HERITAGES, GLOBAL INTERCONNECTIONS WITHIN A POSSIBLE WORLD

CULTURAL NEWSLETTER

Photography by Erica Poot
WELCOME TO THE IUAES 2021 YUCATAN CONGRESS
HERITAGES, GLOBAL INTERCONNECTIONS WITHIN A POSSIBLE WORLD

Yucatan is a region that has been a site of interest for anthropology since the beginnings of this discipline, as well as a region that beholds a long history of research and educational institutions in the field of anthropological sciences. Originally, we expected to perform this event in an all-presential format in the city of Merida, Yucatan's capital. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference will be entirely online. We would've loved for you to visit Merida and other cities of Yucatan.

Facing the impossibility to conduct the conference as an all-presential event, here, we share this cultural newsletter, about Yucatan. On tuesday, November 9, at 18:00 p.m. we invite you to the lecture "A walk through the yucatecan song", which will be provided by Enrique Martín Briceño, one of the greatest specialists on yucatecan music (the lecture will be held in Spanish).

Photography by Erica Poot

Yucatan is a land that has inspired the interest of numerous travellers, whose travelling stories belong to the history of anthropological sciences. In this newsletter we offer a small photographic sample of pictures that can be found at the Biblioteca Digital de Viajeros, of the Centro Peninsular en Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

In addition to archeological sites, some of the must-see Yucatan places are the haciendas, which have been another research topic within the region. Initially dedicated to livestock and maize production, a big part of the haciendas became to be dedicated to henequen production towards the second half of the XIX century. During the boom of henequen, Yucatan became one of the wealthiest states of Mexico. This wealth was possible due to the exploitation of the labour force of Mayan pawns, as well as Yaquis, Chinese, Corean and other groups.

In this newsletter, Blanca Paredes Guerrero, UADY's researcher and expert in history and architecture of Yucatan offers us some comments to address the haciendas in its historical and architectural context. In order to view Paredes Guerrero's presentation, please click here.

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BESIDES: HACIENDAS OF YUCATAN

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We introduce you to this newsletter with the presentation: "Photographic notes of the tourism promotion in Yucatan", in which Francisco Fernández Repetto, researcher of the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, UADY, offers a critical gaze on the ways in which Yucatan is represented under the turistic gaze.

[Image of a traditional Yucatecan house]
BEEKEEPING IN YUCATAN: HISTORY OF THE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN TWO SPECIES

ANGÉLICA MÁRQUEZ-OSUNA

The bee is one of the IUAES 2021 Congress' logos. The Melipona bee (Melipona beecheii, known in mayan as xunán kab) and meliponiculture are considered as fundamental parts of Yucatan's biocultural heritage, as well as an indispensable component to the biodiversity and the ecological balance of the region. From the perspective of the history of science and technology, Angélica Márquez-Osuna, PhD Candidate at Harvard University, provides some notes on the encounter between two bee species in Yucatan, the European bee (Apis mellifera), which arrived alongside the Spanish colonizers, and the melipona bee. If you're interested on learning more about the topic, you can join the talk with Márquez-Osuna on Friday, November 12, at 11:30 a.m. For further information, please contact: rodrigo.llanes@cephcis.unam.mx

In order to view Márquez-Osuna's presentation, please click here.

KILLING TO PRESERVE: TECHNOLOGY AND DISCOURSES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE LIONFISH AS AN INVADER

PABLO SEPÚLVEDA DÍAZ

While the European bee and the melipona bee are both considered species worthy of conservation, the lionfish has been treated as an invasive species and an “enemy” that, in the past few years, has only been preserved for eating purposes. Pablo Sepúlveda Díaz, PhD Candidate at California University of California, Santa Barbara, shares some notes on the development of technologies for hunting lionfish, as well as the gastronomical techniques that have been developed around this species that connects Yucatan and the Caribbean.

In order to view Sepúlveda Díaz' presentation please click here.
If you'd like to know more about the challenges that the biocultural heritage faces in the Yucatan Peninsula, we invite you to check these interviews that are part of the pre-congress activities. In which Fellow anthropologists talk with activists of the region’s biocultural heritage, such as the melipona bee, the milpa and the forest.

In addition, we invite you to watch the following video of the yucatecan vaquería, a traditional dance of colonial origin that is performed in honor to the town's or hacienda's landlord. This vaquería was performed on one of the Monday regional nights that the city council of Mérida organizes, and it was interpreted by the Jaranera orchestra directed by the master Alfonso Martín Chin.

Finally, we invite you to watch and listen to the short-film “The last dance: Maya (U Yóok'otil Kiimill)” of the mayan writer Isaac Carrillo Can (1983–2017), winner of the Nezahualcóyotl prize in 2010.