

## Artist Statement

I am happiest in my studio creating work, expressing my thoughts and feelings, whether in the form of a new sculpture or performing music. The process is everything.

As a musician I've learned that a performer responds to the unique energy of a particular time and place. By interacting with material and a thought or emotion I incorporate spontaneity and improvisation into my creative process. I approach sculpting like a jazz musician at an impromptu jam session -- after years of rehearsal I jump in and let the work develop.

When considering a new work I search for material that may best express a feeling or idea. I respond to the environment that surrounds me, trying to report back our current events or history and how it plays on the human condition. For example my current series, *A Long Walk Too . . . . .*, which includes "*In Case You Weren't Paying Attention*" and "*What About The Children*". This work responds to our current situation at our southern border.

Jim Felice