

IVAN  
ATEHORTUA



PRESS  
FILE

VISUAL  
ARTIST

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## BIO

Ivan Atehortua is a self-taught visual artist from Colombia, currently based in Montreal, Canada. Growing up in a large family, Ivan's creativity was sparked by repurposing broken toys and found objects into new characters and stories.

Ivan's notable achievements include winning first place in the professional category at the Pierrefonds Art Contest in 2016. In 2020, he received a residency at Meteque Gallery, during which he had a solo exhibition.

He has curated the exhibition "Double Identité" at Cuisine ta Ville in 2023 and "Raices" by Sarabeth Triviño at Meteque Gallery in 2021.

His graphic novel project, "À la Rencontre des Néo-Québécois: Un Roman Graphique," was financed by the Government of Quebec and saw the publication of 200 copies in 2021.

Ivan has also led workshops like the Mystical Art Jam and Mon Talisman d'Art, both funded by governmental and municipal bodies

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## ARTIST STATEMENT

I use objects as my medium of expression, much like other artists use paint. By combining items, I create shapes and textures that convey my thoughts and emotions. Since objects carry their own meanings, using them as raw material adds another layer to my work. It's fascinating how an object, when incorporated into an artwork to evoke nostalgia, can hold different significance for someone else, transforming the piece into a unique experience for each viewer.

My preferred materials include toys, found objects and the captivating allure of ornate frames and vintage boxes. These materials contribute to my artworks' fantastical and grotesque atmospheres, reflecting my childhood's resilience and resourcefulness. I'm also attracted to the charm of epoxy resin for its glossy appearance that gives a lasting feeling of protection.



# MEDIA COVERAGE



Interview for "Projet Silence DiscriminAction" with expert Hanieh Ziaei, Director General at the George Vanier Cultural Center.

Link: <https://centrecsai.org/discrimination-dans-le-domaine-des-arts/>

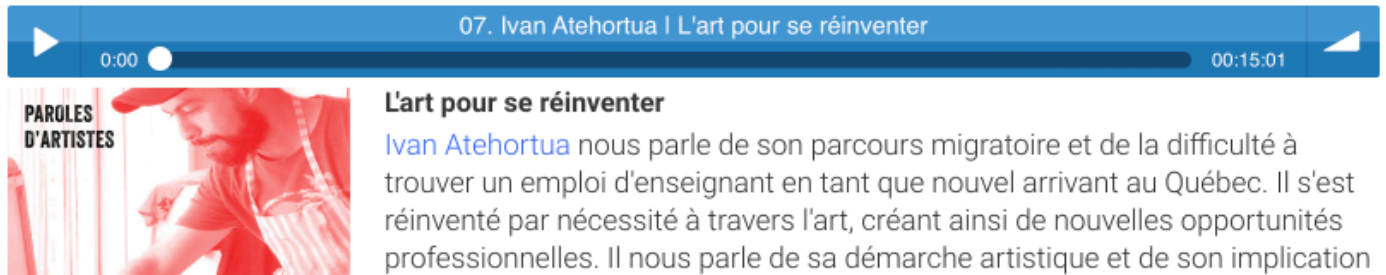
Blog about the project "À la rencontre des néo-québécois: un roman graphique" aimed to encourage the francization of immigrants and highlight their journeys by creating a collection of autobiographical testimonies from people of various countries in the form of graphic short stories.

Link: <https://centrecsai.org/discrimination-dans-le-domaine-des-arts/>



# MEDIA COVERAGE

## 7. Ivan Atehortua



Interview for the podcast: Le parcours-balado Cuisine ton quartier.

A project that highlighted the testimonies of refugees and immigrants, community organizations, social workers, members of the host society, and engaged artists.

Link: # 7 <https://atsa-cuisinetonquartier.ca/cote-des-neiges-notre-dame-de-grace/>

Interview for La Caja de Juguetes Exhibit:  
A one-month solo exhibit that took place  
at Meteque Gallery in 2020.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftqakg-KX8U>



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# MEDIA COVERAGE

## Ivan Atehortua MeetSolal

Comics Street Art Borders Human Rights Identity Colombia



Video Capsule for Humanities, Arts and Society: A project by UNESCO-MOST, C.I.P.S.H., Mémoire de l'Avenir, and HAS.  
Link: <https://humanitiesartsandsociety.org/artists/ivan-atehortua/>

Interview with Malik Shaheed for the show Speaking up MTL

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/malikshaheed99/videos/vb.100006470000543/2088922911333355/?type=2&theater>

