, he makes politically charged work that is highly sensitive to the disinformation strategies of dictatorship and the double-talk of liberal democracies. Within the framework of the Manif d'art 5 having for title *Catastrophe? Quelle catastrophe!*, the Chilean artist will investigate the dark side of the light. His artwork tackles political failure and specifically Augusto Pinochet's seventeen-year dictatorship in Chile, a reign marked by torture, murder, and government-ordered disappearances.

Navarro's haunting video *The Missing Monument for Washington CD* refers to folksinger and songwriter Victor Jara, killed in September 1973 in Chile Stadium by Pinochet's forces. Two darkly-dressed barefoot figures ambiguously appear in an empty space with white bags over their heads. One is on all four, bearing the weight of the other who quietly and resolutely recites Jara's poem « Estadio Chile » [Chile Stadium], while, acoustic guitar in hand, strumming a single chord. A sculpture recasts the video's unfolding as a fluorescent-tube rendering of a crouched human figure bearing a stack of paper on its "back". These giveaway sheets reproduce a still from the video on one side and Jara's poem on the other. Together, these works speak to catastrophe's dispersive work, raising the veil on the horror of a repression.

Iván Navarro was born in Santiago, Chile, 1972, and lives in New York since 1996. His work has been exhibited widely throughout Latin America, the United States, Europe and Australia in institutions such as the Whitney Museum at Altria, New York; Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC; MOCA Miami; Witte de With, Rotterdam; Prague Biennale 2, Prague; Adelaide Festival, Adelaide, Australia; Museo Nacional de Arte, Lima; Centro Cultural Matucana 100, Santiago. His work is also found in many international collections including Saatchi Collection, London; Margulies Collection, Miami; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond; and Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Paris. He represents his country of origin at the last Biennial of Venice.

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