

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact: Casey Stranahan, Director  
casey@octaviaartgallery.com / 713-877-1810

February 11, 2016



**Irby Pace – *Abracadabra***  
FotoFest 2016 Participating Space  
March 11 – April 9, 2016

Opening Reception: Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 6pm – 8pm  
Octavia Art Gallery - 3637 West Alabama St. #120, Houston, Texas

Octavia Art Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition by guest-artist Irby Pace during FotoFest International 2016. The exhibition will focus on Pace's *Explosions in the Sky* series which features void spaces inhabited by disconcerting yet beautiful colorful puffs of smoke. The artist will be in attendance for the opening reception on March 12<sup>nd</sup> and the exhibition will continue through April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Pace's current body of work is rooted in his fascination with negative space and its secondary role in the visual world. In some ways Pace believes the void can represent what is lacking in the human experience, and to explore this concept, he brings empty spaces to the forefront of his photographs. The colored smoke inhabiting each place further pushes the alien nature of Pace's found voids, transforming what might normally be seen as an ordinary environment into something extraordinary.

Pace was born in Odessa, Texas and completed his MFA at the prestigious College of Visual Art and Design at the University of North Texas. He has exhibited across Texas and California, and has exhibited internationally in Germany. Pace's work has been featured in the Huffington Post, Wired Magazine, and many other regional and national publications. Pace currently lives and works in Alabama where he is an Assistant Professor in Photography and Video at Troy University and is represented by Galleri Urbane Marfa + Dallas.

---

Established in 2008, Octavia Art Gallery showcases the work of international emerging and established contemporary artists along with modern masters. Gallery founder Pamela Bryan is interested in the preservation and conservation of unique and authentic artistic cultures worldwide. Both our Houston and New Orleans offices offer collection management and art advising services aimed at cultivating new and established corporate and private art collections.

Image: Irby Pace, Kudzu (2016) – Courtesy of the Artist and Galleri Urbane