

# MURMUR

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The word *murmur* describes a subtle, fuzzy, continuous sound such as whisper, indistinct voices, the sound of a river, trees or the wind.

A flock of thousand starlings flapping their wings at the same time is named a *murmuration*. These fluid masses, shapeshifting bird formations happen between summer and winter, between day and night, when the birds gather during migration. We are not exactly sure why this performance takes place but it seems to be a dance of survival, hoping to confuse potential predators. What we do know is, that for it to happen, every bird has to trust their closest neighbors. The movement of a single starling of the flock can rapidly change the course of every other bird. With no central leader or hierarchical orchestration, a collective awareness is crucial for the birds to survive.

The idea of seeing a bird as a teacher has informed the exhibition. The subject could also be: funghi, ants or spiders. For some reason these dinosaur birds keeps visiting my attention.

I have been curious about the concept of *biomimicry*; originally a scientific practice that aims to look to or even mimic the natural world around us in search for solutions that we couldn't come up with ourselves. By leaning on this nonhuman knowledge we are leaning on billions of years of practice; habitual skills on how to adapt to constantly changing surroundings.

This knowledge does not speak to us in human language. It speaks to us in ways that require deep listening; not only with our ears but with our entire system. The works in the exhibition are not trying to perform answers but rather they seek to dissolve logic; to listen to our own words vanish in reverb and to make space for other voices to emerge.

As part of the exhibition a selection of books are available for further reading. You are welcome to take a seat in the window and browse through these.