

Variety

art

PAST, PERFECT

A clever and interactive exhibition that merges memory and technology, Narendra Yadav's latest solo is unforgettable



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Life is too short indeed. A life led can be distilled down to a repository of images. The photograph, other reflections (including your own), random tokens of identity, fragile and time-weathered, comprise *Memory Minus Me*, a nine-piece show of remarkable tech-wizardry, clever interactive possibilities, and sometimes sheer genius.

One particular installation features glasses placed on a wooden table, each containing a sepia-tinted photograph of someone's past. Next to this is a pasta maker, providing you the option of shredding someone else's past, the disconcerting choice being left to you. In the event that you do shred a photograph, the thin strips of this obliterated record are then used as the ingredients of a fresh video projection.

Another hypnotic experience is Yadav's homemade halo-maker in which you stand in front of a charity box (with a chink to show off your benevo-

lence). A mirror in front of you, aided by a wheel and dynamo-powered bicycle light, creates a halo-like ring above your head. Yet another experiential showcase has four photographs in a 35mm slide projector, each manipulated to a texture somewhere between out-of-focus and so-out-of-focus-that-it's-digital-now.

To highlight the connection between memory and the fragility of life itself, Yadav also throws the mirror onto you to comment on ego, narcissism, the 'me' in *Memory Minus Me*. At the heart of the artist's fantastic solo is an innate sadness of how mortality and the fear of death itself, are majestic catalysts that instigates our desire to record, to keep in mind, to (re)store images that comprise an idea of you. How much of you can you take? Who do you need, who do you love, when you come undone? Find out for yourself at Narendra Yadav's rather impressive experiment which opens today.



Memory Minus Me by Narendra Yadav is showing at The Warehouse (Gallery Maskara), 6/7, 3rd Pasta Lane, Colaba, until May 21. Tel: 22023056