



The Intercultural Institute of Montreal and Sachamama Centre of Lamas, Peru, are jointly offering for the first time

An International Program for Intercultural Learning:

Mental Health through Shamanic Spirituality: Indigenous Approaches to Healing

Date: July 18 to August 7, 2010

Place: Sachamama Centre, Lamas, Peru

Language: The program will be conducted in three languages: English, French and Spanish

Workshop leaders:

Kalpana Das:

Executive Director of Intercultural Institute of Montreal (www.iim.qc.ca), Quebec, Canada and in-charge of the Intercultural Consulting and Training Programs at the IIM.

Frédérique Apffel-Marglin:

Founder/Director of Sachamama Centre (www.centrosachamama.org), Lamas, Peru and Professor Emerita of Anthropology, Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, USA.

Gillian Goslinga:

Cultural anthropologist, ethnographic filmmaker, feminist and shamanic apprentice. She teaches in the Anthropology Department at Wesleyan University, Connecticut, USA.

Introduction:

In these three weeks, workshop participants will travel to Lamas in the tropical eastern foothills of the Andes to the Northeast of Lima, to be introduced to traditional shamanic forms of healing utilizing the method of interculturality. They will reside in Sachamama Center, a non-profit organization that collaborates with the local indigenous group, the Kichwa-Lamista.

The workshop will begin with training in intercultural relations by Kalpana Das, internationally recognized as a leader in this field. Frédérique Apffel-Marglin, in collaboration with local Kichwa-Lamista leaders, will then briefly introduce participants to local indigenous and mestizo cultures. Gillian Goslinga, drawing on her knowledge of shamanic ritual and practice will serve as an experiential facilitator for participants.

The workshop will also draw on the resources of Takiwasi Center that has developed an intercultural approach that combines the use of indigenous plants and ceremonies with Western psychotherapy, among other methods. Center Takiwasi is located in the nearby city of Tarapoto. (www.takiwasi.com)

Participants will be introduced experientially to a few cleansing and protective rituals led by local shamans. They will as well have the opportunity to learn indigenous crafts and other forms of knowledge by participating in workshops taught by indigenous experts choosing from the following: ceramics, weaving, medicinal plants, basket weaving, music, dance and Kichwa language.

During three free days, participants will have the opportunity to explore local sites of interest.

Detailed program:

- Week 1 Intercultural Encounter**
- July 18 Arrival: settling in and welcoming ceremony.**
- July 19** Tour of lamas and group-building: getting to know the place and each other
- July 20-21** Interculturality and the program: key issues in intercultural relations and intercultural learning with Kalpana Das: presentation, discussion and processing experiences. Tuesday evening: ritual of protection with local shaman.
- July 22-23** Introduction to socio-cultural and political issues faced by the Kichwa-Lamista communities in Peru: presentation by and discussion with Frédérique Apffel-Marglin and Marco-Antonio Sangama, indigenous member of Sachamama.
- July 24** Free day
- Week 2 Intellectual and Experiential Learning from Indigenous Healing Traditions**
- July 25** Series of Takiwasi lectures on the intercultural method it developed in the last 15 years or so through a mutual fertilization between shamanic practice and psychotherapy. This method was developed by Dr. Jacques Mabit MD, founder of Takiwasi, along with his collaborators. The results obtained by Takiwasi Center through this proven method have been remarkable.

In other words, it is this intercultural method that will be the central theme in this series of lectures rather than its application in various fields, such as the treatment of drug addiction.

July 26 Takiwasi Lectures continues

July 27 Guided tour of Takiwasi forest retreat. Evening: night ritual with flower bath at *Sachamama*. This ritual will be led by Don Abilio, a local shaman, who will have previously ingested the psychotropic plant brew *ayahuasca*. He will chant *ikaros* (shamanic songs) and individually treat each participant with tobacco smoke. The ritual ends with each participant bathing with a special plant and flower water.

July 28 Contemplative day of silence and fasting (*A day of personal reflection and experience of fasting suggested*)

July 29 Group discussion and processing experiences

July 30 Indigenous Arts and crafts workshops

July 31 FREE DAY

Week 3 *Intercultural Processing of Learning*

August 1-2 Foundations for an intercultural approach: Dialogue on conventional mental health practices and indigenous healing traditions.

August 3-4 Assessment of the program by participants: individual presentations

August 5 Visit to the waterfall with ritual led by Gillian Goslinga / Closing rituals and celebrations at Sachamama

August 6 Free day and preparation for departure

August 7 DEPARTURE

Practical information:

Cost of the workshop: \$ **3,000 USD** covering registration, room and board, domestic air and land travel and all other local expenses (excepting free days optional excursions).

Number of participants: **20**

Deadline for registration: **June 21st, 2010.**
Please fill out the registration form below and send it along with your payment.

Modalities for payment: payment should be made to the order of Intercultural Institute of Montreal with **VISA** or **MASTERCARD** or with an international money order. Mail to:

Intercultural Institute of Montreal
4730, avenue Papineau
Montréal (Québec)
Canada
H2H 1V3

Other information

Participants are requested to send their arrival and departure schedule to Intercultural Institute of Montreal along with the payment of the registration fee latest by the 21st of June, 2010;

Note: Your travel Lima–Tarapoto and Tarapoto–Lima will be purchased by Sachamama Center. This is included in your total registration fees;

Participants can choose between two national Airlines for their flight from Lima to Tarapoto: *Lan*, departing around 11 AM and *Star Peru* departing around 2 PM. Please check on flight schedules since they are subject to seasonal changes.

Transportation from the airport in Tarapoto to the Sachamama Center (a 30 minutes ride) will be provided. Participants will be met at the Tarapoto airport by Sachamama representatives.

Participants are advised to obtain information regarding vaccinations that are required to travel in this region of the world, which is the High (and not the Low) Amazon in Peru.

Note: More information on this topic will be sent to the participants after receiving their registration.

For further information, please contact: Charles Gagnon, Programming Assistant at the Intercultural Institute of Montreal:

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