

# PHOTOINK

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## AFTER PARTY

### Photographs by Dhruv Malhotra

**On view:** 25<sup>th</sup> June – 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2015

**Gallery hours:** Tuesday – Saturday, 11 am – 7 pm

Closed on Mondays and national holidays

PHOTOINK is very pleased to present Dhruv Malhotra's third solo exhibition of colour photographs, *After Party*. This exhibition concludes the trilogy, *After Dark*, which also marks the end of Malhotra's relationship with the night, spanning eight years. In the first series, *Noida Soliloquy*, Malhotra photographed the night with a burning curiosity to reveal what lay in its shadows — the city was an abstract world, an otherworld where he struggled to find himself. And he made luminous and disconcerting photographs of the desolate spaces he found. With the second series, *Sleepers*, his relationship with the night became one of familiarity and control — finally he was on firmer ground and no longer constrained by geography. With this freedom, he sometimes negotiated a safe space for himself amidst a sea of sleeping figures and at other times he transgressed boundaries, which put him at considerable risk.

In the third and final chapter of the trilogy, Malhotra's experience of the night is no longer marked by chance or the unknown. There is a noticeable sobriety in the *After Party* photographs where the night no longer dominates with its omnipresence or what it illuminates or hides in its dark shadows. Instead, Malhotra shifts the narrative and focuses on the temporality of spaces that get transformed between night and day. These are not spaces he stumbled upon but actively sought out. The itinerant photographer in him makes way for the premeditative photographer.

## BIOGRAPHY

Dhruv Malhotra (b.1985) grew up in Jaipur. He majored in Economics but chose to pursue his life as a photographer. His works have focused on urban areas, cities at night and have engaged with issues of progress, modernity and the otherworldly.

His first solo exhibition, *Noida Soliloquy* was held at PHOTOINK in 2010. Photographs from his second series, *Sleepers* had a solo presentation at the 2010 Brighton Photo Biennial in the exhibition, *New Ways of Looking*, curated by Martin Parr. Photographs from *Sleepers* were also included in the exhibition, *The Matter Within* at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco (2011) and a 3-person exhibition titled, *Transitions: Urban Landscapes*, curated by Deepak Ananth at The British School at Rome, Rome (2012). *Sleepers* was exhibited at PHOTOINK in 2013. Malhotra's works were also included in the exhibition, *City Dwellers – Contemporary Art from India* at the Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, USA (2014) and at Off Festival Bratislava, curated by Zuzana Lapidkova, Bratislava, Slovakia (2014).

Malhotra's works have been widely collected and also reside in the private collection of PIER 24, (San Francisco, USA) and Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, (New Delhi, India) and the Collection of Sanjay Parthasarathy and Malini Balakrishnan (Seattle, USA). He lives between Jaipur and New Delhi.