

Artist Statement: Franco Mondini-Ruiz

My artwork has focused on a celebration of the overlooked. Often based on a context observed in my hometown, San Antonio. I have created works exploring forms of artistic expression often not considered so. Whether peddling handcrafted wares at the Whitney Biennial, serving Frito Pie at the American Academy in Rome, or installing piñata replicas of contemporary masterpieces at the Newark Museum, my work attempts to elevate a San Antonio vernacular into contemporary and internationally exhibited artistic expressions. I feel this vernacular expression carries a universal message of inclusiveness, awareness of history, cultural hybridity, and joy.