

TAKE NINAGAWA

Take Ninagawa

2-12-4 HigashiAzabu, Minatoku
Tokyo 1060044 Japan
tel&fax:+81-(0)3-5571-5844
info@takeninagawa.com
www.takeninagawa.com

Chikara Matsumoto

Through enigmatic, animist imagery such as chairs engulfed in flames or personified animals, Tokyo underground VJ and animation artist **Chikara Matsumoto** (b. 1967) creates scores of drawings inspired by transcendent experiences, which he then links together randomly to compose films. Disrupting linear thought processes, these films create the presentiment of a narrative always on the verge of beginning but never achieving any kind of resolution.

Executed in simple materials such as crayon, Matsumoto's drawings reflect a *heta-uma* aesthetic, popularized by independent manga comics, in which deliberate crudeness expresses artistic sophistication. A frequent collaborator of the electronic music group organ-o-rounge, Matsumoto also makes special constructions in which to exhibit his work, such as the *Chikara Pod* (2005), a small, mobile pavilion made of scrap wood adorned by found film reels and a klieg light, with original drawings lining its interior.

Matsumoto's animations have been exhibited and screened at some of the world's leading institutions including the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Centre A, Vancouver; the Henie Onstad Art Centre, Norway; and Collection Lambert, Avignon. In 2008, Matsumoto was included in the group show "Kita! Japanese Artists Meet Indonesia," organized by the Japan Foundation at multiple venues in Jakarta, Yogyakarta and Semarang, and had a solo exhibition at the leading alternative space graf media gm in Osaka. The most recent exhibition was a group show "Mind as Passion" held at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan from January to March in 2009.