



John Massey - Clip 7

From Dawn's Early Light Until Twilight's Last Gleaming

This was a work that was done in 1988. It was originally made for two small rooms at a place called The Mattress Factory in Pittsburgh. This is an organization that gives space to artists in buildings that they have reclaimed from the depressed areas in Pittsburgh,

They offered me two 19th century residential sized rooms to work with that were adjoined. My response was to once again make models of the rooms. In this case I used a cinematic model maker so I didn't actually construct the models. I then photographed the small interiors. One, I lit for *Dawn* and the other I lit for *Twilight*. I then made sepia-toned prints, framed them and hung the photographs in the rooms they replicated.

You have this very pure looking space that is historicized around the idea of dawn and twilight, which of course is a reference to the American national anthem and the whole construct around individuality. The photographs were very perspectival receding into the infinity of fixed point perspective. They were the valorization of really being in space.

The work is a kind of homage to, an idea about being in space that was utterly passing.

