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***Capturing the Void***

by Erik Parra

**December 7, 2013 - January 12, 2014**

**Gallery Hours:** Friday – Sunday, 12:00 – 5:00 pm and by appointment

**Opening Reception:** Saturday, December 7 from 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Nisus Gallery: 8371 N Interstate, Studio 1, Portland, OR

Nisus Gallery is pleased to present *Capturing the Void*, the gallery's first solo exhibition of new works by San Francisco based artist Erik Parra. Combining framed collage works with collage-based installation *Capturing the Void* is an experimental visual art exhibition and installation. Collage, as Parra's prevailing motif, utilizes visually appealing images and styles from the world of bygone American advertising to create a thought experiment. Opening up vital space for critical reflection of self through this immersive and productive environment.

Inspired by the architecture and Western American landscape of the mid 20th century, the imagery is initially familiar, but loaded with the myths and social baggage of that era. Parra takes advantage of this as a departure point for a metaphorical recasting. Ultimately, "...shifting scale from intimate to the inhabitable in order to shift thoughts about notions of constructing space from the grand to the personal and vice versa."

Erik Richard Parra was born and raised in the vibrant border metroplex of El Paso-Juárez. He attended The University of Texas at Austin where he studied painting and received a Bachelor of Fine Art. After graduation Erik moved to San Francisco, where he taught at the San Francisco Children's Art Center. He received his MFA from the University of Wisconsin—Madison on fellowship.

In his relatively young career he has exhibited in numerous places, including New York, London, Berlin, and at the Museu de Arte de Brasilia. In the US Parra's work has been exhibited at Blankspace Gallery, Johansson Projects, The Headlands Center for the Arts, Root Division, Southern Exposure, WE Artspace, Kala Art Institute and most recently at the University of Nevada, Reno.

*Capturing the Void* will be on display at Nisus Gallery, 8371 N Interstate, Studio 1, Portland, OR 97217 ([map link](#)), from December 7, 2013 - January 12, 2014. Nisus Gallery is open Friday – Sunday, 12:00 – 5:00 pm and by appointment. Note: Nisus will be closed for the holidays December 27-29, 2013.

About Nisus Gallery

Nisus Gallery is a contemporary arts gallery featuring emerging and career artists.

More show and artist information can be found at [niskusgallery.com](http://niskusgallery.com) or [@niskusgallery](#) | [facebook](#)

More artist information can be found at <http://erikparra.com>.

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