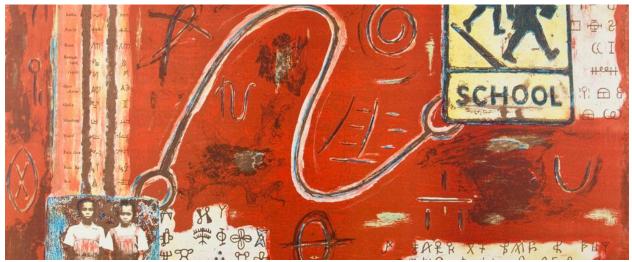
A Hemisphere of Knowledge: A Benson Centennial Exhibition (Exhibition)



Description

To mark the Benson's centennial, this exhibition looks at knowledge production from different communities in the Americas. Special attention is paid to community stories, craftwork, harvest and subsistence, medicine, and flora and fauna.

Date Range(s): 1549-2018

Country(ies): Cuba; Mexico; United States of America; Jamaica; Guatemala; El Salvador; Nicaragua; Brazil; Colombia; Argentina; Honduras; Ecuador

Course Subject(s): African and African Diaspora Studies; Archival & Information Studies; Art & Art History; Brazilian Studies; Borderland Studies; Indigenous Studies; Latin American Studies; Literary Studies; Mexican American & U.S. Latinx Studies; Religious Studies; Women & Gender Studies; World Geography Studies; World History Studies

Topic(s): Traditional Knowledge; Medicine; Flora and Fauna; Gastronomy; Cosmology; Astronomy; Craftwork

Document Type(s): Art prints; Manuscripts; Zines; Newsletters; Drawings; Maps; Letters

Language(s): English; Spanish; Portuguese; Zapotec; Tepehua

Rights Statement

Creator(s): Daniel Arbino, *Head of Collection Development & U.S. Latino/a Librarian*, LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections

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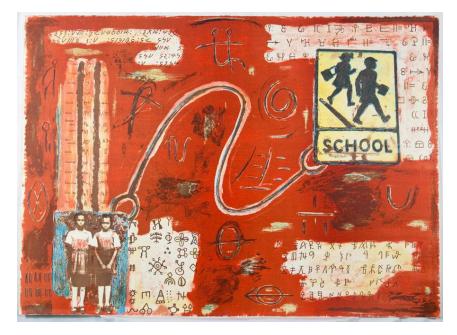
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Introduction

The adage "knowledge is power," put forth by Francis Bacon in 1597, still carries weight into the twenty-first century. While an expression consisting of three words might be simple to understand, it is far more complex when we question which types of knowledge equate to power, and which do not. The mere fact that this exhibition begins with a quote from the Western canon speaks to this hierarchy. After all, power plays a role in deciding between what is history and what is myth, what is belief and what is superstition.

In the Americas, this type of discourse is directly related to colonialism and its legacies that are still felt today. Thus, when we see a Catholic church constructed upon an Aztec temple, it conveys the message that the Western belief system is superior to Indigenous epistemology, and therefore more powerful. Religion was one tool to impose power; this massive and widespread influx of knowledge production extended to agriculture, commerce, natural history, medicine, and even the cosmos. Yet despite colonizers' attempts to eradicate Indigenous and, later, African and Asian cultures and knowledge through manuscript burning, evangelization, language erasure, and enslavement, these communities maintained integral parts of their collective identity. Constant attempts at cultural erasure persist to this day. One need only look at Terry Boddie's *Knowledge* (2001), which inspired the title of this exhibition, to perceive this reference to the school system of the twenty-first century as a tool in the attempt to mold children to think and behave in certain ways.



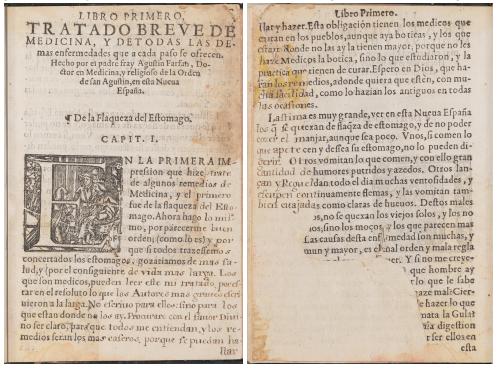
A Hemisphere of Knowledge is a focus on that resiliency, but it aims to move beyond it and respect the diverse production of knowledge from the many cultures that make up what we now call the Americas. This exhibit seeks to present different types of knowledge production from the Americas while recognizing that our universality comes from relations based upon diversity, and that these relations, like cultures themselves, are constantly changing. Furthermore, the exhibition considers this knowledge against the backdrop and legacies of hegemony, thereby situating it within the power dynamics of colonialism, imperialism, and neoliberalism. *A Hemisphere of Knowledge* is intentionally political because it values cultural beliefs that have been dismissed due to legacies of power. In the next six subthemes, materials from the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection will convey diverse knowledge production through a variety of items that resonate with each other.

The materials herein come from a century of collections at the Benson. They represent highly visible items and hidden gems, while also pulling from different collecting areas. These areas include our traditional analog Latin American and U.S. Latina/o collections in addition to the more recent Black Diaspora Archive. They also pull from digital initiatives like the Archive of Indigenous Languages of Latin America (AILLA) and our post-custodial partnerships across Latin America in which the materials remain with their communities, but the Benson offers digital surrogates to researchers. The ideas and cultures represented here are but a small sampling of the exchange of knowledge that predates European contact and continues in the twenty-first century. This exchange has been both peaceful and violent, both given and stolen, both negotiated and imposed.

Some subthemes may be more Eurocentric in nature, others less. As the presentation of ideas unfolds, let the words of José Martí capture its essence. In "Nuestra América" (1891), he calls for a pan–Latin American identity grounds itself in the need to value autochthonous knowledge: "Knowing is what counts. To know one's country and govern it with that knowledge is the only way to free it from tyranny. The European university must bow to the American university. The history of America, from the Incas to the present, must be taught in clear detail and to the letter, even if the archons of Greece are overlooked. Our Greece must take priority over the Greece which is not ours. We need it more." This exhibit proposes that we reconsider ideas that were quickly dismissed due to cultural vainglory and that we acknowledge ancient wisdom alongside relatively new interventions.

Medicine

Before medicine was big business, nature was the first doctor. To some extent it still is, given that 25 percent of all drugs used in 2021 are derived from plants found in the Amazon. While Western medicine has many benefits, it is not without its issues, such as adverse side effects, cost, and accessibility. This is leading people to reassess the value of traditional and local knowledge. This section features traditional knowledge. Whether influenced by Indigenous, Latinx, or African expertise, traditional healing influenced by shamanism or *curanderismo* continues to be a primary option for care in some communities because even though it is often stigmatized in the medical field, "the practice allows families to maintain elements of their culture, and their beliefs and identities, as traditional healing practices are passed on generationally" (Sanchez, 2018: 149). The following items provide insight into natural options.



De Medicina.

efta tierra calidos y humidos, y aísi fe corrompen facilmente en el estomago. Otra causa ay muy comun para este mal, y es; que muchos, antes de auer cozido lo que comieron, bueluen a comer otro tanto. Tambien es causa la fruta verde que comen todo el año, v defta todos fon golofos, y con ella fe corrompe el manjar, aunque fea bueno. Otra caufa hallo yo muy grande, (y parecera a algunos cola de rila) y es : que los que tienen flaqueza de chomago, cada momento beuen vino. Efte confejo dan los que no faben que enflaquezen mas con el el estomago, y lo encrudecen, por no lo poder cozer ni digerir. Es caufa tam bien de la flaqueza de estomago, el mismo manjar, que no tiene en si buen calor natural, que es el que mas ayuda a cozerlo, y faltádole elto q fe espera, sino que en lugar de cozimiento corrució? Otra causa ay fobre las dichas, en los hobres q fon desenfrenados y luxuriosos, despues de auer comido y cenado. Sea aui To a todos, q le guardyn defta ocalion en estos tiempos, porque no sy cola que mas dañe y definuya al effomago) cuerpo, que effos actos defpues de lle-no el effomago : y los h, os que entonces le engendran, nacen y le crian my enternios y Thhabiles. Y aunque entonces el a étito prouoca y mueue mas, el hombre como racio z, deue tener mas prudencia y miramiento en lo caje tanto le conuiene, y no fea co mo vn bruto en el campo.

Todas effas aujas q he dicho de la flaqueza dek eftomago, fon com sidentales : otras ay mas proprias Libro Primero . prias y mas conjuntas, como fon. Abundancia de flemas, que ferecoge y engendran en el estomago, segu opinio de Galeno. Y quado estas se vomitan solas, o con el manjar, queda el estomago por algunos dias con mejor disposicion, y cueze con mas facilidad. Es tambien caula conjunta vn calor agudo y mordaz, a quiéllaman los medicos Calor estraño, o no natural. Y quando efte es caufa de la mala digeftió, lo conoce mos en vnos regueldos azedos y de mal olor, y con vn poco de dolor casi continuo en el estomago. Este Calor estraño quema y corrompe el manjar en lugar de cozerlo: y asii, los que padecen deste calor estraño, con el vino y cosas calidas, se hallan mas malos, y digieren menos. Y es verdad fin duda, que a muchos he, quitado el vino, y les mando que cenen poco, y les he dado la vida. Pues valganos Dios, fi con la templança nos curamos y fanamos de muchas enfermedades, y viuimos largos años, y eftoruamos la generacion y corrimiento de las reamas. No nos da el mal de la Gora, ni el dolor de la nijada, ni el de la vrina? porque no procuraremoralcançar y tener efta, virtud tan loable, y que tant s bienes haze al alma y al cuerpo? Auño , day por confejo, que fe leuanten de la mesa, auiendo comido menos de lo que pue den,y no coman manjares e.in i contrarios : porq verdaderamente vnos a otros le añan y corrompen Y pues cada vno vè y conoce lo que le haze mal, dexelo de comer.

Los que padecen flaqueza de estomago, y tienen

falta

De Medicina.

falta de digeftion, fi pudieren biuir en tierras templa das, procurenlo. Y quando esto no pudieren, tengan el apofento templado, regandolo muchas vezes, y echando en el yeruas frias. Si hizieren algun exercicio, sea poco; y por las mañanas, auiendose proueydo. antes de camara, aunque sea con vna calilla, o con vn feruicio comun: y en todos los exercicios para la falud, proceda esto antes. Escuse dormir la siesta, y si lo acoftumbra, duerma poco, y no fea en la cama, que calienta demasiado el cuerpo. Todo lo que comiere guisado,lleue azederas q fon los q llama en Mexicano xoxocoyoles. Es muy buena falla el cumo de agraz, vn poco de vinagre téplado, y qualquier otro cumo de agro.Los pollos, pollas, cabrito, y ternera fon mui buenos; y no alcançando efto, es bueno vn poco de carnero manido. Puede comer algun pescado fresco, que lo ayá lalado vn dia antes.Borrajas, chicorias, y lechugas cozidas, y esparragadas son buenas. Las co fas dulces, son muy danosas à los flacos de estomago, porque engendran flemas. A medio dia coma moderadamente, cene poco y temptano. Las yemas de hue uos freícos fon de buen rantenimiento, fi beuen po co fobre ellas. Al que puede partas fin viño, doy por confejo que no lo beya", (por lo que dixe arriba) y no pudiendo biuir (b. seuan vn poco y templado. El agua cozida con ancla defta manera, fuple la falta del vino. Muelan vna poca de canela, y atenia en + vn liencoron va hilo largo, y quede entre dos aguas colgada, y assida del hilo a la tapadera, de vn buen heruor

Libro Primero, heruor, y faquenla. Es muy buen remedio vntat el ef tomago cada noche, quando quiera dormir, con efte vnguento tibio. Azeyte rofado y de membrillos, de cada vno vna onça, cumo de agras, o buen vinagre, media onça, con media onça de cera blanca lo quajen al refeoldo. En tiempo de membrillos, cozido vno con agua y vinagre y tibio, tendido en vn paño de lienço, y efto fobre el eftomago es muy prouecho fo, y a falta de los membrillos, cuezan quarto mança nas en el agua y vinagre. Vn faquillo hecho con rofas y violetas; yn poco molidas, y roziadas cada noche con vinagre, y puefto fobre el eftomago, quita el calor demafiado y la fed.

Si la flaqueza de effomago, y falta de la digeftion viene de abandancia de humores coleticos, y de calor effraño ò demafiado, y el enfermo vomita con fa cilidad, haga vn vomito cada femana ò cada dos: y para hazerlo mejor, tomen vn jarro de agua tibia, que lleue vna poca de miel y vilagre. Otro dia defpues del vomito, tome efte xa taue tres dias por las mañanas. Xaraue de infufion de rofas, y xaraue de violado, de cada vno vna o, ça, agua de chicorias, ò llanten tres onças, mezelefe. Luego fe purgue con dos onças de manà, ò con less onças de xaraue nueue infufiones. Si no ay efto, se vna onça de pul pa de cañafi ftola, comida con la, unta de vn cuchillo, ò defatada en agua de chicoris ò en agua de ceuada. Si los que toman cañafiftola f.enter con ella dolores de vientre, mezelenla con vn poco de an s molido

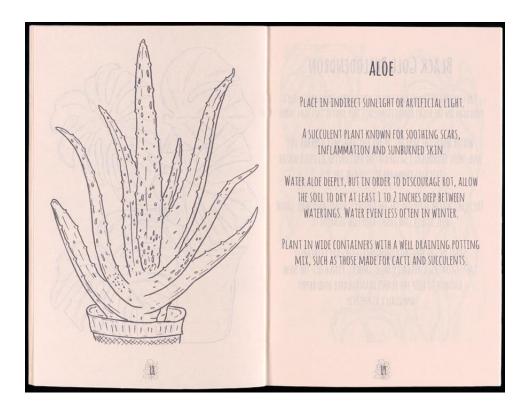
Agustín Farfán's *El tratado breve de la medicina y de todas las enfermedades* (1592) considers possible local remedies for those communities out in the provinces that do not have easy access to a local doctor. Farfán, who had already published a book on surgery, was

considered an expert for his era, and remedies include the curative properties of roots, plants, and animals. Although Farfán's book is an early alternative born out of a lack of access, access remains an issue in the twenty-first century, and thus, alternative treatment options continue to pervade the conversation.

MARIO O EL OTUTAM O 7 D sse o cigano: Matuto você não sabe o que diz as plantas são venenosas porque teste eu já fiz se qu ser f car curado tome do meu preparado pra viver calmo e feliz. 3 O matuto d'sse assim: — Não preciso de doutor pois os remédios do mato pra mim têm maior valor deixam o sujeito curado gastando só um trocado e ver chegar sangue e vigor. Disse o cigano: — E quem foi que vu ninguém se curar usando folha de mato que só faz envenenar agora o meu preparado muita gente tem curado eu digo e posso provar. A erva-babosa serve para queimaduras, eczemas e queda do cabelo. 3 6 - E o extrato da casca do mulungú tem aç o usando-se em banhos faz acalma: a excitação do sitema nérvoso e combate havendo repouso insônia, com perfeição, 3 - O coz mento da casca usado em dose norma! cura as bronquites asmáticas é remédio especial nas infiamações do braço e do figado, aqui eu faço recomendação total. -Nas febres intermitentes o mulungú faz efeito e a planta chamada avenca cura o cansaço do peito e, o catarro pulmonar na rouquidão é sem par e na tosse é do mesmo jeito. JIL As plantas medicinais não curam, tazem milagres.

José Costa Leite's O Matuto e o Cigano ou as Plantas Medicinais (1983) and Victoria DeLeón's zine Grow some shit (undated) offer new, modern inflections on traditional knowledge. In O Matuto, a farmer rebukes a palm-reader's offer of a reading, saying he only needs God and

certain plants to sustain good health. DeLeón's didactic zine shows readers how to care for a plant (aloe vera) that will reciprocate care. Her work is one of many that carves out women's space and participation in medicine, particularly through traditional healing. Carmen Lomas Garza's *Earache Treatment/Ventosa* (2007) recalls a secondary use of newspapers to create a funnel that sucks out the moisture of an aching ear.





These works posit the notion of not only traditional knowledge, but multigenerational knowledge that is shared among family and community members as such healers, midwives, and *curanderas*. In "Partera" (1993), here presented in Spanish and Zoque/Soteapan, the speaker tells the story of her grandmother's role as a midwife. Carmen Tafolla's various drafts of "Curandera" (1981) speak to this feminist space as Tafolla seamlessly switches between English and Spanish to describe the subject's powers. In "Medicine Poem" (1981), Tafolla returns to the theme of sickness, this time emanating from widespread injustice and oppression. We finish this section with Colectiva Cósmica's *Crystal Zine* (undated), which considers the healing powers of crystals as a popular alternative to medicine for their energizing and healing properties and their possibility to foster balance and harmony.

Curandera afuera de tu casa, entre la hierba buena y el aníz estoy planteada. Vine aqué a verte, a preguntar tus ojos-tiena-guises a escuchar tre vor mesquite seco a observar tus manues gall viscos a élevarme algunatiendre de una de tus botellas 2 The gnoded and earthing fingers of her nind ful the current is they veins and see the twillit shapes within my bodycasens Shox aged clonded eyes here seen the bodies of the dead Sink below the crust of red dirt sond and felt the swelling stomach's gift and felt the swelling stomach's gift 6 The small of her titches and the sound of her charelas are present withing of the let grow/clowly with the window where secures like a wird offician sudder the tight of the that I observe from a distorter. The secure 4 Ø 3 I have shiped here, spectfored and to rearing, Observing, drowning in thought, I have gove no further. Attoo distance will not sated still. S My fut stuck, rooting 7

Curandera

Curandera, curandera, your powers surge my blood and wash my eyes of fear and leave me stunned with might...

Aged woman, rising out of the human night, your bones the same as hard-packed dirt, your heart the same as sight.

Your seeds and teas and leaves and shrubs, all dwell in the occina of your touch all cooked and warmed and blessed and loved like the sarten and the children and the rust.

You've seen the bodies of the dead sink below the red dirt sand and felt the swelling stomach's gift red surprise in presence any to bud at mittake.

Tou've seen youth become age and age infancy, War become love, and love piracy. Sur them in the standard of the series of a pose shill petin, You've stand victories the size of a pose shill petin, X I and sungers the size of choice a medie.

Please, woman, with the magic hands, Please hear my cry tonight. Look on your porch steps for my plea, on your <u>comal</u> for my answer.

Curandera, Curandera, your powers surge my blood. I wait beside your mata de anís,

Cause it you touch me. I willy heal

Growing with the matrix in your garden, between the and and the hierba buena

waiting for you to find my plea on your poch steps and my answer on your come I wait,

(unfinished)

2

a ferring her

you'w

carmen tafolla march 1981

Medecine Poem Sickness good around us like nothing filings splintenny gonthes on the splars of a boul + got crowde and splatting the faces of children with blood Sickness the second to play water and billed better rachets, and better than three better, in a gave which see not end . in a winning gave that percel wins . Sidners teaver naked bodies hargon as synthes of victory and sus messes targets as defeat in the summers Si chnors nabs your black children playing in allust and lays their empty badies, laughing, by the road to match the brown notches in policemen's gens. Sichness leaves health hiding in a the deviation in a filepin village on the border - dust interfaction, dust foreign in a tilopi village on the borded - dust criedbary, qual forign la grages Under the internation bridge an Eagle Pass ; Piedes Negus & never knowing which way to go to escape the madress. All Can busting and our bealing must sum in the regist lies chim have and switch, with quick books backbucks, and switch, with grinde lies pouch, intect, with during boundary is the for durys and poems. Wildow Litan village where must always Thave an end. Sickness leaves health hiding in a grapp-roofed shack in a Kifkapoo village on the boider - dual citizenstup, dual forigula guage (native Indians strong between 2 foreign nations, once thereis under the international bridge that holds Eagle Pass Texas to Riedias vogas, Mexico) never knowing which way to go to escape the madnas. in a Rickoper Indian is under the interested when the first taken 2 from the statistical In histopicturelas where and city ing to want the duck progra

Medecine Poem

Sickness lies around us like rotting feelings splintering minds on the spears of a bored and angry crowd and splattering the faces of children with blood.

Sickness robs bandages to pay bombs and build better rockets, and better than those better in a winning-game that never wins.

Sickness nabs young black children playing in Atlanta and lays their empty bodies, laughingly, by the road to match the brown notches in policemen's guns.

Sickness leaves health hiding in a grass-roofed shack in a Kickapoo Indian village under the international bridge that holds Eagle Pass, Texas to Piedras Negras, Mexico where native peoples between two foreign nations use dual citizenship to ward off dual dangers. And health huddles, hides, in healing huts of cardboard and grass, never knowing which way to go to escape the madness.

Our hurting and our healing must run in the right direction and swiftly, with quick looks backwards, carrying with it always the medecine pouch, intact, with human bonding. For wars and poems must always have an end.

> carmen tafolla March 9, 1981

CLIEAR (DT) THE MASTER CRYS COLOR: CLEAR/ TRANSLUCENT CHAKRA: CROWN/ BALANCES ALL CHAKRAS ELEMENT: AKASHA / ETHER PLANET: SUN HARDNESS: 7 ZODIAC: ALL ORIGIN OF NAME: CRYSTALLOS - GREEK FOR FROZEN SECOND MOST COMMON MINERAL IN THE EARTH'S CRUST, KNOWN AS THE PHILOSOPHERS STONE, GREEK CALLED IT ICE OF ETENNITY, A STONE OF POWER AND LIGHT, VERSATILE AND CAN BE USED FOR MULTIPLE PURPOSES, PROMOTES CLARITY, HARMONY AND BALANCE, SYMBOL OF INFINITE SPACE, PURITY, PERSEVERANCE AND PATIENCE, AIDS COMMUNICATION OF ALL LEVELS, MAGNIFIES

CLEMIN, MONROW THE OPACHECE, ADS COMMUNICATION OF ALL LEVELS, MAGNIFIES INTENTIONS AND ENERGY, AIDS FOCUS AND TRANSMISSION OF ENERGY, ABSORBS ENERGY FROM THE SUM AND THE LIFE FORCE IN THE THESE AND PLANT LIFE, DRAWS DOWN DIVINE LIGHT AND STORES ALL THIS ENERGY TO BE RELEASED AS NEEDED, ENERGY IS RELEASED AS WHITE LIGHT THAT CAN BE ABSORBED BY ANY CHARAR, REPRESENTS PURITY AND CAN BE USED TO CLEAN OUT THOUGHTS AND INTENTIONS, WORKS AS A VESSEL OF LIGHT, EXCELLENT ALLY IN HEALING AND PRAYER AS IT AMPLIFIES INTENTIONS, CAN ASSIST IN OVERCOMING CONFUSION, HEALS TO ESTABLISH A CLEAN CONNECTION, ACTS AS RADIO TO PSYCHIC COMMUNICATIONS, CHARGES ENERGY INTO BODY, CORRESPONDS TO ALL ELEMENTS AND ASTROLOGICAL SIGNS, CAN BE USED FOR ANY METAPHYSICAL PURPOSE, EXCELLENT STONE FOR PROGRAMMING, HOLS INVISIBLE POWER OF FOCUSED INTENT, EXCELLENT STONE FOR PROGRAMMING, HOLS INVISIBLE POWER OF FOCUSED INTENT,

RAISES THE VIBRATIONAL LEVEL OF ITS SURROUNDINGS, EMOTIONALLY NEUTRAL BUT WILL AMPLIFY ANY EMOTION WITH WHICH IT MOVES INTO RESONANCE, BRINGS HIGHER SPIRITUAL AWARENESS TO WHOEVER WEARS OR CARRIES IT

HOW TO CLEANSE/ CHARGE: COVER THE CRYSTAL IN DRY SALT FOR A FEW DAYS

HOW TO PROGRAM A CLEAR CRYSTAL QUARTZ: CLEAR YOUR SPACE AND SIT COMFORTABLY WITHOUT DISTRACTION, HOLD CLEAR QUARTZ IN HANDS AND TAKE DEEP BREATHS, BEGIN TO VISUALIZE THE IMAGE OF ONE'S INTENTION OR DESIRED OUTCOME, SEND ENRERY TO QUARTZ OF YOUR INTENTION, THE MORE WORK ONE DOES WITH SETTING INTENTION/ WISHES THE MORE THE OUTCOME WILL OCCUR

3

Crystals are thousands to millions of years old. They are found all over the world and carry in them secrets of sacred ancient knowledge. They tell us many invaluable stories of our Mother Earth. We created this zine because of our affinity to crystals and their healing powers, but also because politically our communities are being forced into facing a social reality caused by sick people who disrespect our planet and who are out of touch with the Divine. Our response must include learning how to heal and protect ourselves with natural remedies, and crystals are just one of these tools.

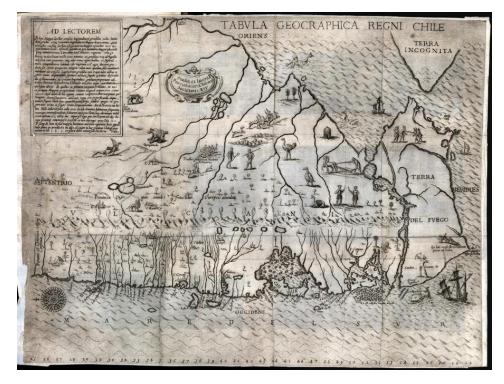
In ancient times, crystals were laid down in the tombs of famous rulers and the people associated the crystals healing energy with their gods and goddesses. Crystals have been around since before human existence and they will remain long after we are gone. In this way, it's important to listen to that knowledge, listen to the crystals, set intentions with them, and they will show you their natural magic. Magic that can enhance psychic powers to manifest within ourselves for a more fulfilling life.

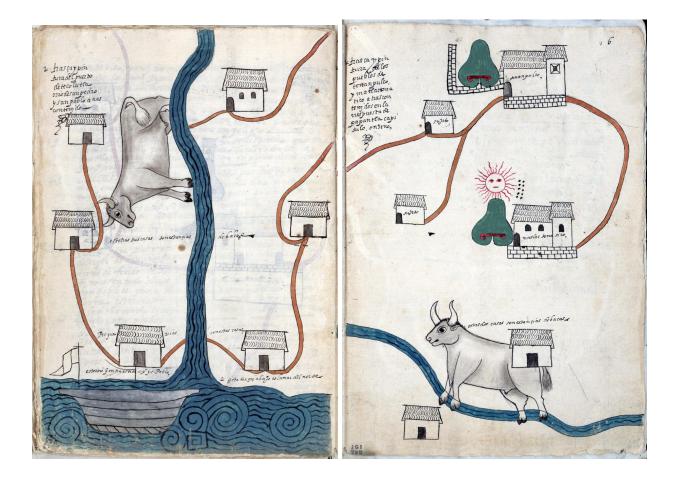
Crystals are found in caves all around the world and vary in ways which they form. Igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic are three of the main types of rock formations and they have been referred to as crystals, gemstones, magic rocks, and nature's treasures. Depending on the healing property of the crystal, certain crystals can be gitted to friends and loved ones. For example, obsidian is a very protective stone used for past-life healing and transformation that is best used by only one individual.

1

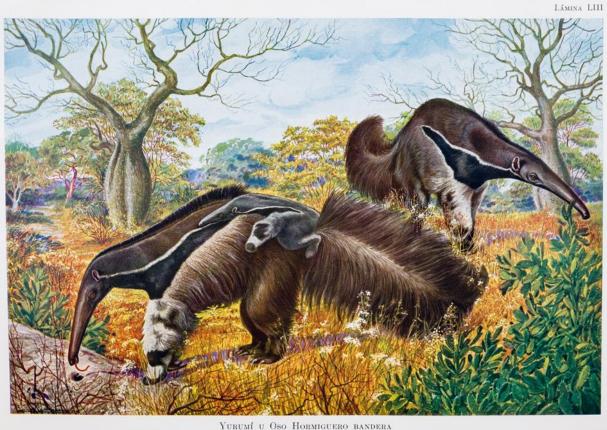
Land, Flora, and Fauna

While Europeans introduced plants and animals including cattle, horses, and wheat to the Americas, they also encountered new species—ocelots, jaguars, javelinas, xoloitzcuintlis, alpacas, açaí palms, ceibas, jacarandas, and many more. Recognizing the impact of fauna in a society is a deeply relevant way to understand cultural differences, traditions, and belief systems. Lauren Derby notes that "bringing animals into the analysis might move us closer to local understandings of the natural world and syncretism on the ground between European, Indigenous, and creole views and practices, enabling new ways of thinking about environmental change" (2011: 603). This can be extended to local flora as well.



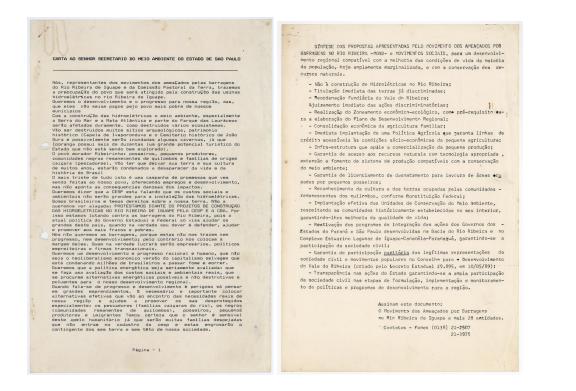


Early cartography of the Americas often included local flora and fauna as a means of exotification. Compare *Tabula geographica regni Chile* (1646) with the *Relación Geográfica de Gueytlalpa* (1581). The former includes a fictitious sea monster as well as land animals that are not drawn to scale alongside humans. The animals, coupled with the massive tracts of land, are portrayed as unruly and in need of European order. Here, knowledge was produced to create a narrative that furthered the colonial enterprise. In the *Relación Geográfica de Gueytlalpa*, Indigenous mapmakers, tasked with depicting their surrounding areas, give us a map with both Indigenous and European components to it. The colors blue, green, and red are all made from local flora and fauna in the Americas (the Indigo plant, green mineral, and cochineal). Glyphs symbolizing hills are present alongside European markers like the exaggerated bulls. The insertion of bulls, a non-native and domestic animal, into the map as markers of European *estancias* demonstrates the growing privatization of land.



URUMÍ U OSO HORMIGUERO BANDE. (Myrmecophaga tridactyla)

Europeans imported the privatization of land to the Americas as a means to solidify their power, not only over other cultures, but over nature. Another European tactic was to name and rename flora and fauna as a means of imposing order on it rather than live alongside it in cooperation. This is perhaps best seen with the anteater that inhabits parts of Central America and South America, highlighted in *Historia natural ediar* (1940). Its name in Spanish, *oso hormiguero* (ant bear), first recorded in approximately 1545, reveals the limits of European knowledge. The anteater is not related to the bear, but because Spaniards used a frame of reference within their cultural understanding at the moment of early encounter, the term *oso hormiguero* continues to be prevalent today. This misnomer might seem relatively harmless, yet it reinforces the power of the colonizer's language to corrupt or erase knowledge, while revealing Western ignorance.



This blithe mindset toward nature continues to negatively impact the environment and communities to this day, as shown in reports from LLILAS Benson's post-custodial partners in Brazil and Colombia that demonstrate widespread ecological destruction to the benefit of multinational corporations. In "Carta ao Senhor Secretario do Meio Ambiente do Estado de São Paulo" (1990), MOAB, an Afro-Brazilian community organization in Vale do Ribeira, protests government plans to construct a hydroelectric dam because of the environmental damage it would cause while displacing Afro-Brazilian communities. A similar concern is expressed in Colombia at the arrival of wire fencing.



The Afro-Colombian collective Proceso de Comunidades Negras (PCN) describes this fencing as foreign to the community: "Aparición de cerco que no es nuestra cultura. Esa es una cultura de personas extranjeras que llegaron al Territorio y llegaron con este método. Esta foto resalta los cercos con Alambre de púa" (1998-1999). The letter and the photo reveal worldviews that compete with Western discourses of progress: living with nature, rather than dominating it by fencing off tracts of land as a means to ownership and privatization. Maribel Falcón contests this same notion in "Esta tierra es su tierra" (undated). These different perspectives prompt José Francisco Borges's *O Crime Ecologico* (2006), a woodcut print on paper that juxtaposes the need for conservation alongside economic motivations as soy cultivation in Brazil continues to expand.



In addition to being utilized in narratives of environmental control and belief systems, flora and fauna have become appropriated as symbols of resistance and social justice, as seen in René Castro's *Hands off El Salvador* (1981) and Sam Coronado's *Vote* (undated). The dove, a symbol of peace, and the Aztec eagle, an homage to the United Farm Workers Union's desire to connect with historic roots in support of Mexican migrant workers, here stand in as conveyors of messages that are tied to anti-imperial and anti-colonial sentiment.



Pablo Antonio Cuadra's poems "Mitología del jaguar" (undated) and "La ceiba" (undated) express a deep and sacred connection to Central America's flora and fauna. Cuadra draws on Indigenous reverence for the ceiba, a tree that in Maya culture connects the underworld (Xibalba) through its roots, the terrestrial plane through its trunk, and the sky plane through its high-reaching branches. Among Amazonian communities, the mighty ceiba serves as a home for several deities. It is one of several poems that Cuadra highlights in a poetry collection focused on trees native to Latin America. Likewise, the jaguar is present as a deity in all Mesoamerican Indigenous cultures and one of many animals imbued with cosmological relevance. By drawing on these symbols in his poetry, Cuadra vindicates Indigenous worldviews.

Mitologia del Jaguar marine Ma vola Necesidad con su adusta ley (no la luna devorada por la Tierra para nutriz La lovia, la mas antiqua creatura, Sus hambrientas noches - auterior a las estrellas - dijo: o el délil alimentando con su saugre la glo Hagune el muspo sensitivo y viviente, ... tria del fuerte) se hizo su piel, mas sino el Misterio regulando el exterminio. La Forte El rayo, golpeó su pedernal y dijo - Agriquese la zarpa. Y fié la una el sino vendando a la justicia - ; dio ses!gritaron los vebeldes- terremos en los astros con su crueldad envainada en la caricia. la oculta norma del Destino. - lenga - dijo el viento intonces, silabeando cu su ocarina - el vitro escucho el relampago el clamor decole -habitual de la brisa? Is and at arag le avois 24 insonne and at a stof echo a andar pelidez. - ; Ay del houle! - dijo como la armonia, como la medida My encendió en las cuencas que los dioses auticiparon a la dauza vacion del japuar an an anno p Pero el fuego miró aquello y lo detuvo: la atroz proximidad de un astro. Fue al lugar doude el "si" y el "ho" se dividieron - doude bifurco su la gua la serpientey dijo: - Sea su piel de soutra y claridad. y fui su vino de muerte, indistinto Mas los houbres rierou. - "Loca" lamaron a la opresora dualidad cuando unió al crimen el Azar.

the net
ultime
+ IL CRIDI
LA CEIBA
a participation
Cuaudo vinierne mestres projenitores
- "e vinieronse porque en aquella tierra
tenian amos, a quien servian,
e los tractaban mal"-
subieron al gran arbol el dia en que abre sus
frutos
y suplarm sus semilles aireas para trazar la
ruta del éxodo.
Yunes semilles tomaron la rute de les eves que
se nutren de gusano
y otras las de los pájaros chicos que melan en
Solidaridades y se alimentan le granos
y otres tomara la ruta de la brites y quebanta-
hueson que viven de la carroñe y desde
su altura solo ven la muerte
y otras tomaron la ruta de las aquilas y condores,
la mas alte, la que solo es cruzada
por les mariposes y pr la peuse -
mientos de los peusadores.
Este es el érbol de la contradicción.
The control at the control with the set of the section
que cita Landa y "que quiere de-
que ata Landa y "que quiere de-

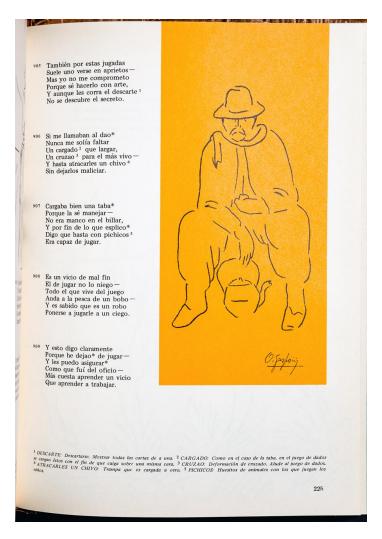
llega a puerto. el algo dón liviano y Sedoso de su fruto In publo construyó sus almo hada extienda sus ramas. Heaqui lo que estaba dicho en el libro de los profetas de doude reclina ne descauso y fabrica Chumayel : "Se alzorá Yaax-Imixché, la verde Ceiba, en el Succion. 3 De este arbol aprendió el hombre cuitro de la provincia como señal y mennia del aniquilamiento". El horcón que sostiene el peso equel del cicto se asienta sola lo meerto. La serpiente la misericordia y la arquitectura, la dádiva y el orden. se have pajore en el arbol de la vida. (All' doude macente Arbol is el centro del mundo. · Lo que ti ves desde su copa es lo puter corregon anhela. 10 La Patria es su soulas. Los limites de su sombra soulos limites de tu comunidad y de tu Patriz. ma 2) Esta es la Madre Ceiba en cuyo tronco hinchado tu puebeo veneró la preñez y la fertilidad. De su madera blance y fácil de labor te pueles construyó una embarca-ción de un sola pieza y esa embarcación es su cuna cuando inicia Su ruta y es m féretro cuando

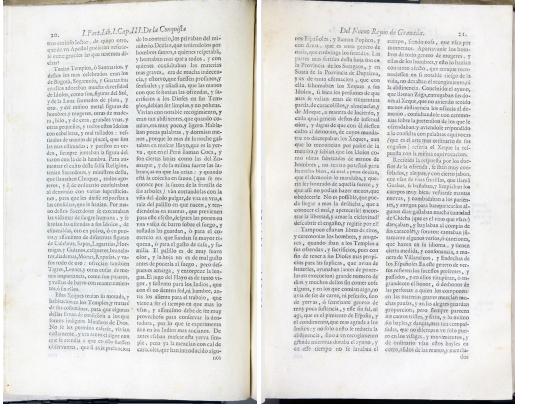
122-

Acojaure, pues, a su soudra los de están causados Vengan los que sa fran y yribisien consuelo Vengan los que tienen hambre y quedavan sociedos Vengen los compativos por que serain compatacidos Vergan los que borcen la par y los limpios do corezón y los que quieren couocep el rostro de Divo. Y es el que enente Aliñez las plazas praceros porque ties The sources as & City to view su the Este es el arbol que amorosamente sinces antie infancia en sus modilles. Cou el algodin liviano y redro de en futo tu publio falitabili sus almohades doude recline Bu descause y flation ar alund mas sus suenos ababyo Si suben a este árlol, la serpiente se have pipro y la palalra, cento. mu abital - Two exilion. 10

Subsistence and Harvest

In Mesoamerica, conversations around subsistence and harvest start with the three sisters: corn, beans, and squash. Yet every region had its own local food that influenced the livelihood of its inhabitants, whether the potato in the Andean region, cassava in the Caribbean, or salmon in the Pacific Northwest. In this section we pay homage to local cuisine and its fight for survival against colonial and imperial designs, recognizing its intimate, reciprocal relationship with humanity. As Robin Kimmerer so eloquently writes, "For what is corn, after all, but light transformed by relationship? Corn owes its existence to all four elements: earth, air, fire, and water. . . . Corn cannot exist without us to sow it and tend its growth; our beings are joined in an obligate symbiosis. From these reciprocal acts of creation arise the elements that were missing from the other attempts to create sustainable humanity: gratitude, and a capacity for reciprocity" (2013: 343). In "Cómo se siembra el maíz," Antonio García Cruz provides instructions in Spanish and Zapotec for the traditional way to plant corn.

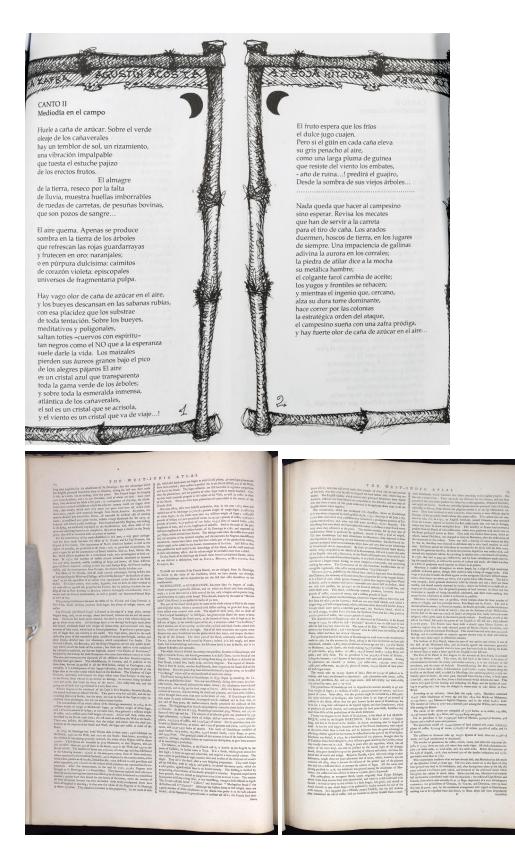




Unfortunately, from the Spanish ban on amaranth during the colonial period to the recent exorbitant demand for quinoa in the Global North, prompting price spikes, food and crops are as politicized as ever, thereby changing our relationship to them. This plays out in the tale of two leaves used by Indigenous groups to stave off hunger and lethargy: yerba mate and coca. Shown here as an illustration in an edition of the Argentine national epic poem, Martín Fierro(1872, yerba mate), and discussed in Historia general de las conquistas del Nuevo Reino de Granada (1688, coca), the former has become a symbol of communal bonding through a shared bombilla and the latter is best known as the main ingredient in cocaine.

As with quinoa and coca, foreign markets, often Western, have impacted subsistence and harvest in interesting ways. Catalina Delgado-Trunk's Corazón del cacao (undated) visualizes the importance of chocolate in Mesoamerican culture, where it was used ceremonially and medicinally among different groups. Often served as a drink, Mesoamerican chocolate had bitter notes of chile or peanut. Since this did not appeal to the European palate, it also reminds the viewer how the bitter taste has been sweetened with sugar to make the product more accessible in certain markets.



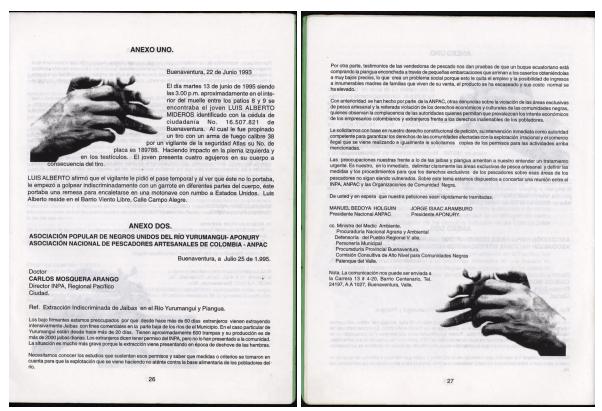


Sugar, key to the popularization of global crops including cacao, tea, and coffee, once dominated Caribbean society. It was none other than Christopher Columbus who brought the

first sugar cane seed to the Americas, setting the world on a trajectory that included the mass enslavement of Indigenous and African peoples and the eventual indentured servitude of Asian peoples. Here we see the relationship between humanity and a crop change from intimate and honored to one of exploitation. Sugar became such a monocrop that when its price declined dramatically in the early twentieth century, sugar-producing islands had little to fall back on for economic drivers. The English cartographer Thomas Jefferys touches on the potential of sugar in Compendious description of the West-Indies and General description of the West Indies (1775), while Cuban Agustin Acosta's "Mediodía al campo" (1926), here published as a 2016 cartonera, discusses the intense labor of harvesting sugar as the world heads toward the Great Depression.

Aqui gerdieror la cabeza los oficiosos y hanaso craintas y describiern houses con colas de pájaros y mujeres alucipantes en peter de soestruces. El Acoucaque, gigantesco Noé "desnudo y culvo" Aqui Carlos Darwin vio una manga de langostas cultivo ator minedor y se aubriago con sus lujas: que culria el cielo Manor pudoros as cubren zu saxo y hada in ruido como de carros y cabellos que con sabanas de riene y figurations aves de Tierra y aire Aqui Julio Verne llevo de mucano a los orhinos - Chidnes y avertures del Capitale Grant se espantan inventando cantos porpu la aventiera pera por este paso de una Biblia geolófica. de la América embriagada por la altura Aqui Pedro del Cartillo fundo Mendoza en 1561 a la América embriagada de horizonte. 3 Juan Jufré fundo otra vez Mendoza en 1562 y la ciudad es uns sola pero se ven dos ciudades. Viajero: si prieres conocer a América cuando el irejero bebe el vino strino de sus vinedos. si quieres tocar: on to mans la musculatura Si se vino le Mendoza se descaus en la cordellera de este continente gigunte furiosos terrentos lacua caer las ciudades. obesar su frente andira Si el vius de Hendoza se derraune en res rin o conscer el plexo solar de sus llanvres inefravaliles crecicutes inundan las tierras de cruza esta comarca bajo la tutela de los Cóndores. la pampa. y belie este vino que es su daugre Aqui los houbres del Ejército de los Andes - aurora incan descente belierne las pajantes surtancios de este vias de la mieva creación del mondo. y el aliento de cuda voldado se endureció en espada og las upasas fordara la libertal and Cero & la Gloria

Sugar is discussed here knowing that it is not autochthonous to the Americas, and to demonstrate the role that subsistence and harvest has played as a marker of both possession and dispossession. For instance, Cuadra's "Elogio al vino de Mendoza" (undated), must be read with the understanding that the majority of the vineyards in Mendoza, Argentina are now foreign-owned. This notion comes up yet again in Carlos Mosquera Arango's "Anexo dos," a fragment of Proceso de Comunidades Negras' newsletter Comunidades negras y derechos humanos en Colombia (1992) in which foreign companies are decried for overfishing the region's crabs.

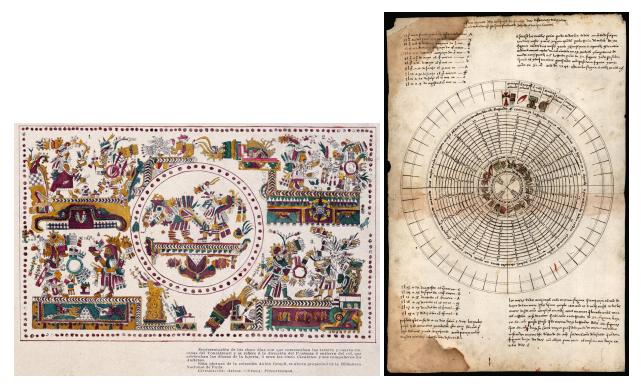


Finally, Terence Grieder's drawing of GPR at Challuabamba (Ecuador, 1999) portrays harvesting from a visual perspective. Cristina Miguel Mullen's Mangán Tayón – Food for Thought (2001) celebrates subsistence and harvest in the kitchen, where traditional cuisine can instill notions of identity, comfort, and culture. Such is the case in Miguel Mullen's work, as images of family surround a woman as she prepares a meal replete with ingredients that represent her Filipino heritage.





Reading the Sky for Signs



The Maya constructed Chichen Itza so that on each equinox the late afternoon sun hits the pyramid, creating the illusion of the feathered serpent slithering down the northern staircase. The Western world continues to use a calendar that is less accurate than the one Mesoamerican groups used prior to the colonial period. In Peru, while debates continue about their original use, the Nazca lines are meant to be seen from above, revealing an awareness that we cannot yet comprehend. These examples tell us that Indigenous groups in the Americas had profound knowledge of the stars, seasons, and time. In this section, we explore different responses to astronomical phenomena, beginning with the earliest known description of the Aztec calendar by Fray Toribio de Benavente (1527–1549). Alongside it is a reproduction of the "Representación de los cinco días" (undated), which highlights the five days at the beginning of the third and fourth *trecenas* of Tonalámatl, a divinity almanac structured around twenty thirteen-day periods. The precision of these calendars, and our inability to fully understand them, has led to cultural impositions. For instance, in 2012, the West imposed its own millenarianism upon the Maya calendar, claiming that the world would end. Juan de Dios Mora plays off of this in *Nave Espacial Maya de 2012*(2011).



In 1680, the power of the Spanish viceroyalty of New Spain was shaky. The Pueblo Revolt had just kicked the Spaniards out of New Mexico while the viceroy, Payo Enríquez de Rivera y Manrique, resigned from his post and a transition to Tomás de la Cerda y Aragón was under way. Some, including Father Eusebio Kino, took the Great Comet blazing across the night sky as an omen from God, prompting him to chart its movement from his time in Cádiz through his time in Mexico City. Father Kino's *Exposición astronómica* (1681) is an early offering of an illustrated scientific treatise in the Americas and is tied to the first comet to be discovered using a telescope. Yet a greater knowledge of the stars is present here. Take, for instance, Kino's placement of La Virgen de Guadalupe on the drawing so that it aligns with the sign of Virgo, thereby revealing Kino's understanding of the constellations. Kino's interpretation of the comet in times of uncertainty was not unique, even to Mexico. We know from Indigenous accounts in the first half of the 1500s that astronomical signs preceded the arrival of the Europeans.

7. Libra Affronomica, da Compañia de Jesus, que no lolo hun cícrito impugnacionés, vapologis contra Clerigo, Rel giolós, y Seculares, fino an contra los de la milno o inflituto, y algunos con mas alperas pa-labrasque las que aqui te hallaria. Y ya que no ne che o que contra los de la milno o inflituto, y algunos con mas alperas pa-labrasque las que aqui te hallaria. Y ya que no ne che o que ne de la de la de la contra de la fino de rota de la de l

MANIFIESTO PHILOSOPHICO

CONTRA LOS COMETAS DESPOJADOS

delimperio que tenian sobre los timidos.

to NADAay, que mas commueva los animos de los mortales, que las alteraciones del cielo; quizas por la compathia que con efte tienen aquellos fegun *Clemente Alexanárino* orat. ad Gentes: Naturaliter bominibus infiram esta celo foietatem, o porque convi-niendo folo à loshombres elevar los ojos à tan fuprema, hermofura para diftinguirfe en efta accion de las bef-

tias por lo que el cribio sillo Iralica lib. 1. de bello Punico: Nonne vides hominum, vi cellos ad fráera valtus

Subjituteri Deas pomining, et elgo Arguera enun. Subjituteri Deas e fublimi a finzerit era Cam pecudes, voluerum que genes formas que ferar um Segarem, asque obferiam que genus formas que ferar um es accellario que fe alboroten al vorsque el objeto no-bitutimo de la vila padece mudanza con apariencias estrañas, y como nunca se termina en si misma la admi-racion, supuesto que es en todos incentivo de averiracion, inplicito que is cuotos metodos metodos metodos guar la naturaleza delo que lo fulfonde, para depo-licite faber, que es aquello que lo fulfonde, para depo-ner alguna parte de lo no manifielto con que fe efpan-ta: Sa gui aturbatum eff, sus preter confectulationi emicuir, fiedamus, interrogamus, offendimus dixo Seneca lib. 7. Natural.Qu'aft. cap. 1, y fi en nada mejor, que en los Co-metas fe verifica lo antecedente, como lo confeffaràn vniformes quantos los miran, para que me canto en preambulos, quando el milmo Seneca puede terminar-me este muy à mi intento. Idem in Cometis fit: fi rarus, & infolita figura ignis apparuit, nemo non foire quid fit cupit, & oblitus aliorum de adventitio quarit.

eblius aliaram de adventitus questi. 11. Todo quanto aqui he dicho fe ha verificado eftos dias en efta populotifima Ciudad de Mexico; y lo mefmo abrà fucedido en el refto de la America; y aunen todo el mundo con ocafion de yn Cometa; que fe ha visto desde casi mediado Noviembre del año pale ha vitto dei de cali mediado i Noviennore dei ano pa-fado de 1680.cuyas obfervaciones para deducir fu lon-gitud, latitud, diftancia à la tierra, y paralaxes con to-do lo demas que es concerniente à la naturaleza Come-tica facare brevea luz, dandome Dios vida. Diferririe entonces con difusion lo que apuntare ahora como en compendio, porque pretendo ocurrir a las vozes inad-vertidas del vulgo;con que me probria fus veleydades por difcurfos, y juizios mios, fiedo aflique no es el mio B ta

Libra Aftronomica,

10.

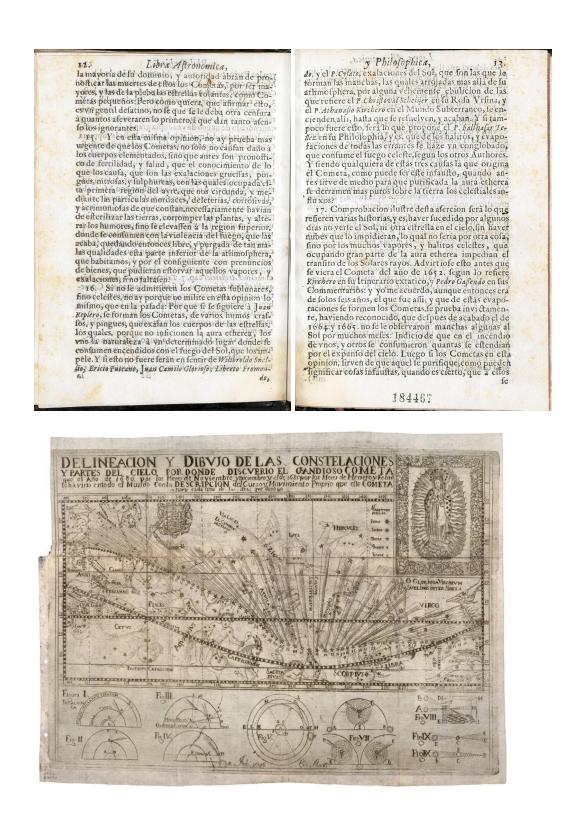
tan cortolque ignore lo que en esta materia debo fentir. 12. Peto antes de proponer lo que pretendo pro-bar es necesfario advertir, que nadie hasta ahora à podido faber con certidumbre phylica, o mathematica de que, y en donde le engendren los Cometas, con que que, y en donde le engendren los Cometas, con que mucho menos podran poronficar(s; atinque no falta-rá en el mundo quien quiera perfuidir lo contrario, con que fe fugetarà à la irrifion, que es configuiente à tan pueril delvario. Con elte prelapuelto, y con fer los Cometas cofa que puede fer no fe fugete à lo regular de la naturaleza por proceder immediatamète de Dios con creation rigorola, aftrmo defde huego chrititana-mente el que deben venerarfe como obra de tan fupre-mo Artifice fin pafar à investigar lo que fignifican, que es lo proprio, que oucer averurante à Dios fins mories lo proprio, que querer averigar lo que reganical que es lo proprio, que querer averigarale à Dios fus moti-vos: Impiedad enorme en los que fon fus criaturas; ann-que los Gentiles ignorantes de la primera canfa fe re-celaban de las fenales del cielo; como ya el milmo Se-for lo premior por bater de Miente canco a puedo. for lo previno por boca de Hieremias cap. to vert. 2. A fignis celi nolite metuere qua timent genies. Y fiendo effo alli, como verdaderamente lo es, lo que en effe chícur-fo procurare (fin que por ello fe me perjudique mi mo-do de opinar) ferà delpojar à los Cometas del im perio que tienen fobre los coraçones timidos de los homque tracan los los coragones timitos de los hom-bres, manifestando fu inigena eficacia , y quitandoles la mafcara para que no nos espanten. Y annque ya eflo fue afumpto del antiguo *Cheremon*, y del moderno *Pa-dre Vinceenia Gainifo* en la Alocutino texta gymandica, fun valerme de los hermoños colores Rhetoricos, que elte galta, irè por diverfo camino, que forà el que me abre la Philofophia para llegar al termino de la verdad. 13. Porque, o fon los Cometas celeftes, o fublunaces: Si fublunares, ferà fu formacion, la que les atribu-

y Philosophica.

IL

y Philofophica. T1. yen los Peripateiros con lu Principe Arifateles lib. 1.1 Meteor, cap. 7. y 10. Y a quien pretenden aluftrat los Commbritentes, tradt. 3. Meteor cap. 3. Juan Generio leck. 31. in 1. Meteor. Clar amonio in Aoti-T ychone lib. 3. Y otros muchos Aftrologos, y Philofophos, cuya opi-nion, cs, que el Cometa, es vn meteoro encendido, y engendrado de nuevo de vnacopia grande de exalacio-nes levantadas del mar, y de la tierra, hafta la fuprema region del ayre, donde concendidas por la antiperiffali, y ya por medio defta con mayor conliftenciasy conden-tacion fon arrebatadas del primer moble, cuyo impullo llega hafta alli, al qual le mueve, hafta q aquella mate-ria vnčtuofa, pingue, crafla, fulfurea, yfaltrofa fe và dif-minuyédo, al paío q el fuego la confume, con q fe a caba el Cometa. Y fieftores Cometa, no fe porque de el fe guna, que dexen de inflamarfe, y arder otros tantosCoguna, que dexen de inflamarfe, y arder otros tantosCo-metas quantas fon las eftrellas, que nos parece que cor-ren, y que verdaderamente no fon fino exalaciones de ran poca compaccion, y quantidad, que apenas fe en-cienden, quando al inflance fe apagan, no diffinguien-dofe de los Cometas, fino en lo breve de fi u, duracion, fupueflo que convienen en todo lo demas, como dixo el mesmo Aristoteles cap. 7. Talis guegue af comota fellas qualis est stella difeurreus. Y fi estos instantancos Comefasi, o exalaciones volantes, no fon prenuccios de ham-bres, peftilencias, y mortandades, porque lo han de fer aquellas exalaciones durables de que fe forma el Cometa; siendo assi, que el origen de este, y de aquellas es vno mifmo?

14. Si ya no es le le antoja à alguno 5 al como el Gov-meta difiere de las effrellas volantes en fer mas copio-fas las exalaciones, que lo componen, de la milma ma-nera difinguiendofe los Principes de fus inferiores en Br la



Knowledge manifests in different ways. While some look to the stars for messages from their deities, others, such as Carlos Sigüenza y Góngora in his response to Kino, *Manifiesto philosóphico contra los cometas despojados del imperio que tenían sobre los tímidos* (1681) and *Libra astrómica y philisóphica* (1690), pointed toward the comet as a naturally occurring

phenomenon of nature. The debate, which also includes Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz's "Aunque es clara del cielo la luz pura" (1690), is an example of the seventeenth-century discussion on science and religion. Alicia Gaspar de Alba outlines this debate in an early draft of *Sor Juana's Second Dream* (1999), titled "The Tenth Muse." Fascination with the role of religion in the cosmos continued in Brazilian *cordel* literature as well, such as the apocalyptic interpretation of Halley's comet as God's punishment for humankind's corruption in Geraldo Moreira de Lacerda's *O Cometa de Halley* (1985) or José Severino Cristóvão's *A Natureza e Seus Feitos*.

Soror lana Inès de la Ciuz. 177 SONETO. Aplaude la ciencia Astronomica del Padre Eusebio Francisco Kino, de la Compañia de Jesus; que escrivio del Cometa, que el año de ochenta apareciò, absolviendole de Ominofo. A Vnque es clara del Cielo la luz pura, clara la Luna, y claras las Eftrellas, y claras las efimeras centellas, que el ayre elèva, y el incendio apura; Aunque es el rayo claro, cuya dura produccion, cuefta al viento mil querellas, y el relampago, que hizo de fus huellas medrofa luz en la tinicbla obscura; Todo el conocimiento torpe humano se estuvo obscuro, sin que las mortales plumas pudiessen fer, con buelo vfano, Icaros de discursos racionales; hasta que al tuyo, Eusebio soberano, les diò luz à las luzes celestiales. SONETO. Lamenta con todos la muerte de la Señora Marquesa de Mancera. MVeran contigo Laura, pues moriste, los afectos, que en vano te deseans los ojos, à quien privas, de que vean la hermofa luz, que à vn tiempo concedifie. M Mue-

TENTH MUSE/A. Gaspar de Alba

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5 February

Last night in my bath I realized I was calmer than I've been in a month. Is it the quiet that precedes a storm, or the peace that comes with knowing that our friendship is as deep and meaningful to her as it is to me? I think I may have found my other half. Aristophanes' Woman could be no more whole than I am when we sit in the locutorio together. Even with the grille between us, we are bound by something deeper than flesh and bone. In many ways she is my complete opposite, but I suppose this makes sense, this balance of opposites on the same tree. Is this the secret of the Tree of Knowledge for which Eve sacrificed perfection? This knowledge that Adam could never have given he?

9 February

La Condesa and the Viceroy both came to visit me today. I felt awkward with him in the room, at first, accostumed as I've become to having la Condesa all to myself and not diverting my eyes from hers until she leaves. But the Viceroy is leaving next week, taking a trip to the north, to the province of Nuevo Mejico, where the Indians continue their rowth assing the missions.

- "Do you know, Sor Juana," he said, clearly trying to find a topic of conversation that would engage all
- of us, "that my couriers actually saw our comet while on the Camino Real?"
 "It stretched that far, Excellency?"

it stretched that has, Excellency:

"It was even seen in Seville, I'm told," said la Condesa. "Our Jesuit friend, Eusebio Kino, is writing a treatise about it that refutes Don Carlos."

TENTH MUSE/A. Gaspar de Alba

"If God is the author of this portent, Juana," countered la Condesa, "why do scientists waste their time looking for origins outside of God?"

- "That is the work of scientists--" the Viceroy began, but la Condesa did not allow him to finish. She got to her feet and said she had no intention of being contradicted by that criollo, Sigüenza.
- I winced at the comment, as I, too, am a criolla, and she knows it. "I doubt that it was his intention to contradict, Señora." I pointed out. "He did dedicate his manifesto to you, after all."

"What better way to mock me!"

"Don Carlos is Chief Cosmographer of the Realm, María Luisa. He's entitled to his ideas, even if they contradict prevailing dogma."

"This is a fine display of loyalty," she said, her face gone red with anger. "The two people I love most are both siding with that dolt, Siguenza, and letting him dictate to us how we should respond to that ungodly

presage I'm leaving! If you want to sit here chattering behind my back, Tomás, so be it!" The Viceroy raised his eyebrows at me and all I could do was shrug in stupefaction. He reached for

my hand to kiss it goodbye and I wished him a safe journey. His hand felt so warm. All I could think as I returned to my cell was of that hand touching la Condesa, stroking away her anger in the carriage. Concepcion was just preparing to bring our tray. I was going to serve Chinese tea, today, and Jane's delicious pasties, stuffed with meat and olives and raisins. Now I shall have to send some to Mother Catalina, and interrupt my work to write an apology, though I don't know what I did to merit such a reaction. Surely she cannot expect me to share her superstitious interpretation of that silly cornet!

"Even the Greeks understood the malignant power of comets," said the Viceroy. "Or do you share Signenza's views, Sor Juana?" "Don Carlos says that comets are natural rather than supernatural phenomena," I said, "that they are not portents at all but signs of God's existence." I was leery of saying any more for I could sense that this was a delicate topic for Ia Condesa. "We know what he says. What do <u>you</u> believe, Juana?" she asked, narrowing her eyes at me. "I tend to agree with the scientific view-.." I started to say, but Ia Condesa interrupted. "Science is the work of the Devil, Juana. Surely you know that. " I could't help but grime at the comment. I do new know the to be superstitious. Surely she

"What is there to refute, Condesa? Don Carlos is simply clarifying the origin of comets so that they

knows that the only Devil exists in the minds of the priests!

"What scientists are you referring to, Sor Juana?" asked the Viceroy. "Not that imbecilic colleague of Don Carlos' who thinks the comet is a ball of fumes from dead bodies on the earth, I trust."

"Descartes and Copernicus both had theories concerning the movement of matter in the void, Excellency, which could be applicable to comets. Descartes argued that there were vortexes in the Milky Way that could generate intense heat, and the comet could be a great spark shooting through the sky. Copernicus believed that there were celestial bodies constantly traveling in straight lines from beyond the stars."

TENTH MUSE/A. Gaspar de Alba

TENTH MUSE/A. Gaspar de Alba

cease to frighten people of quality, like youreself, Lady." "The origin of comets, Juana, is the Devil, himself," she said.

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19 March

Nearly the end of Lent and still no word from la Condesa. Now I know that she is both superstitious and rancorous. Could it be that she is jealous of Don Carlos? Or jealous, at least, of the fact that I am in agreement with his and not her views? I wonder if she's seen Don Carlos' new manifesto yet. He has denounced the chicaneries of astrology and those who would rely on it to explain the comet. He is looking forward to the arrival of Father Kino for he hopes to find a broader mind and a mutual depth of astronomical discernment in a fellow Jesuit. He does not believe that Father Kino has

been expressly commissioned to refute his own theories.

"Scientists do not refute each other with supersitition," he told me.

We shall see 1 had Concepción deliver another poem to la Condesa in which 1 pretended that 1 had just seen her, seen the effect of jealousy on her face, and resorted to a rhetoric of tears to beg her forgiveness.

This afternoon, my dear, when we did speak,

from your face and actions could I evince

that with words I did not convince,

my heart I wanted for you to seek;

and Love, which my intentions sought to aid,

- defeated what seemed impossible:
- for amid tears produced by pain,

was my broken heart distilled.

TENTH MUSE/A. Gaspar de Alba

of my own shortcoming and thus, do not burden myself with the cross of guilt when my human nature gets the best of me."

"You do not convince, Sister." "I did not think so, Señora."

26 September

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Another quarrel with la Condesa today. I still disagree with her interpretation of the comet, and she has involved me in a silly scandal with Don Carlos and Father Kino. Now she has brought me a copy of Father Kino's absurd treatise on the comet, <u>Exposición astronómica de el cometa, que el año 1680, por</u> los meses de Noviembre y Diziembre, y este año de 1681, por los meses de Enero y Febrero, se ha vista en dodo el mundo y le he observado en la ciudad de Cadiz. It is a refutation of Don Carlos' manifesto, and I must write a somet in favor of Father Kino's ideas if I expect to maintain my friendship with la Condesa. She is far too dignified to request it openly, but I believe my loyalty is being tested, and 1 know, although in reality I agree with Don Carlos that comets are not portents of disaster as the learned Jesuit suggests, but natural phenomena of celestial origin, that I will eventually submit to Maria Luisa's will, at the cost of my friendship with Don Carlos. It is an unjust test, and she knows it. The choices that we ar driven to make by our tyrannical hearts! She is twenty times more willful than la Marquesa, and an twenty times more foolish for her love.

3 October

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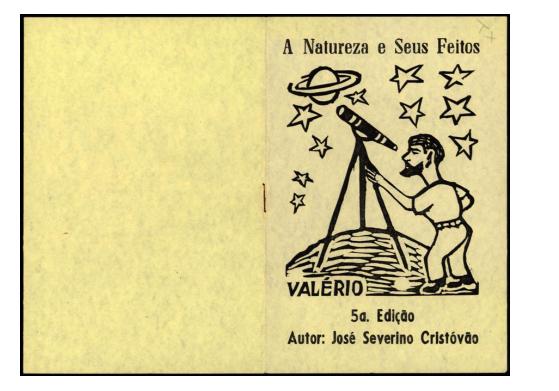
Sent la Condesa a birthday gift with Concepción, a tiny retablo of the Nativity etched out of ivory that Concepción found for me at one of the stands outside the Cathedral. I've had her looking in every silversnith's shop and merceria for a week trying to find some sort of Nativity scene and this one-so small and beautifully carved, it can only be an import from Africa--is absolutely perfect. Who cares that Concepcion doesn't know how to haggle and ended up paying twice what it's worth? I've written a poem to accompany the gift in which I compare la Condesa's own birth to the Nativity (another sacrilegious glyph of mino). I hope she likes this gift best of all, though it be the most modest.

TENTH MUSE/A. Gaspar de Alba

Don Carlos has said nothing about my sonnet in praise of Father Kino. He must know that I was coerced to write it, that I would never err on the side of the irrational and the ridiculous. And now I must return to my loa in honor of King Charles. Twe already written two, at the behest of Fray Payo, but this one was commissioned by the Viceroy as soon as he returned from the north. Seems every new Viceroy must pay homage to his king with one of my loas. It must be dispatched in the next mail in order to reach Vera Cruz before the Flota sails back to Cadiz.

20 October

First anniversary of Aunt Mary's passing. I've constructed a small altar for her on my wardrobe, dedicated to Santa Teresa. How odd to think it's only been a year and yet it feels like so long ago that she and I spoke in the locutory for the last time. Odd, too, that at this same time last year I was completing the



- 06 -

Foi feito de coisa morta Mas porém nunca tem fim E Lavoisièr pai da química Escreveu dizendo assim No mundo nada se acaba Tudo se transforma sim

Afirmo devendo assim Para as pessoas estranhas Pedras são ossos da terra Convivo nas suas entranhas E os agentes internos Porém fizeram as montanhas

Deus é uma força estranha Eu afirmo com teoria Deus não é ceramista Como diz a profecia Que fez o homem de barro Com água da marizia

Com muita filoasfia Afirmo dizendo em traço Para o Brasil e o mundo Eu sfirmo sem fracaso Deus é as forças cósmicas Da terra ao grande espaço - 07 -

Há uma força no espaço Que no mundo tudo cria A que chamamos de Deus Como está na profecia E é quem transforma tudo Do infinito a marizia

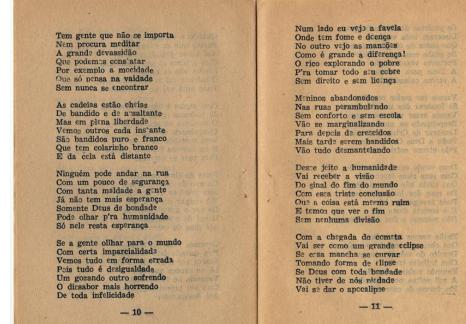
Com muito teoria Digo em verso profundo A lorça que fez o universo Como o planêta fecundo É responsável por tudo Que transforma este mundo

1

A força que transforma o mundo Eu digo com realidade Sem ter pés e sem ter mão Na remota antigüicade Foi ela quem criou Esta grande imensidade.

Por o nome de Trindade Na velha profecia A esta força universal Que do nada tudo cria E porém transforma tudo Do infinito à marizia





Betye Saar's *Mystic Sky with Self-Portrait* (1992) centers the importance of tarot readings that incorporate constellations, planets, and stars into the divination process. Saar's self-portrait also includes references to palm-reading and alchemy as important elements to her identity as she searchers for a deeper understanding of self within the universe. We close out this section with "Sobre cubierta con Martí" (undated), Ernesto Cardenal's own ponderings about the universe, the infinite space that surrounds us, and whether we are alone in it.



SOBRE CIL

SOBRE CUBIERTA CON MARTI

- Nacidos de ese evento tan improbable el Big Bang.
- Con el cual empezó la evolución.
- Dùos habrá visto que "todo estaba bueno" después de billones de años.
- La vida engendra vida, pero antes
- la no vida engendró vida.
- Por errores en el ADN, la variación, la evolución.
- Si hubiera sido siempre perfecto
- no hubiera habido sino microbios.
- . De ameba a reptil a simios etc.
- grados de percibir más y más realidad.

ADN

escritos todos con el mismo lenguaje y el mismò alfabeto. (¿en otros planetas habrá otrps lenguajes, otras letras?) Escamas de reptiles fueron plumas de dinosauritos y después de pájaros. ¿Giega selección natural? For otra parte hay crustáceos que en 300 millomés de años no han evolucionado. La teonología de la tela de araña es siempre igual. Nosotros

- agentes conscientes de la aceleración de la evolución. No biológica, conste.
 - Esa vastedad del universo que tan sólo sabe por nosotros.
 - Somos átomos inteligentes. Estrellas estudiando las estrellas.

yn los lodazales de la Tierra el cosmos se hizo vivo. Y tras corto tiempo -en nosotros- se entendió a sí mismo. Nosotros 2

"la más compleja de las moléculas"

La luna como una bola de rugby. A las 8 a.m. sobre los Alpes. ¡Todo lo que Tú tocas est na bello: ¿Que cómo se ve la tierra desde la luna? Respontió el astrunauta: -"frágil". Se ve también sin ninguna división de naciones. De reacciones puramente químicas se pasó aquí a vida inteligente. No múltiples mentes sino una sola, colectiva. (¿ el eol? Su jug bianquísima en cielo negro).

Habiendo seres que se adelantan a la evolución. ¿Y habrán otros así en otros planetas? ¿Y tienen cuerpo? ¿Hasta donde los habrá llevado ya la evolución? Forque algunos podrían ser nube interestelar solamente. O seres inteligentes hechos sólo de radiación. Que podríamos llamar ángeles en nuestro lávico. No estamos pensando en películas de Hollyvood donde viajan a estrollas de Hollyvood.

El encuentro sería otro paso de la evolución. Extraterrestres y terrestres. Ya no será cambio sino transformación. Tras el encuentro no hay sino trabajar juntos.

Hijos del mismo vientre del Big Bang.

yvolverán al inconsciente colectivo? ¿Quién dice que la vida puede ser sólo en superficies planetarias?

Y como los mamíferos son de cuatro patas pero los murciélagos dos hicieron alas, las ballenas aletas, y nosotros manos. Y como las aves procedem de los dinosaurios, de los apabullantes dinosaurios las leves aves. Y un huevo del que mace un embrión... Toda especie se había dividido. Sólo una se unió más y más. Hasta llegar a ser ciudades. Hasta llegar al capital transmacional.

Un niño sobre cubierta mirando las estrellas y sentado junto a di José Martí. Después, nonogenario, grabó para Gintio lo de Martí: "Id crese que fue hecho para que lo contemplemos un tiempo breve? ¿A ti no te parece chico, que habrá algo más grande que nosotros? ¿Tú te das cuenta de lo que eso representa y que aquí abajo nosotros somos parte de eso? Así pues para que sepas que no fue hecho para divertirnos

y tenemos obligaciones con eso que se ha creado."

Ahora Wheeler pregunta que

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para qué sirve un universo sin conciencia de ese universo. Y agrega que el universo es tan grande porque sólo así podríanos estar nosotros. Y Barnov: 15

Nuestra existencia es causa de la estructura del universo. Muy misteriosa física es ésta. Que condiciones físicas produzoan al hombre, bien. "Pero que el hombre produjo las condiciones físicas? ¿Las condiciones físicas para aparecer en el futuro?

"El universo tenía que crear observadores de él."

Así aquel niño sobre cubierta mirando las estrellas: y sentado junto a él José Martí.

Craftwork

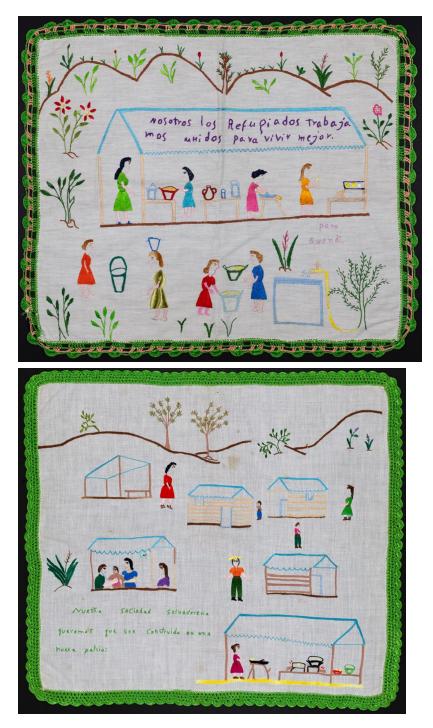
Late twentieth-century free-market capitalism has encouraged mass production. To meet the market demands of the Global North, goods are often manufactured in the Global South for a lesser price in exploitative work conditions, as illustrated in the photograph of the textile factory from the Landon Rupert Chambers Photograph Collection. As a result, products move easily across transnational borders while people, in search of better opportunities, are restricted in their migratory patterns.



The items in this section celebrate work done with the hands. As Ruth Phillips points out, "sewing, beading, and embroidery became important ways of ensuring the continued vitality of visual cultures that might otherwise have disappeared" (1998: 198). Craftwork is a vehicle for maintaining local aspects of identity, demonstrating the resiliency and perseverance of a culture. Recent research has linked craftwork to various types of healing and reconciliation. For example, not only has it played a role on a macro level with Indigenous communities in Canada finally sharing their stories to the Truth and Reconciliation Committee through the Living Healing Quilt Project, but it has proven useful for individuals working through PTSD and anxiety.

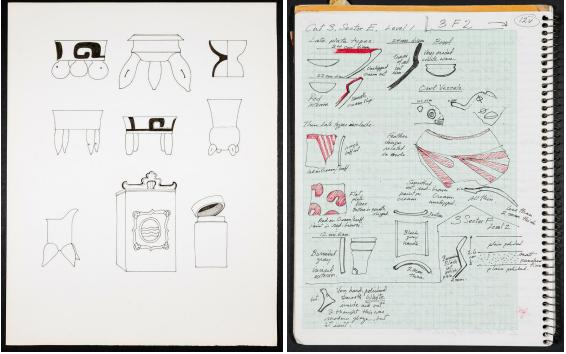
<pre>they were just meant as covers in winters as weapons against pounding january winds but it was just that every morning I awoke to these october ripened canvases passed my hands across their cloth faces and began to wonder how you pieced all these together these strips of gentle communion cotton and flannel nightgoms wedding organdies dime store velvets how you shaped patterns square and oblong and round positioned balanced then cemented them with your thread a steel needle a thimble how the thread darted in and out galloping along the frayed edges, tucking them in as you did us at night oh wyou stretched and turned and re-arranged your michigan spring faded curatin pieces my father's santa fe work shirt the summer denims, the tweeds of fall</pre>	<pre>in the evening you sat at your canvas our cracked linoleum floor the drawing board me lounging on your arm and you staking out the plan: whether to put the lilac purple of easter against th red plaid of winter-going-into-spring whether to mix a yellow with blue and white and pain the corpus christi noon when my father held your han whether to shape a five-point star from the somber black silk you wore to grandmother's funeral you were the river current carrying the roaring notes forming them into pictures of a little boy reclining a swallow flying you were the caravan master at the reins driving your threaded needle artillery across the mosaic cloth bridges delivering yourself in separate testimones oh mother you plunged me sobbing and laughing into our past into the spinach fields into the plainview cotton rows into tuberculosis wards into braids and muslin dresses sewn hard and taut to withstand the thrashings of twenty-five years stretched out they lay armed/ready/shouting/celebrating knotted with love the quilts sing on</pre>
20	21

Teresa Palomo Acosta's "My Mother Pieced Quilts" (1976) reflects on a mother-daughter relationship told through the handmade quilts that a mother used to cover her daughter on chilly winter nights. With each patch comes a memory, extending quilting from practical task to one that binds family. Moreover, the embroidery work found in the 1980s *Colección Bordadoras de Memorias* of post-custodial partner Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen (MUPI, El Salvador) uses handcrafted materials to tell the stories of human rights violations. Stitched by women for the United Nations to recount their life in refugee camps, these stories reimagine better societies founded on equity and justice. Envisioning a world without the violence and violations that set them on a path toward political asylum puts them one step closer to achieving it.



Marcelo Soares's *Fiandeira* (undated) provides a visual of a similar type of craft work, while Terence Grieder's undated archaeological illustrations turn our attention to pottery work as a distinctive marker for style across different indigenous societies.





Community Stories and Songs

This section consists of the stories and songs that strengthen a community and endow it with a sense of *querencia*, which Juan Estevan Arrellano defines as "that which gives us a sense of place, and that which anchors us to the land, that which makes us a unique people, for it implies a deeply rooted knowledge of place, and for that reason we respect it as our home" (2014: 50). *Querencia* can have different meanings for different groups. Indigenous communities have a connection to land that other groups can never fully understand. Similarly, in places like the U.S. Southwest, Hispanic and Latino communities, some of which have been there for centuries, have a *querencia* that is challenged by the relatively recent arrival of White European settlers. Still other communities understand this connection differently due to enslavement, political asylum, or economic opportunity that have forced them to engage with a previous homeland, figurative or literal, alongside a new sense of place.



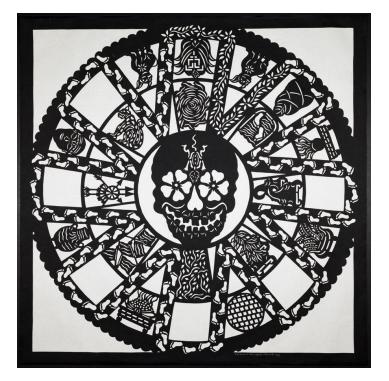
Libro Segundo 28 And the second $t^{(0)}$ μα βαίβ από έλα δα ματαγικά δά μα ματαγιά μα βαίβ αξά ματαγικά τη δα μα βαίβ αξά ματαγικά τη δα ματαγία τη Γίλαρα miadon y caida del Angeles fegun las f intas delas yndior ~ CAP. I. Delo que tenian y creyon cerca de sus Dioses o Demonios, y de la eria criacion del primer bombre-Libro puesos quanto i lácio Michan Teuth Capitan del mpieno cra totata y cauldo, majo no augentido tel fue dado se gas faguas. Bei pa do gua tempino da Lugo advis con esta fa quanta ma ratema Alga Cochel dalamfina mana que fa tento i dualo y entiga que fue temano de Capitan Usettan tento i dualo y entiga que fue temano for constanta da serva tento i dualo y entiga que fue temano for constanta da serva tento da serva de parte de concilo algan Luchan serva tento da serva de parte de concilo algan Luchan serva parte da serva da parte de concilo algan Luchan serva tento da serva da serva de concilo algan Luchan serva parte da serva da parte de concilo algan Luchan serva partene y elever de serva per serva y el huilo y ue cas partene y elever de serva per serva y el huilo y ue cas partene y elever de serva per serva ten per serva partene y elever de serva per serva ten de serva partene y elever de serva per serva ten de serva da algan de familio La constanta de serva de serva partene y elever de serva per serva de serva serva de de fa lavo per serva familio la serva tento serva ten de la conserva per serva la bada la serva tento de serva tento de serva de serva per serva de serva serva de de familio Serva serva de serva serva de serva serva la conse da serva per serva de serva serva de serva serva de de familio de serva serva serva de serva serva de serva serva de de familio de serva serva serva de serva serva de serva serva de de familio de serva serva serva de serva serva serva de serva serva de serva serva de serva serva

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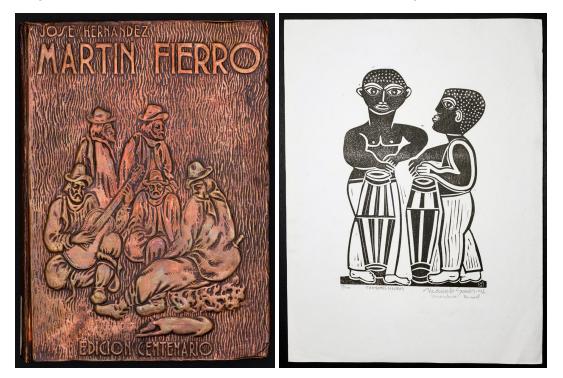
Originally written in 1571, Fray Gerónimo de Mendieta's *La historia eclesiastica indiana* details an early account of Europeans trying to make sense of the spiritual knowledge possessed by Indigenous groups. Quick to violently denounce Indigenous beliefs as heresy, these accounts provide us with insight, however skewed and fragmented, into the markers that constructed a community.



The circular genealogy of Nezahualcoyotl (ca. 1580) suggests a shifting sense of belonging. As a type of land claim in colonial Mexico, the genealogy tells the story of multiple generations of a family whose ancestors were original, elite inhabitants of the area. The transition is present in the increasing number of Spanish names in the genealogy, revealing the colonial model of evangelization. It is a story of *mestizaj*e, a phenomenon that the Mexican government has long promoted. Yet it often overlooks the darker reality that to be "mestizo" is to leave behind one's Indigenous roots.



Catalina Delgado-Trunk's *Camino al Mictlán* (ca. 2018) returns to those roots by pointing to the journey to the nine levels of the Aztec underworld. This is where Aztecs would go upon death, and the journey necessitated a dog companion to guide the soul past devastating winds that blew knives and ferocious jaguars, among other challenges. *Camino al Mictlán* is an integral part of the Aztec cosmovision and, therefore, a binding aspect of the culture.



	¡existe!		rondan en los pol seducen a las mud pelean con los jóv	hachas, pacífico con la capacidad	1
Catalino Mosquera, pescador de la ensenada de Tumaco, iba una noche en	Fue cuando síntió, con la	barco se detenía y desaparecía, volviendo nuevamente la serenidad y	hasta acompaña velorios de viejos ar Estamos hablando	migos demás especies que habitan este territorio. Pero mucho, hasta lo que conocemos,	and the
medio de la oscuridad y al ritmo de su canalete, remontando la corriente de Humbolt, un poco al sur de	sangre más helada aún, los pelos de punta y los ojos queriéndosele salir, que el barco pasaba por él, o él	la oscuridad de la noche. Fue lo último que vió Catalino antes de	por estos días, conservación o Biodiversidad; es d la rigueza de vidas o	de la seres del mundo invisible lecir, de tienen su importancia real	
la Isla del Gallo. Desde donde estaba se	por entre el barco, sin tocarlo siquiera, y que podía ver a los ocupantes	desmayarse. Una semana después	en nuestro territor hemos de apostar a conservación de	a que la el territorio y las especies e esta de esta región	
podía ver, en la negrura noctuma, las luces de la bolla de clavada en El Viudo, peñasco legendario unido en	cadavéricos y decrépitos, entregados a una danza diabólica	Catalino no podía pronunciar palabra y siguió así por muchos años, hasta	riqueza ha estado tutela de la cultu Pacífico, de neg indígenas, es imp	ura del Por eso es imperativo gros e tratar de aguzar la vista y	construcción de un sensibilidad distinta par relacionarnos con la especies del Pacífic
el centro de la Bahía de Tumaco	Cuando el barco pasó por él, o él por el barco, le quedó un olor penetrante	que poco a poco, el tiempo lo fue curando de su encuentro con el Barco Fantasma	pensar en el ca mágico de la vida e Cultura.	arácter la presencia de aquellos en esta acompañantes invisibles que nos han ayudado a	avancemos también e desarrollar nuestr capacidad de ver y sent
Estaba a un kilometro del peñasco, cuando sintió un ruido extraño a sus espaldas. Era como el ruido del	de azufre; sólo pudo observar cómo en el peñasco de El Viudo, el	Y no ha sido el único.	Aún hace falta co mucho sobre las i		aquellos, que posiblemen en este momento, está leyendo con usted esta líneas No se asuste, so
motor de barco unido a gritos, música y risas. Catalino sintió que la		aquí donde la corriente Humbolt trae a parir a las ballenas, los alcatraces	relaciones de la m		amigos.
sangre se le helaba al presentirse arrollado por un barco. Miró hacia atrás y pudo ver que una enorme embarcación se	an a	se mueren de viejos y existen centenares de especies animales aún sin concer, el mundo de lo invisible existe de		COLECCION DE HISTORIAS, M LEYENDAS DE LA COSTA PAO COLOMBIANA Recopilados por Comunicadores Popular	CIFICA
le venía encima. No tuvo más que apretar su canalete y bogar fuerte para salirse del rumbo	Kas	manera tan fuerte, que en ocasiones es imposible saber si estamos hablando con		Litoral Pacífico Con el Apoyo de:	
que llevaba el barco; sin embargo, sus esfuerzos fueron en vano, el barco siempre estaba frente a él	Martin .	alguien de este mundo o con un fantasma Los seres invisibles,		Ministerio del Medio Ambiente PNUD Fundación H Calle 9 B	
a pesar de todo lo que hacía para esquivarlo, hasta que lo vió encima	SW Sol	están en todos lados: cuidan del bosque, acompañan a los	L	PNUD Calle 9 B f Proyecto Biopacífico Cal	

Cultures are bound by the stories they tell. Whether gathered around a fire with a guitar as in an illustration of *Martin Fierro*, or the African drums in Marcelo Soares's woodcut, communities come together to share their stories and songs. In Nicolás Patricio Vigueras's Tepehua and Spanish tale "Pedro y la acamaya" (2000) and PCN's "Hay un mundo donde lo que no se ve, jexiste!" (1978), communities share stories, often with a magical realist flair, to explain local happenings.

Madrid.20 de Marzo de 1930

Mi adorada mamá:

An control manna. Necesito commicar a algorita ni alegria, y se la comunicó a united que es toda mé vida: l'Ango de firmer el contrato con la Editorial Giorite, y de ver entregen el libro e la imprend. Pronto pues, Leyendus será un he-cho. El cormeno me salta de fibilo. El conte pues, leyendus será un he-cred para hamanala y llovar o refer ne la mismo dé, cuando ce a feliz, como yo me adento ahorz. Que ne es para mentos, Quiera tenela como yo me adento ahorz. Que ne es para mentos corres ou mismo de se-manas encontrar editor que hace al libro, que sobre será un la tene monstos. Vel e decir, pues, que el primer pase en firme e el cantine liternito, es-tá ado, y de seguir ad todo irá muy bien. Dice le quiera para que con estas alegris a le pague yo a unted, y a Marco, cuante hacen por el "mago" de la familia.

De Madrid seguiré hasta que el libro salga. Ne quedaré un mes más para trabajarlo. Y luyco, probablemente, por los Matos, y lus coses a medio con eser que aldrán estás tengo, solverá a pasar el vernos; para lue-co eser que aldrán el la Mendigos Políticos, que a los editores les parecen inmejorables, y me anisma, que los concluya prototo, pronto.

Nuestra estancia en Madrid sigue ain novedad. Hi papi està bien y con-tento. El pobrecito goza con-micg aunque su carater seco no le permite exteriorizarse en casos de alegrin e tristeza. Pere unted le conoce me-jor que yo. Para mi es un amigo, un sonten y al mismo tiempo siento que al tenelle esrca le salvo de la muerta que al llegar a Guatemala y po-merse a beber, ne lo llevaria en el acto. No se cuide que le trato con paciencia, y a le voy tomando el mede, con lo cual todo camino sobre rie-les.

les. De gastos, no creo que hemos sobrepasado el presupuesto. Aquí, sin les compromisos sociales de amigos y demás de Paris, y sin el pago de taxis y transportes, siento que hemos guistado menos, mucho menos. Y ello me ale-gravjues de esta suere la econamia entra por casa allay, coma expu aquí. Eddid es muy lindo. Ne he hecha de amigos literaros jorenes, y ya tam-lendo conceo a los visios. Yoy u las brutuíns de los actes, en las que, parate mentira, pero solo se toma café con leche. Seto me ha hecho pename en las temália: donde colo se arrogata con trago y no se explica un hombre el castemais donde colo se arrogata con trago y no se explica un hombre el as temás que no vaya hediondo a ulcohol. Como Max Jimenes biene automo-cia es da com el pago a concer los alimenos a los estudiantes. A principios de abrit roy a dar uma conferencia en la Associación de Es-tudiantes Hisponometricanos.

Por mi salud,no tenĝa pena,que estoy como don Marco Antonio de gordo. No bebo licor,porque aquí no se una y porque no debe ser que las generacio-nes nuevas orezoamos con los vicios de los antegasudos; no me desvelo;y como bien,como se come en España,

Madrid.29 de Abril de 1930

Mi buena y adorada mamá:

-

Ya están mis levendas en las librerías de Madrid! "El Sol", se ocupó de ellas ya. Le adjunto el recor-te. Y por correc certificado el va su ejemplar te los dos ejemplares mise dirados en papel registo y ricamente empastados en piel, uno es de Ud. Consérve-lo siempre, lealo mucho, y piense que con estos gajos de alma le pagamos sus hijos cuanto ha hecho y sigue haciendo por nosotros. Aparte envío ejemplares para Marco Antonio y Margarita.

De la venta en Guatemala... Dios dirá. A Goubaud le enviará la Editorial en una caja por una parte 35 ejemplares encuadernados para que Goubaud los entre-gue al líc Ernesto Viteri, Scoretario del Club Rota-rio. Y por otra parte 500 ejemplares, marcados con el precio de un quetzal, para que Goubaud los ponga a la venta en su Mibreria. Les enviaré también tarje-tas de propaganda. A la larga no dudo que este libro se venderá. No se venderá luego, luego; pero tampoco se quedará para envolver libras de sal.

Por correo escribo a "El Imparcial", para que allí me hagan la campaña de hacer propaganda. Creo que si los muchachos se mueren en el periódico,y Córdo-va me apoya,si se venderán esos ejemplares 500.

No he podido disponer de muchos libros, porque la Editorial no me dió para mis amigos más que 50. Y los he repartido entre México, Guatemala, Cuba, Paris, Argentina y España. Así díganlo ustedes a las per-sonas que les reclamen.

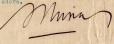
Mi papá está muy contento de ver el libro. Es todo un señor libro,como usted verá. A David le enviaré, por separado,los recortes de la prensa madrileña,pa-ra que los reproduza en el periódico. Ya le escribi dándole las gracias por lo del recor de "La Calle".

De laris me hacen seguir sus cartas. Ne alegra mucho saber de usted, y de Marco y de la casa, pues que otra cosa tengo en el mundo sino us-tedes? El cariño ata más que las cadenas, mutimas obvio el la sangre manda, y corrobora una buena educación de mutuo sacrificios.

Estoy que canto. Estoy que grito. Estoy que ballo. Y estoy sólo. Solo, solo, solo, ... La solsdad es la unica que puede purifícar el espiritu.En chla el alma se replica a sus intefices dorados, ys cham en la lur de la contiencia propia, que, cuando es sana, tiene porfumes insuspecha-dos y relimpaços de Dico.

La alegria como la xexat tristesa,lo ponen a uno infantil,y es por ese sentirme niño,madre, ue se escribo,habiandola como si la tuviera cer-ca,como si la viera comigo,que la quiero tanto.

Commiqué a Marco y a Margarita esta noticia. Ellos ne alegraran como usted; y.en tanto le escribo de nuevo, reciba los besos de su hijo que la adora.



-2-

Estoy entre si me quedo en Madrid 15 dias más o no. Probablemente me quede. Tengo muchas magnifi-cas pitas que mover aquí,y ahora,creo,es el momen-to de hacerlo. Quiero lograr artículos de las fir-mas mejores de España,y esto lo único que necesita es tiempo. Veremos, pues,lo que resueiva. Ya le con-taré en mi próxima.

La suerte, y usted que pide tanto, me acompaña. Pare-ce mentira, pero ya los literatos jóvenes aquí me tratan como si toda la vida hubiera vivido entre ellos. Ya estày colaborando en un quincenario "Nue-va España", que es el periódico más acreditado de la nueva literatura española. Por correo le envio el periòdico con mi colaboración.

El plan es ahora publicar a fin de año lo más tar-de otro libro. La prensa grande selo se abre con la llave de los buenos libros. Un poco de paciencia,de lucha y trabajo cuesta llegar; pero el que llega es bien visto,bien remunerado y se abre caminos en to-da América.

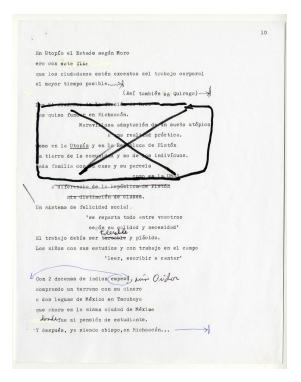
Aquí no valen las recomendaciones, ni los gestos, ni nada. Lo unico que cuenta a la larga para lograr un puesto en la prensa, es la obra. Cuando esta es bue-na, automáticamente uno lloga. Y, por missin preten-ciones de ninguna especie, trabajando un poco más puede que llegue.

Todos los literatos elogian en leyendas, el traba-jo de documentación y el tono lirico, sostenido, de la obra. Creo que principio con buena ley... Y a trabajar mejor las próximas cosas, tocan. Ya luego quiero oir a mis paisanitos que me llamaban vago, perezoso, etc. Andando se desmuestra el movimi ento. Que venga otro de todos las que hablan, que venga a probar si puede hacer algo vestido con los titu-los de todas las universidades del mundo. Ardo en la más viva fe en el povenir. Sueño con abrirme camino en España y que ustedes todos se vengan a vivir o a pasr larges temporadas aquí conmigo. Dios me conceda esta alegría.

que vou debidos à lents sin sufference A los Matos y a Ramiro les envié ejemplares a París. Con ellos me escribo siempre. Y estan que ya no ven las horas perque regrese. Le esperamos —dice el viejito José-como agua de Mayo! adie que as lo q - 1 dess me congratule A México le envié ejemplares a Bojorquez y a Mérida que se ha portado muy bien con mi "Rayito de Estrella". mal hups a m apretrik A Cuba a Maribona, a Cardoza, etc. 20 A Costa-Rica a Max Jiménez. No sé si en una ante-rior le conté que Jiménez tuvo que marcharse a las carreras de Madrid. Pues dejóme huérfane. Es magni-fico amigo, Ya le envié también gran ejemplar dedi-cado. Great A Paris le envié a Falgairelle, a Pillement, a Mio-mandre, a Valery Larbaud.etc. Todo está ya hecho y derecho, Con las editoria-les es còmodo,pues ellos tienen montado un equipo de embaladores y de personas,en fin,que se entienden coh los envios. Abrazos muy apretados a Marco Antonio,a la Lita y usted, con mis besos, mis bendiciones y la alegría del libro publicado, ouvo ejemplar le remito certi-ficado, y quiero que lo estreche contra su corazón. Miquerida Marie: go a'lo que Le tim Migne ngel Forthe con for trumps you

In Miguel Ángel Asturias's letters to his mother, the author expresses the glee and triumph of publishing his first book, *Leyendas de Guatemala* (1930). Written in France, Asturias's stories not only garnered more attention for Guatemala and the narratives of Indigenous groups in the country, but also gave Asturias a sense of belonging to his native country in moments of intense homesickness.

12 11 común a todos el oficio de la agricultura con las letras Fue en Michoacán su gran obra. Los pueblos sin cárceles En Michoscán hecha real la fantasía de Moro. dende po hebfa menos sino más justicia quen los otros. Lio hay pena de muerte. (Sí destierrb) Se les enseñaba a gobernar y obedecer. Las 54 ciudades de la ficción de Moro quériendo fundarlas en Michoacán. En tierras de la Nueva España Adpatación de sueño utópico la manera de vivir de los primeros cristianos. a realidad práctica. Donde ninguno tenía por propia cosa alguna. Como en la <u>Utopía</u> y la República de Platón Holot la tierra de la comunidad y no de los indivíduos. En otra de sus Ordenanzas: no haya mendigos ni frailes holgazanes Cada familia con su casa y su parcela como en la URSS. Moro y Quiroga precursores del socialismo. Unidad básica la familia como en Moro. Y Quiroga menciona varias veces La tierra de los tarascos fue autosuficiente "Santo Tomás Moro" al Consejo de Indias. Julio de 1535: mes de suprimer escrito el Conmejo de Indias. y una provincia próspera. 'Que ninguno padezca necesidad' y mes en'que Moro fue decapitado. lo que era posible por el trabajo en común. 'de las dichas seis horas del trabajo en común' El primer plátano que hubo en México (de Sto. Domingo) Los excedentes lo plentó él mismo en Tzintzuntzán. para enfermos, huérfanos, viudas y ancianos. Nadie dueño de los medios de producción. con zapotes, chicozapotes, mamey, limas Un sistema de pueblos limón real, nevenios, pinos levantados hacia le cielo intercmabiando entre 🛎 sus industrias. "con linda disposición y arte La necesidad que unos tenían de otros que todo el pueblo parece un país flamenco" los mantenía unidos por el comercio y la indiastria. "Tanta honestidad y limpieza El oficio agrícola obligatorio. como puede haber en cualquier monasterio (los otros a libre opción) e que esto es lo que él sabe". Y creo la parecla escolar. Que fueran diestros en la agricultura desde niños. Otro testigo les ha visto comer como españoles con mucho concierto. Según este testigo ha visto no parecían sino monjas



A fragment of Ernesto Cardenal's "Tata Vasco" (undated) concludes this exhibition by reflecting on a utopian society established by Vasco de Quiroga in sixteenth-century Michoacán and the hope for a future utopia where different forms of knowledge inform each other.

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