



*Arte Agave*  
NEW YORK

**EL CUENTO DEL ARTISTA.** DO YOU KNOW MY STORY? LOOK CLOSELY, FOR IT IS WRITTEN ALL OVER MY FACE. THE CALAVERA (SKULL) IS A POWERFUL SYMBOL OF MORTALITY AND THE CYCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH. INDIGENOUS MEXICAN ART CELEBRATES THE CALAVERA, AND THE AZTECS USED IT IN DECOR, TRACED IT ON SCROLLS, WOVE IT INTO GARMENTS, FORMALIZED IT INTO HIEROGLYPHS AND MORE. • AT THE TOP OF MY CABEZA YOU SEE THE SUN AND THE BLUE AGAVE PLANT REACHING TO THE SKY, READY TO BE HARVESTED. • THE LUNAR CALENDAR SYMBOLS CRADLING THE SUN NOTE THE 8-12 YEARS IT TAKES TO RIPEN THE AGAVE. UNRIPE AGAVE CAN HAVE A BITTER OR OVERLY SWEET TASTE, RUINING THE DISTILLED SPIRITS MADE FROM IT. • THE COA TOOLS THAT FRAME MY CHEEKS ARE USED BY JIMADORES TO HARVEST THE AGAVE. • MY EYES ARE MADE OF AGAVE PIÑAS AND THE CURLING FLAMES EMERGING BENEATHE THEM REPRESENT THE BAKING PROCESS. • MY TEAR DUCTS ARE THE "TAHONA" STONES USED TO MASH THE BAKED PIÑA AND EXTRACT THE AGUAMIEL. • THE OAK BARRELS USED FOR AGING COMPLETE MY CHEEKBONES. • AND MY NOSE IS FRAMED BY TWO BOTELLAS REPRESENTING THE BOTTLING PROCESS AND CLANKING TOGETHER IN CELEBRATORY TOAST. • FINALLY, THE ARTE OF AGAVE, DRIPS DELICIOUSLY INTO MY MOUTH • NOW LOOK CLOSELY, FOR THE TWO WORDS IN MY SUBTLE GRIN SAY IT ALL.