

Artist Statement

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Growing up in Guadalajara, Mexico's second largest city has profoundly influenced my artistic inspirations. The city was founded in 1542 and still preserves many churches, colonial buildings and traditions not merely as ancient curiosities but as very real functional components of our modern culture. Ancient Spanish and French colonial architecture adjoins modern construction seamlessly. As a child, I was unaware of their unique and respective heritages but unknowingly I was influenced by all of them.

At an early age I had the opportunity to view Jose Clemente Orozco's dramatic expressionistic style depicted in his murals in the Cabañas, one of Guadalajara's oldest churches. I was inspired by his unique use of ancient and modern symbols to represent the suffering, struggle and transformation of Mexican society. I have also been influenced by Diego Rivera's murals portraying the history, social problems and political turmoil of Mexico. More recently I have discovered Sergio Bustamante, a popular modern artist whose depictions of a magic world with his paper mache pieces that surprise the imagination.

Most recently clay has rendered a vehicle for me to transcend time to ancient cultures and explore their mystical and religious vessels. My desire to create these adaptations arises from my love of historical works of art and the mythology of my own culture. My latest ceramic pieces with a contemporary and traditional design reflect my love for organic shapes and forms complemented by the texture applied glazes.