



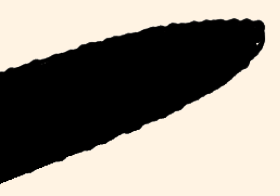
Case Code: M.I.M.O.S.A. 002-2

Item Name: "Libertad (Freedom)"

Creator: Justin Favela (@favyfav)

Creator Manifesto (sometimes called "**Artist Statement**"):

As a multidisciplinary artist, I express my identity by exploring authenticity and place using familiar materials. As a queer person of color in the United States, I find, expressing joy, taking up space, and merely existing is a political act. My interest in art history, Latinx culture, community, celebration, and home, inform my practice, with the intent of dismantling institutional hierarchies - making my work accessible and fun.



When the list of possible cars to piñata was sent to me, I immediately chose the 1984 Thunderbird because it was my mother's first car that she bought with her own money after coming to the United States from Guatemala. I remember my mom having a strong emotional attachment to that car. She wept when she had to trade it in for a minivan so she could drive our growing family around. That car was a symbol of progress for her, of independence, the end of "the American Dream" mythos.

This piñata lowrider is named "Libertad (Freedom)" and represents my mother's love for her home, Guatemala. Like many Latin American immigrants in the United States, my mother, Blanca, has worked and continues to work hard so that someday she can retire in the village where she grew up. The car was designed by mother to represent the Guatemalan flag, white in the center, and light blue on the sides with a beautiful green Quetzal on the hood, who's tailfeathers span the length of the entire top of the car. This lowrider is a celebration of her journey and dreams of living a peaceful life with true freedom.

Learn more about Mystery Island and the Marvelous Occurrence of Spontaneous Art (code name: M.I.M.O.S.A.) at www.navyyard.org/mimosa

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