

# Michael Guerra Foerster

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**Bio:** Michael Guerra Foerster is an artist living and working in San Antonio, Texas. Michael received a BFA with a concentration in ceramics from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 2018, has studied at Haystack, Penland and Arrowmont Schools of Craft, participated in residencies at Brick Gallery and Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, and exhibited nationally, including creating temporary and permanent public art pieces in San Antonio. Michael is also currently a visual arts instructor at SAY Sí (San Antonio Youth Yes) where he teaches middle and high school-age artists, who in turn regularly inspire his work. The curriculum he co-creates focuses on creating elevated and original artwork, while also promoting social justice and community centered action.

## Education:

2018 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Concentration in Ceramics, University of Texas at San Antonio, Minor in Art History

## Solo Exhibitions:

2024 *These Foolish Things*. Contemporary at Blue Star. San Antonio, Texas.

2022 *I Remember*. Brick Gallery. San Antonio, Texas.

2022 *Every Time We Say Goodbye*. Artpace. San Antonio, Texas.

2019 *Cotton Alley*. Flax Studio. San Antonio, Texas.

2019 *Uwa!! Such Floops!!* Concrete Gallery. San Antonio Texas.

## Select Group Exhibitions:

### 2024:

- *Toy Dispenser Gallery: Friendship is Magic*. Concurrent Exhibition as part of NCECA. Greater Richmond Convention Center. Richmond, Virginia.

### 2023:

- *Microbios de San Antonio*. The Brick at Bluestar. San Antonio, Texas.
- *Small Scale - Big Impact*. SAY Sí. San Antonio, Texas.
- *Red Dot*. Contemporary at Blue Star. San Antonio, Texas.
- *Community Arts Faculty Exhibition*. UTSA Southwest Russell Hill Rogers Gallery. San Antonio, TX.

### 2022:

- *Red Dot*. Blue Star Contemporary. San Antonio, Texas.
- *Small Scale - Big Change*. SAY Sí. San Antonio, Texas.
- *The Office of Possible Projects' Exhibition of Alternative Exhibition Spaces*. UARK SculptureX Gallery. Fayetteville, Arkansas.

### 2021:

- *The Language of Fiber Art*. Semmes Gallery, University of the Incarnate Word. San Antonio, Texas.
- *Red Dot*. Blue Star Contemporary. San Antonio, Texas.
- *Crustbucket Trunk Show*. Multiple Venues. Bentonville, AR; San Antonio, TX; New Orleans, LA; Houston, TX; etc.

### 2020:

- *Texas Clay: 20/20 Vision*. San Antonio Art League Museum. San Antonio, Texas.

### 2019:

- *DONUTS: a form-based show of toroidal art across mediums*. Lincoln Arts Project. Waltham, Massachusetts. (Curated by Anneloes Marina and Angela DeVesto)
- *Invisible Threads*. SAY Sí. San Antonio, Texas

### 2018:

- *Suspend*. Clyde Snook Gallery. Alamosa, Colorado.

- *Vitrified: Conversations Through Contemporary Ceramics*. Terminal 136. San Antonio, Texas. (Curated by Juan Vallejo and Ed Escobedo)
- *In Relation To*. Sala Diaz. San Antonio, Texas. (Curated by Vero Caceres)
- *After School Special*. Threadbare Cider House. Pop up show in conjunction with NCECA. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- *Extra Ordinary*. Gallery 107. San Antonio, Texas.

### **Curation:**

**2024** *Toy Dispenser Gallery: Friendship is Magic*. Concurrent Exhibition as part of NCECA. Greater Richmond Convention Center. Richmond, Virginia.

### **Residencies:**

**2023** Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts. Summer Residency III: Embracing Change. New Castle, Maine.

**2022** FOCO (Focused on Creative Opportunity) AIR. Brick Gallery. San Antonio, Texas.

### **Public Art:**

**2023** *San Antonio*. Interactive Public Installation. Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

**2021** Featured Artist in Artpace Chalk It Up 2021. Igo Public Library. San Antonio, Texas.

**2019** Featured Artist in Artpace Chalk It Up 2019. Artpace, San Antonio, Texas.

**2017 – Present** Collaborative Public Art Piece: design, build project. SCG building at UTSA. San Antonio, Texas.

### **Awards/Scholarships/Grants:**

**2023** Windgate University Fellowship (awarded through The Color Network, to attend Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts)

**2023** Watershed Merit Scholarship (to attend Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts Summer Residency)

**2022** Luminaria Working Artist Fund (grant to fund solo exhibition *I Remember*)

**2022** San Antonio Individual Artist Project Grant (to fund 2024 solo exhibition)

**2022** Studio Assistant Scholarship (to attend Penland School of Craft)

**2021** San Antonio Individual Artist Grant (to fund solo exhibition *Every Time We Say Goodbye*)

**2019** Technical Assistant Scholarship (to attend Haystack Mountain School of Crafts)

**2018** Carlos and Malu Alvarez Special Opportunities Fund (to attend NCECA)

**2017** Carlos and Malu Alvarez Special Opportunities Fund (to attend NCECA)

### **Bibliography:**

**2023** *'Dark Comedy: Ceramic artist Michael Guerra Foerster embraces the playful and the ephemeral'* Digital and Print Article and Interview. Bryan Rindfuss for the SA Current.

**2022** *'New art installation at San Antonio airport encourages breast cancer screenings.'* Digital Article. Raquel Torres for the San Antonio Report.

**2022** *'Artpace Exhibit by Foerster Builds Characters, Creates Monsters'*. Digital Article and Interview. Ashley Rocha for the San Antonio Sentinel.

**2022** *'7 Questions with... Artist Michael Guerra Foerster'*. Video Interview. City of San Antonio.

**2017** *'Hot Fresh Glazed' presents myriad of pottery'*. Digital Article. Fallon Gates for Michigan Daily.

### **Workshops:**

**2023** Spreading Joy With Clay Seed Bombs - Artpace, San Antonio, TX

**2021** Community Collaboration: Speculum Salon and Workshop w/ Nao Bustamante - Artpace, San Antonio, TX

**2020** Clay Ornaments Workshop - Artpace via Zoom, San Antonio, TX

**2019** Big Boy Ceramics Workshop – SAY Sí, San Antonio, TX

### **Teaching/Assisting:**

**2019 - Present** Teaching Artist – SAY Sí, San Antonio, TX

**2023 - Present** Adjunct Faculty - UTSA Southwest, San Antonio, TX

**2019 - 2023** Studio Assistant to Jennifer Ling Datchuk

**2020 - 2022** Adjunct Faculty – Southwest School of Art, San Antonio, TX