

Knight, Christopher. "A Mural of Color, Line and Light." *Los Angeles Times*, 25 November 2005, sec. E, p. 38.

A mural of color, line and light

Abstraction has been an integral element to **Sandeep Mukherjee's** previous work, but it has always been mixed with figurative elements. With the lovely new mural that is the monumental centerpiece to his first solo show with Sister Gallery, viewers are the only figures in sight.

Each of five vertical sections of the mural is 8 feet high, and together they're 24 feet wide. The panels are made from synthetic white vellum, which Mukherjee scores with a needle and folds in linear rays. The translucent vellum absorbs and reflects light, while the folds cast shadows that

[See *Galleries*, Page E39]

[*Galleries*, from Page E38]

shift as you move along the painting's length.

Each panel is painted in acrylic ink with a curved sweep of luxurious, jewel-tone color — turquoise blue, amethyst, burnt sienna, olive green and golden brown — that extends to at least two edges. The fields of color are further articulated with splotches, apparently made with droplets of water, which trace a spiral path. Some spirals move clockwise, others counterclockwise.

The folded rays of paper only partly enter the colored fields, and sometimes they abut and shoot off in another direction. The mural's surface is complex, in physical form and illusionist space.

The result is an ecstatic abstraction, built from color, line, movement and light. Like the dance done by a whirling dervish, who positions himself between material and cosmic worlds, Mukherjee's mural is rapturous.

Sister Gallery, 437 Gin Ling Way, Chinatown, (213) 628-7000, through Dec. 17.
Closed Sundays through Tuesdays.
www.sisterla.com