



# YACHAY SEMINAR

Dialogue of Wisdom on  
Indigenous Voices from the  
Andes and Amazon

**APRIL 19TH-21ST • 2018**  
**BOSTON UNIVERSITY PHOTONICS CENTER**



Registration begins one hour prior to first event.

## THURSDAY PROGRAM 4/19

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### OPENING CEREMONY

2:00PM-3:00PM

Opening to the Weekend:

An introduction of the Indigenous Elders leading the dialogue and the Ayni Institute as we celebrate this seminar and cover the agenda of the weekend.

### THE ANDEAN PEOPLE

#### POST-COLONIALISM

3:30PM-5:00PM

How did the Andean Indigenous communities persevere into the modern day? Our Elders answer these questions.

### AMAZONIAN HEALING

#### WHAT IS THE AMAZONIAN WAY OF LIFE?

6:30PM-8:30PM

Huachipaeri Elder and Chief, Alberto Manqueriapa, leads us through his understanding of the Amazon Rainforest within a medicinal, holistic, and philosophical perspective.

Registration begins one hour prior to first event.

## FRIDAY PROGRAM 4/20

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### ALTERNATIVES TO WESTERN CAPITALISM

2:00PM-3:30PM

What can we learn from Andean society and organizational structure today? Here we discuss Incan Organizational Methods, Minka [Collective Work], Ayni [Reciprocity], and Ayllu [Community].

### TELLING OUR INDIGENOUS STORIES

2:00PM-3:30PM

Jose Huaman Turpo, shares with us his decades of experience as a filmmaker. Alejandrina Calancha speaks of what it means to be a Producer and a Quechua Radio Host, and Chief Alberto Manqueriapa shares what it means to be a part of a lineage of storytelling.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF RITUALS AND COLLECTIVE WORK

4:00PM-5:30PM

Director Jose Huaman Turpo and Producer Alejandrina Calancha discuss Collective Work with a focus on the Q'eshwachaka Suspension Bridge and the K'anas Community. Each year the K'anas rebuild the suspension bridge by hand in a four day festival that honors the bridge as a diety.

### LESSON FROM MACHU PICCHU

4:00PM-5:30PM

What can one of the 7 Wonders of The World teach us about life?

Professor and Artist Zadir Milla delves deeply into an ethnographic and historical study of Machu Picchu and the cultures and values that reflect its creation.

Registration begins one hour prior to first event.

## FRIDAY PROGRAM 4/20

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### MEDICINES AND SACRED PLANTS IN THE AMAZON

7:00PM-3:30PM

Here Chief Alberto Manqueriapa from the Machiguenga and Huachipaeri shares his knowledge and use of sacred plants and medicines in rituals that are representative of his customs and culture.





Registration begins one hour prior to first event.

## SATURDAY PROGRAM 4/21

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### CREATING LIFE: THE IMPORTANCE OF ART

11:00AM-12:30PM

Professor Milla, Director Turpo, Producer Calancha, and Chief Manqueriapa share the importance of art within the Andes and Amazon. We look closely into ceramics, textiles, and the deeper meaning behind these art forms.

### ALTERNATIVES TO WESTERN CAPITALISM

1:30PM-3:00PM

For those that missed this session the day before. What can we learn from Andean society and organizational structure today? Here we discuss Incan Organizational Methods, Minka [Collective Work], Ayni [Reciprocity], and Ayllu [Community].

### FROM THE AMAZON TO THE ANDES

3:30PM-4:30PM

Director Jose Huaman Turpo and Producer Alejandrina Calancha discuss the relationship between the Andes and the Amazon and the historical relationship between its people and communities. They also share footage from their documentary Wayri.

### OUR FUTURE WORLDS

3:30PM-4:30PM

What challenges are these communities facing in the modern day? We discuss topics about four indigenous languages, the loss of language, and climate change.

# SATURDAY EVENING 4/21

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

## WORLDWIDE PREMIERE: VOICES THAT HEAL AND YACHAY SEMINAR CLOSING

5:00PM-7:30PM

For the first time ever we are proud to premiere the third film from the documentary series *Mysteries of The Andes*, *Voices That Heal*.

This documentary takes a close look at the healing practices of the rainforest Huachipaeri society. Their rituals make use of sacred and therapeutic plants and hold a very ancient tradition in the Amazonian rainforest area. Although this area has maintained its health practices for centuries, today it is not valued nor understood from the perspective of the outside world. This traditional practice is also threatened by the loss of biodiversity in the rainforest region, which is where the healer's' power comes from.

The main objective of this film is to understand the role of language and how it is used as part of *curanderismo* (a system of traditional healing) of the Amazonian people. The healing through language is manifested through ceremonial songs, such as the "Eshuva Prayers", and in the use of certain vocabulary. The semantics and poetics of the words are the primary form of orally transferring the healing powers of the curer. The Huachipaeri tongue and the "Eshuva Prayers" constitute a valuable and essential element of their culture, which illuminates their traditions and beliefs.

After the premiere of *Voices That Heal*, Director Turpo, Producer Calancha and Chief Manqueriapa answer questions as we close the Yachay Seminar.