

# RUIZ-HEALY ART

Latinx, Latin America, & Texas Contemporary Art

Ruiz-Healy Art presents *So Marvelous, De Nuevo Florecer*, a solo exhibition by San Antonio-based artist Daniela Oliver de Portillo. The exhibition will be on view in San Antonio from August 27 to September 13, 2025, with an opening reception on August 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. An artist talk featuring Ashley Mireles, Creative Consultant and Cultural Planner contracted by San Antonio River Foundation, will be held on September 13 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Her work serves as an exploration of the domestic space, embodying the complexities of modern womanhood, family relations, and the weight of societal and self-imposed expectations.

Oliver de Portillo's process is complex—hand-formed ceramic vases, floral arrangements, digital and cyanotype photo processes, and drawings reflect the nuances of everyday life for mothers. The use of flowers is often at the forefront of the work, long associated with domestic beauty, celebration, and ritual, serving as a metaphor for the duality of perceived effortlessness and the deep complexities of motherhood. Her work aims to reveal what lies beneath society's reduced roles and expectations: the stories, histories, and identities beyond first impressions.

A mother of two children, Oliver de Portillo uses her artistic practice to explore self-identity. The artist explains, "I carved out a space—both physical and mental—for making, not without struggle, but with fierce dedication and the belief that I could be both artist and mother, whole and fractured, lost and still finding." Her titles, always presented in both English and Spanish, provide insight into her bicultural identity as a Mexican living in the U.S. since 2002, serving as personal reflections on navigating two cultures.

"This body of work quietly celebrates surviving and thriving through the disruption that is becoming a mother. It honors the tension, the labor, the beauty, and the transformation. It is for the mothers in the midst of it—those who feel unseen, divided, or on the edge. With this work, I say: I see you. I know you. You are still becoming. And you will bloom again." - Daniela Oliver de Portillo.

### **About Ruiz-Healy Art**

Founded in San Antonio, Texas, in 2006, Ruiz-Healy Art represents an international roster of artists, with a particular emphasis on Latino/a and Latin American creators, as well as prominent Texas-based artists. Biculturalism and discussions of identity are important aspects for several artists we work with. In the spring of 2019, we opened a gallery space on the Upper East Side of New York City, working in tandem with our gallery in San Antonio as a platform to disseminate the artist's work. The continuous investment in these underrepresented areas has remained a longstanding hallmark of the gallery program. The gallery is recognized for its success in placing works by our artists in prestigious museum collections ranging from the Museum of Modern Art, New York, Whitney Museum of American Art, the Smithsonian Institution, the LA County Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Antonio Museum of Art, McNay Art Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and many others.

### **About the Artist**

Daniela Oliver de Portillo is a multidisciplinary artist based in San Antonio, Texas. Her work serves as an exploration of the domestic space, embodying the complexities of modern womanhood, family relations, and the weight of societal and self-imposed expectations. Oliver de Portillo studied studio art and communications at Trinity University and apprenticed with Mario Pacchioli in Florence, Italy. Her work has been shown at the McNay Art Museum, Contemporary at Blue Star, the San Antonio River Foundation, Clamp Light Studios, Sala Diaz, and Contracommon, as well as internationally in Mexico City and Florence, Italy. Her work is part of the University Health System's Salud-Arte collection, and she's among the approved artists for the City of San Antonio's Public Art projects.