



***PARA CURARNOS EL SUSTO (TO HEAL OUR FRIGHT)***

Marilyn Boror Bor · Caja Lúdica · María Fernanda Carlos · Centro Q'anil · Rosa Chávez · Colectivo Tz'aqol · GuateMaya · Kiara Aileen Machado · Celeste Mayorga · Movimiento Nacional de Tejedoras Mayas de Guatemala · Museo del agua · Proyecto Parutz' · Gabriel Rodríguez Pellecer · Selva y cerro · Sonido Quilete · Marta Tuyuc Us · Sergio Valencia Salazar

Curators: Marilyn Boror Bor and Chantal Figueroa in collaboration with Ilaria Conti  
Curatorial Committee: Jimena Pons and Karen Ramos

November 23, 2024 – June 1, 2025

**Opening: Saturday, November 23 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Intervention by Selva y cerro at 4 p.m.

Curatorial tour at 5 p.m.

Cooking, tasting, and memory activation around the fire through a Qo'or pa Chaj by Proyecto Parutz'

La Nueva Fábrica  
Callejón Contreras, Antigua, Guatemala  
[www.lanuevafabrica.org](http://www.lanuevafabrica.org)

La Nueva Fábrica (LNF) is pleased to announce *Para curarnos el susto* (To Heal Our Fright), a collective exhibition curated by Marilyn Boror Bor and Chantal Figueroa in collaboration with Ilaria Conti and with a curatorial committee that includes Jimena Pons and Karen Ramos.

As part of LNF's 2024-2025 exhibition cycle, *Para curarnos el susto* explores themes of healing and resistance through a set of foundational questions: How has Guatemala resisted invasion, dispossession, racism, and genocide? What does healing look like in response to colonial forces, and who holds this knowledge?

The exhibition is a communal creation shaped by a curatorial team of Guatemalan women healers and artists. Collectives from various disciplines—such as theater, performance, gastronomy, textile arts, land defense, spiritual practices, and academic research—have been invited to dialogue with artists on the processes of healing and resistance.

The participating artists and collectives include Marilyn Boror Bor in collaboration with Movimiento Nacional de Tejedoras Mayas de Guatemala, María Fernanda Carlos with Caja Lúdica, Rosa Chávez with Selva y Cerro and Sonido Quilete, Kiara Aileen Machado with GuateMaya, Celeste Mayorga with Centro Q'anil, Gabriel Rodríguez Pellecer with Museo del agua, Marta Tuyuc Us with Colectivo Tz'aqol, and Sergio Valencia Salazar with Proyecto Parutz'.

Through these artistic exchanges, the exhibition unfolds as a multidisciplinary archive of societal, epistemic, communal, and individual healing practices rooted in the region. In addition to this rich archive, the exhibition features a central space with extensive documentation and a program of public events, allowing deeper engagement with the themes explored.

The project honors how communities across Guatemala have navigated personal and communal healing and affirmed life despite 500 years of systemic violence. The exhibition celebrates the practices developed by collectives, women, spiritual guides, researchers, and artists of diverse identities, all of whom draw upon ancestral knowledge to sustain Guatemala's body-territory.

Through visual art, performance, installations, ceremonies, and community dialogue, *Para curarnos el susto* examines the nature of healing in the face of coloniality, questions who holds the power to heal, and centers the work of collectives that use ancestral knowledge to heal in the context of a history marked by denial, gender and racial violence, and epistemic oppression.

This project emerges from the need to cultivate collective dialogue around Guatemala's 500 years of colonial history, creating a space to reflect on the endurance of its legacies.

The title of the exhibition is inspired by a poem written by Rosa Chávez in which the poet and artist articulates pathways to healing in the face of colonial fright:

*and we sing, and we reclaim our voice, reclaim our truth,  
reclaim our language, reclaim our body,  
reclaim our time, reclaim our blood,  
reclaim our breath, reclaim our freedom,  
to heal ourselves from the fright  
we breathe deeply, and the dignity of the water running through our bodies lets us flow  
and our spirit returns, we flutter with the rhythm of life  
I return to the earth  
I step back into the world  
Kintz'alij b'i pa ri ulew*

*kinel chi lo jun mul chi uwach ulew*

An ongoing series of public programs will unfold throughout the exhibition to expand on the notions and concerns at the heart of the project and reinforce its communal and participatory nature.

---

### **About La Nueva Fábrica's 2024-2025 exhibition cycle**

2024 marks five-hundred years since the arrival of the Spaniards to the area we now call Guatemala. To address such historical occurrence and the centuries of coloniality that have shaped and continue to shape Guatemalan society in multiple and transversal ways, La Nueva Fábrica (LNF) presents a focused year-long exhibition and programming cycle (June 2024 – May 2025).

During this time, we seek to move beyond the mere discourse on coloniality and the presentation of exhibitions that address colonial issues just as content. This choice stems from the awareness that colonial dynamics still haunt Guatemalan life. Rather than “illustrating” through exhibitions what our publics already know and experience in their daily lives, we strive to move beyond the simple acknowledgment of coloniality and imagine forms of re-existence that offer opportunities for communal encounters and the healing of colonial wounds.

In light of this, La Nueva Fábrica's 2024-2025 exhibition program focuses on projects that foster notions and practices of healing. These exhibitions serve as offerings and shared spaces in which to take care of ourselves and others, reflect on what affects us as individuals and as societies, and experiment communally with diverse forms of healing—be they spiritual, corporeal, affective, epistemic, and more.

Each exhibition is commissioned and conceived as a context in which senses beyond sight and diverse forms of sense-making are involved. The practices and concerns at the heart of each project are further cultivated through a series of public programs presented throughout each exhibition.

---

**La Nueva Fábrica** is a non-profit contemporary art space committed to empowering communities through art. We do so through exhibitions, public programs, educational projects, residencies, and multidisciplinary activities in our space in Antigua, Guatemala, and through international partnerships. Recent exhibitions include *Edgar Calel: Ru Raxal Qa Ray'bäl* (The Green of Our

Desire) (2024); *Margarita Azurdía: A Universe, Documented*, curated by Rossina Cazali (2023-2024); the XXIII Bienal de Arte Paiz (2023); *Hellen Ascoli: Cien Tierras*, curated by Amara Antilla and traveling from the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati (2022-2023); and Regina José Galindo's first institutional survey in the Americas, *Grito*, curated by Maya Juracán (2022).

Web [www.lanuevafabrica.org](http://www.lanuevafabrica.org)

Instagram [@lanuevafabricagt](https://www.instagram.com/lanuevafabricagt)

Facebook [LaNuevaFabrica](https://www.facebook.com/LaNuevaFabrica)

X/Twitter [@nuevafabricagt](https://twitter.com/nuevafabricagt)

T: [+502 7882-4612](tel:+50278824612)

Opening hours:

Wednesday to Sunday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm; Saturdays 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

**For press inquiries, please email:**

Ilaria Conti

Executive Director and Chief Curator

[ilaria@lanuevafabrica.org](mailto:ilaria@lanuevafabrica.org)