

Katie Anglin

Z'otz\* Collective Exhibition – Campus Gallery

Z'otz\* Collective's work begins in the act of release. Since 2004, Ilyana Martínez, Nahúm Flores, and Erik Jerezano have created a shared multi-media space, guided less by fixed plans than by the willingness to let go. A line is offered on canvas or a blank wall; a figure begins to take shape, then another hand arrives, altering its path and reshaping its story. What is surrendered by one artist becomes a possibility for the rest.

This practice of letting go transforms both the work and the artists themselves. A bat, a bird, a spirit, a hybrid form, characters drawn from memory and myth, return again and again. They carry echoes of landscapes, languages, and communities that shaped the artists' earliest worlds. Yet within the Collective's embrace, they are recast, shedding one skin to grow another, bearing the traces of multiple voices. In this way, transformation is never solitary; it is born out of trust that something unexpected or extraordinary might emerge.

Storytelling runs through this process, not as a single narrative but as a chorus of shifting perspectives. Belonging takes root in the improvisation of gestures, and the blank walls become an open landscape of imagination; a rolling terrain where stories bloom in spontaneous ways.

*An Alternative to Simplicity* invites us to consider how identities are shaped in relation, how communities are carried on through stories, and how art becomes a living testament to the power of creating together. Within Z'otz\* Collective's work, we are reminded that to be transformed is also to belong.