

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Ian Fisher
They Are Ghosts

August 22— September 26, 2026
Opening Reception: Saturday, August 22, 6–8 pm
Free and open to the public | Artist in attendance

David B. Smith Gallery is thrilled to announce *They Are Ghosts*, a solo exhibition of new paintings by Los Angeles, CA-based artist Ian Fisher. Formerly a longtime Denverite, Fisher is well established in the region and internationally for his expansive portfolio of paintings featuring clouds and skies. *They Are Ghosts* is indicative of Fisher's greater art practice, encapsulating conversations that veer into the natural world, art historical convention, and the artist's inter- and intrapersonal histories.

Holding a special connection to Colorado, *Atmosphere No. 197 (Come On, Compadre. Come On!)* is based on a photograph sent to Fisher by a friend nearly 10 years ago. In this image, the pink and orange tones characteristic of Denver sunsets capture an emotive quality that correlates with warmth and friendship. Both the central work in the exhibition and the final work to be completed, *Come on, compadre. Come on!* invokes a time and feeling for the artist. From the starting point of the photograph, the context of the exhibition unfolds, one that acknowledges the past while decidedly looking into the future.



Ian Fisher, *Atmosphere No. 195 (We're Not Gonna Land on Land)*, 2026, oil on canvas, 36 x 36 in. (91.4 x 91.4 cm)

In contrast to the bright, warm colors of the Colorado sunset, accompanying works in the exhibition feature the unique quality of Los Angeles light and the dustier hues of the California coast. These works depict not only the wistful sky that has beckoned countless artists to move out west, but a personal shift for Fisher, having relocated to Los Angeles several years ago. Embedded in his cloud paintings is an abstraction of personal narrative, as told from the ground gazing upward.

Steadfast in his subject matter, there is a romanticism to Fisher's work as he holds his attention on the beauty and awe-inspiring power of nature. Fisher's paintings, rendered through layered, time-based observation, depict landscapes that resist clarity, foregrounding the instability of vision and the temporal nature of experience. Through a lens squarely trained to the skies, in *They Are Ghosts*, Ian Fischer uses the language of cloud forms to bend hyperrealism to expressive ends.

About Ian Fisher

Ian Fisher (b. 1984, Nova Scotia), is a graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder. His paintings are set within the constraint of the sky to explore the nature and history of painting while thinking of both time and beauty.

Notable exhibitions include those with Museum Voorlinden, the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, the Museum Sinclair Haus Bad Homburg, the New Mexico Museum of Art, and the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art. His work is in both private and public collections. He currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as *Artforum*, *Art in America*, and *ARTnews*, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated 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 also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.

David B. Smith Gallery is a member of the New Art Dealers Alliance (NADA).