

Unrealised Potential

ARTIST: Christine Wong Yap

TITLE: Dark Light, White Light

Outline of Unrealised Potential

As an artist investigating optimism and pessimism, I'm interested in the aesthetic, symbolic and phenomenological potential of light and dark. One of our most basic needs, illumination is central to our concepts of sight, knowledge and enlightenment. Light embodies multiple paradoxes: wave and particle, physical and immaterial, mundane and transcendent. Paired with my interest in objecthood, I would like to see two light-and-dark-based inventions realised for their potentials as useful consumer goods and media for artistic production.

DARK LIGHT: a light that shines dark.

A lamp that casts a throw of darkness.

Models and uses:

- Clamp-style *Dark Lights* allow people to take naps in bright rooms;
- Portable *Dark Lights* create personal cones of darkness on airplanes;
- Desk models help workers view dim laptops;
- *Dark Light* lamps fit into track lighting create dark spaces in galleries in which to show new media or light-sensitive art;
- Keychain models help ATM patrons view faltering LCD screens.

WINDOW LIGHT: a double-duty window and light source.

An optical-quality window with phosphors that re-emit light after dusk. The window will look like a typical glass window in daytime—either transparent or tinted white for skylights. After dusk, the window will phosphoresce. Its luminosity will be comparable to the light of an overcast day, suitable for reading, yet soft and relaxing for evening. In its lit state, it will gain opacity for privacy, while simultaneously illuminating nearby grounds for security. The phosphors will gradually dim over four to six hours, coinciding with human circadian rhythms.

Window Lights' luminosity can be modified with a two-part window treatment. A scrim will increase daytime privacy and reduce undesirable brightness. A black-out curtain will provide total darkness at any hour. *Window Lights* will reduce energy consumption worldwide. Even windowless sites will benefit: the material can be injection-molded as light fittings and paired with 50/50 timers to halve energy consumption. Further, *Window Lights* will make ideal skylights in galleries and art studios, where they will be prized for the quality of their soft, shadow-free, full-spectrum light. *Window Lights* will also represent a huge development in phosphorescent, optical media. *Window Light's* passive lighting system will substantially reduce energy use, more than enough to offset the energy consumed by the *Dark Light*.

Suggested Artists

See above

Signed on behalf of Christine Wong Yap by Unrealised Potential, (Chavez-Dawson, Ely & Harris).

Date

For Terms and Conditions see:
www.unrealisedprojects.org



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