

# AUTONOMIES IN PRACTICE

Economies, identities, arts, land and territories that heal.

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: OCHY CUIRIEL AND YASNAYA AGUILAR**

**Funding and moneyless exchange options available**

Indigenous languages

Autonomous social movements

Healing economies

Food sovereignty

Textile resistance

Identities

**ENGLISH AND SPANISH  
(simultaneous translation)**

Anti-capitalist / anti-colonial arts

**Extended deadline for  
proposals until all  
spaces are filled.**



Gathering in San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico.  
March 29th to April 1st, 2023  
Organized by Colectiva El Cambalache



To register: <https://share.mayfirst.org/apps/forms/aWLMX2eT95TpsCCi>  
For more information: [cambalacheras@cambalache.casa](mailto:cambalacheras@cambalache.casa)



## **GATHERING AUTONOMIES IN PRACTICE: economies, identities, arts, land and territories that heal.**

*We are land, we flourish. We are water, our movements transform.*

---

### **DATES:**

March 29-April 1, 2023

### **GOAL:**

To foster a meeting of autonomies in practice in the arts, economies, defense of land and territory, collective health, textiles, food, languages, and identities that heal and build an anti-capitalist and anti-colonial world.

### **DESCRIPTION:**

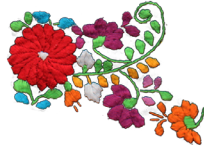
This gathering is about bringing together as many people as possible to talk, think, question, imagine, and share practices of de/anti-colonial and anti-capitalist autonomy in general for communities, collectives, activists, researchers, and people practicing and studying de/anti-coloniality. We hope that this gathering will be the first of many to begin to define how we can incorporate autonomous decolonial and anti-colonial thought into our lives, work and knowledge. We invite all people who are interested in learning, deepening and sharing, to this three and a half day meeting. Sharing can be in the form of workshops, activities, artistic expressions, panels, and paper sessions.

We are convinced that knowledge is built collectively. Our proposal is to generate the space for dialogue/reflection/practice in an environment of respect, reciprocity and participatory action.

During the meeting we will have a Tianquitzli (Tianguis / Market) activity together with direct and autonomous producers in the region. The purpose is to bring us together in a space that constructs mutual aid so that we can begin to strengthen local production and solidarity networks.

### **TOPICS:**

**Anti-capitalist / anti-colonial arts:** group art sharing, can have ritual character that strengthens bonds. Generate experiences with the goal of healing. Art that feeds our struggle through expressions such as: music, graphic arts, theater, dance, etc.



**Autonomous social movements:** dialogue of practices, experiences and reflections of movements in defense of land and territories from our own knowledge. Our land and territories are the sustenance of life.

**Collective health:** we value the knowledge and relational practices about health that, in wide-ranging forms of knowledge, are held by different peoples around the world. The logic of this knowledge implies a sentipensar (feelingthinking) with the earth-universe, building a common-collective healing reality.

**Textile resistance:** textile art is one of the arts of resistance that many indigenous peoples of the world have maintained for thousands of years. What is the importance and meaning of these manifestations of use and art practiced by indigenous peoples? Why have some of these practices and knowledge disappeared? Let's talk about the appropriation and usurpation (ethnocide and epistemicide) of this knowledge by the textile industry and fashion.

**Food sovereignty:** it is said that we are what we eat, but where does our food come from, who produces it, how is it produced, how is it processed? We know that in indigenous communities this is done from their own knowledge and connection with the land; many times these are processes of food resistance against industrialization that generates diseases, inequalities and violence.

**Indigenous languages:** living languages are the base of systems of thoughts and transmitters of identities, knowledge and values. What do they represent for the modern/capitalist world? What do they contribute to us? Why have some of them disappeared and others are in the process of disappearing? We share the practices that defend, preserve, revitalize their use and transmission.

**Healing economies:** let's talk about the many non-capitalist systems, practices and possibilities that allow us to visualize and realize well-being and hope in the present and in the future. What possibilities are there to increase our non-monetary wealth while, at the same time, increasing non-capitalist socio-economic power for all people who have suffered precarity and marginalization by the capitalist/colonial system? Which practices have persisted over time?

**Identities:** the classifications of gender, race, culture, abilities, neuro-divergence, sexuality and more are imposed on us. What dialogues do we need to create an inclusive world? What learnings, practices and ways of experiencing the world do we carry into the future to generate well-being and heal the wounds of harmful oppressions that have limited the expression and self-realization of the majority of the world? What practices teach us to love and care for ourselves?





## BIOGRAPHY

**Yásnaya Elena Aguilar** (Ayutla Mixe, 1981) is a member of COLMIX, a collective of young Mixe people who carry out research and dissemination activities on Mixe language, history and culture. She studied Hispanic Language and Literature and completed a Master's degree in Linguistics at UNAM. She has collaborated in various projects on the dissemination of linguistic diversity, development of grammatical content for educational materials in indigenous languages, and documentation projects and attention to languages at risk of disappearing. She has been involved in the development of written material in Mixe and in the creation of Mixe-speaking readers and other indigenous languages. She has been involved in activism for the defense of the linguistic rights of indigenous language speakers, in the use of indigenous languages in the virtual world and in literary translation.

**Ochy Curiel Pichardo**, born in the Dominican Republic and currently lives in Colombia. Decolonial feminist. PhD and MA in Social Anthropology from the National University of Colombia. Professor at the National University of Colombia and the Javeriana University. She is a decolonial feminist activist, co-founder of the Latin American Group of Studies, Formation and Feminist Action (GLEFAS). Her research addresses the intertwining of racism, sexism, classism and the regime of heterosexuality from a decolonial perspective. Her publications include the books *La Nación Heterosexual. Analysis of the Legal Discourse and the Heterosexual Regime from the Anthropology of Domination* (2013) and *A Coup d'Etat: Sentencia 168-13. Continuities and Discontinuities of Racism in the Dominican Republic* (2021).

## FORMAT OF THE GATHERING:

We will have two keynote speakers during the meeting. The gathering will be constructed around affinity groups with the purpose of facilitating spaces for group dialogue in relation to the proposed themes (Anti-capitalist / anti-colonial arts, autonomous movements, identities, collective health, textile resistance, food resistance, indigenous languages), at the end of each day there will be a general plenary for the exchange of what was exposed/discussed/dialogued in the different groups. All proposals for activities will be reviewed and approved or rejected by the generators of El Cambalache and our Support Committee.

## FORMS OF PARTICIPATION

Listener- People who come only to listen. Deadline for registration February 25, 2023.

To register: <https://share.mayfirst.org/apps/forms/aWLMX2eT95TpsCCi>

The following forms of participation. Extended deadline for proposals until all spaces are filled.

To register: <https://share.mayfirst.org/apps/forms/KFsD65KDqx9TSzCC>

**Artistic Expressions:** an artistic intervention described in a maximum of 500 words including: name(s) of the artist(s), work, theme, materials and/or equipment, type of expression, time, space required and a brief description is proposed.

**Panel Organizers:** We will accept proposals for 90 minute Panels (60min presentation and 30min questions). Maximum 6 panelists, minimum 4 panelists. Submit a proposal with a maximum of 500 words including: name of the panel, topic, description, and name of the proposed panelists.

**Workshops:** propose workshops/activities with a 3hrs. maximum. They should focus on sharing a skill, practice, or form of analysis with participants. Submit a proposal of 500 words maximum and a short plan of what the workshop would be like, specify how many people can attend the workshop/activity and what materials and space are required to carry it out.

**Session organizers:** We will accept proposals for sessions with 4 or 5 presentation of 12 to 15 minutes each on related topics or a specific theme. Submit a proposal with a maximum of 500 words including: name of the session, topic, description, and name of the proposed speakers.

**Participant in a session:** A person proposes a 15-minute presentation that will be incorporated into a 90-minute session (60 minutes papers 30 minutes questions) organized by theme by El Cambalache and the support committee.

To register your activity click here:  
<https://share.mayfirst.org/apps/forms/KFsD65KDqx9TSzCC>



## COST:

### COST FOR PARTICIPANTS FROM COUNTRIES WITH HIGH ACCESS TO MONEY (IN US DOLLARS):

**\$500-\$350.** Solidarity price for either employed or collective participants who want to participate through a single contribution. This price is suggested for people who have some kind of financing for their professional development or can afford it because of their high salary level. This price contributes in solidarity so that other people, with less economic possibilities, can pay less.

**\$350-\$200.** Students and participants who can afford it because they have access to some type of financing or are collectives that want to participate through a single contribution.

**\$200-\$80.** Students, grassroots activists and participants who have little access to money.

**Moneyless work exchange:** If for any reason fees cannot be covered, please inquire about moneyless exchange options to cover prices and for travel bursaries.

### COST FOR PARTICIPANTS FROM COUNTRIES WITH LITTLE ACCESS TO CASH (IN MEXICAN PESOS):

**\$5000-\$3500.** Solidarity price for either employed participants or collectives who want to participate with a single contribution. This price is suggested for people who have some kind of financing for their professional development or can afford it because of their high salary level. By paying this price you are contributing in solidarity so that other people who lack economic resources or have very limited access, and want to participate in the workshop, can pay less.

**\$3500-\$2000.** Students and participants who can afford to pay because they have access to some type of financing or are collectives who want to participate through a single contribution.

**\$2000-\$800.** Students, grassroots activists and participants who have little access to money.

**\*\*\* Moneyless work exchange:** If for any reason fees cannot be covered, please inquire about moneyless exchange options to cover prices and for travel bursaries.

---

All proceeds from this gathering will support the research, community and decolonial work being done at El Cambalache.

---

El Cambalache is a moneyless economy project located in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas and is made by and for women and everyone who we know. In El Cambalache everything has the same value. Here people exchange things they no longer need for things, skills, knowledge and mutual help that people want to share. El Cambalache was founded in 2015 and is based on anti-systemic and anti-capitalist values for local social movements. For more information see our documentary: Inter-Change Value (2016) <https://vimeo.com/159060233>

#### Social networks:

El Cambalache FB: [www.facebook.com/lacambalache](http://www.facebook.com/lacambalache)

El Cambalache Blog: <https://cambalache.noblogs.org>

El Cambalache Canal de Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCslgLGj8V0LFxSaDnL8iYQg>

Twitter: LaCambalachera

Instagram: Elcambalachesancristobal

Tiktok: @cambalacheras

