

Karl Hofmann: In the Balance



WHEN: December 1, 2017 – January 13, 2018
Opening Reception: **First Friday, December 1, 5-8pm**

WHERE: 516 ARTS, 516 Central Ave. SW, Downtown Albuquerque

HOW MUCH: Free

PUBLIC INFO: 505-242-1445, www.516arts.org

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New monumental sculpture by Albuquerque artist Karl Hofmann articulates a delicate balance

516 ARTS presents *In the Balance*, a large-scale installation by Karl Hofmann. This solo project transforms the front windows and entrance space of 516 ARTS to create a monumental, intricate and playful sculptural environment that utilizes form, color and light. Using repurposed scrap building materials, Hofmann uses harmony and lyricism to build tension and interest with surprising and unexpected results.

Hofmann says, "My work is about the struggle to achieve both compositional and literal balance. The title of this project references the profound sense of uncertainty I feel as much of the world seems to teetering between order and chaos."

By commissioning this new work, 516 ARTS is seeking to engage the city scape and street traffic in Downtown Albuquerque with non-traditional visual art. For the end of 2017 and kicking off 2018, Hofmann's ambitious work re-activates the windows and entrance of the gallery along Central Avenue in a dynamic way. Suzanne Sbarga, Executive Director of 516 ARTS, says, "It's always exciting to see how artists work with the unique 25-foot high entrance wall at 516 ARTS, the only one of its kind in the state. We encourage artists to make the most of its scale and prominence."

Karl Hofmann is an Albuquerque-based artist who combines his formal training in painting and drawing with an art practice that goes beyond the walls of a studio. His work reflects a keen eye for visual problem solving and combines aspects of Pop, Dada and Expressionism in an effort to portray the sublime, epic and phenomenal. Hofmann holds a BFA from the University of Michigan and an MFA from the University of New Mexico. He was an Artist in Residence at DaWang Culture Highland in China and is the recipient of the Arnold W. Brown Endowed Scholarship, the Florence Henri Prize and the Harry Nadler Memorial Fellowship, among other awards. His work has been and has been exhibited internationally.

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