



**Fri, Oct 25**

**“T?TEM”**



One of two varieties of avian scavengers circling the Texas sky, the Black Vulture uses sight rather than smell to locate carrion, often relying on its lower-soaring frenemy the Turkey Vulture to sniff out the delicious aroma of decaying flesh. When they can't find a dead creature to dine upon, Black Vultures aren't above dumpster diving or killing skunks, opossums, turtle hatchlings and young livestock. Since their arrival on the scene 34 million or more years ago, these social raptors have emerged in Maya codices and as Native American symbols of renewal and transformation. An ominous flock of more than 60 of the bald, sooty beasts inspired visual artist Meghan Fest to “investigate their histories, their impressive stockade of mythologies and their roles as ancient totems.” Incorporating large-scale drawings and hand-embroidered 1960s postcards, her solo exhibition “T?TEM” explores “a delicate world threaded together via mystic reverence, occultish animism, shamanistic superstition, psychedelia and kitsch.” Free, 6-9pm Friday, Sala Diaz, (210) 852-4492, 517 Stieren, [saladiazart.org](http://saladiazart.org). On view by appointment through Sun, Nov 24.