

Raul A Monarrez

Eight days, eight days! These are the famous words my mother expresses every time she recants the time of my birth. October 28, 1969, in South El Paso Hospital, it took a nurse sitting on my mom's lower chest to aid her in delivering me. As a child my parents encourage my unique ways of expression, the little things they said to me then have inspired and stir my creative energies since. These liberties found their way in (1989) to a tech school where I learned automated drafting and technical illustration. Not satisfied with the seemingly regimental structure of drafting and Illustration, I was encouraged to attend UTEP by my parents. I found School difficult, I was not prepared maturely, and after my sophomore year I walked away (1992). In 1995 I married, shortly after I became a father of three. Now, it was my wife and three children who have encourage me to finish my degree.

I am currently on my final semester at the University of Texas at El Paso where I will receive a Bachelors of Fine Arts. I still plan on continuing my education toward my goal of a Master of Fine Arts. I have been in numerous exhibitions to include recently El Paso's Downtown revitalization, *Contenido Neto*, El Paso, TX, 2007 also *Border Roots*, El Paso, TX, 2007. In 2006 I was exhibited in *Border Arts Residency Invitational*, La Union, NM and *The Value Show*, El Paso, TX. I am currently working on a commission for a permanent sculpture on behalf of Intelligent Office Complex. My work is in the collections of Dr. David Novick also in Mr. and Mrs. SFC Richard Salas Sr. I believe my imagination allows me to explore a reflection of the persons around me and my relationships with them.

