

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Tobias Fike** *Then and now and then*

May 2 – 31, 2014

Opening reception: Friday, May 2nd, 7 – 9 pm  
Artist in attendance. / Free and open to the public.

For a preview of the exhibition [click here](#).



**Tobias Fike**, *Light describing a tree*, 2014, set of 4 c-prints, 9 x 50 inches (22.9 x 127 cm) installed, Edition of 5

David B. Smith Gallery is delighted to announce *Then and now and then*, an exhibition of new works by interdisciplinary artist Tobias Fike. Fike's work maintains a personal, at times biographical, bent with a simple, approachable style that is balanced with incredible nuance and a foundation of rigorous conceptual inquiry. For *Then and now and then*, Fike continues to explore the passage of time and his experience of it, while offering relatable insights to any and all viewers.

A cornerstone of the exhibition, the site-specific installation, *Accumulation: A Mountain of Stars*, is a ten-foot-tall pyramid of cardboard boxes representing the 75 stars, in 41 constellations, that are visible to the naked eye at 38 light-years away. The work, while offering a captivating sculptural form, functions as a visual measure for the artist's time on earth. The material structure of the work, generic cardboard boxes, is a common, somewhat generic agent—while the final impression, a rising, twinkling collage of the night sky, creates a temporal mapping of Fike's specific existence through the time that the light has now traveled through space.

In addition to two videos, the exhibition will feature several projection-based sculptural works, as well as a series of photographic works by Fike and frequent collaborator, artist Matthew Harris. Their collaborative performance work and the resulting forms of its documentation and corollary works explore the relational, energetic combining of their personal forms and energies, as well as concepts of play, performance, and masculinity. For this exhibition, Fike and Harris have answered a 2011 performance, titled *Repeated failures of trying to do what we thought we were doing* with a second project, titled *Night Tracing*. The six photographs in the exhibition embody the dynamism that is inherent to their performances, while functioning as frozen tableaux chronicling aspects of these actions: perseverance, formal inquiry, as well as the role of experimentation and chance.

Please join us in celebrating the opening of the exhibition from 7 - 9 pm on Friday, May 2nd. A performance work will occur during the opening at 8 pm. In addition, the exhibition will be accompanied by a full-color catalogue which will be available at our [webstore](#) in late May.

**About Tobias Fike**

Tobias Fike is an interdisciplinary, contemporary artist who lives and works outside of Denver, Colorado. The form of his work is varied and he approaches a range of concepts, from his personal experiences of family, place, and grief, to our temporal relationship with the universe and observations of time. Fike was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, moved to Kansas City when he was ten, then later returned to Lincoln to attend the University of Nebraska, where he earned a BFA in 2000. He earned his MFA from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2011. In addition to national tours showcasing his rich performance and collaboration-based projects, including sound performances with The Flinching Eye Collective, Fike's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, with exhibitions in cities Berlin, Germany; Coimbra, Portugal; Houston, TX; and Tucson, AZ, among others.

**About David B. Smith Gallery**

David B. Smith Gallery is Denver's venue for compelling contemporary art. The gallery specializes in the exhibition and sale of progressive contemporary artwork from emerging and mid-career international artists. Since its founding in 2007, the gallery has been committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions featuring work from some of today's most dynamic artists with growing international reputations. Through participation in leading art fairs and extensive media coverage, David B. Smith Gallery has grown a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works." The gallery is located on Wazee Street in the historic LoDo neighborhood of Denver. In addition to its curatorial program, David B. Smith Gallery maintains an active publishing division, which produces limited edition artist prints, monographs, and exhibition catalogues.