

PERUVIAN AMAZON

STORYTELLING WORKSHOP | IQUITOS, PERU



**PRACTICAL MASTERCLASSES
ARTIST RESIDENCE**

**PERUVIAN CROSSROADS
RAINFOREST GATEWAY**

**ACCLAIMED STORYTELLERS
INDIGENOUS MENTORS**

**A 10-DAY "ECO-CULTURAL ARTS RESIDENCY" IMMERSION INTO THE LIVES
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF PERU AND THEIR RAINFOREST.**

PERUVIAN AMAZON

STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

Submerging into the lives, culture and nature of the Peruvian Amazon and its indigenous people.

June 24th - July 4th 2020 | Writers, artists and filmmakers | Iquitos, Peru | €5000

Level: Not for beginners. This is a practical workshop for passionate amateurs and adventurous professionals with autonomy in their work process.

Workshop fee includes: All accommodations, three daily meals for 10 days, availability of drinking water 24h, Iquitos airport transfers, local transportation in motorboat/canoe/vehicle for location visits and excursions, local guides – translators, specialised equipment.

Workshop fee does not include: All international/ domestic flights, drinks or personal snacks in Iquitos and at the lodge, travel insurance.

Individual Field Kits (Value €500): 1 DJI Osmo Pocket, 1 art-quality sketchbook, 1 USB with background information, and 1 dry sack to protect your gear. Field kits will be mailed to participants 30 days prior to the workshop after receipt of final payment.



The Peruvian Amazon Storytelling Workshop will bring writers, artists and filmmakers to the world's greatest river system. The experience will be individualised to focus on participants' needs and interests.

Possible artistic areas will include poetry, prose narrative, scriptwriting, character studies, portraits, landscapes, crafts, nature studies, contemporary art,

documentary film, ethnographic interviews, mixed medium artworks and interdisciplinary collaborative projects.

Participants will experience first-hand the life-ways of the contemporary Amazon, as well as the unparalleled biodiversity of rainforest and riparian environments, and the significance of the region to planetary systems and health.

Participants will visit indigenous communities and explore cultural and language preservation initiatives at Zúngarococha, meet with Amazonian writers and artists.

Spending 4 days/5 nights at the Allpahuayo-Mishana National Reserve, participants will explore rare forest types, endemic animals, and the world's greatest density of butterfly species.





"THE SUN AND CLOUDS PLAY CARDS TO SEE WHO GETS TO TAKE MIDDAY"

JUAN CARLOS GALEANO

For 10 days, 15 passionate writers, artists and filmmakers will be submerged in the density of the Peruvian Amazonas and the lives of the local Shawi. Guided by a diverse team of acclaimed international creatives and Peruvian indigenous leaders, participants will be exposed to the raw nature of the rainforest, conflicting forces impacting indigenous communities and sustainable activities to address climate change.

Each participant will develop a short provocation/artwork under the guidance and supervision of the team. Unlike other workshops, the local inhabitants will not be mere characters in these stories but will serve as mentors, project collaborators and cultural mediators. The process of creation will require some form of partnership between local and international storytellers in defining, style, method, message and culture.

The workshop will take place in various settings including the urban river-based culture of Iquitos, the tropical rainforest surroundings of the Tambopata National Reserve, and the facilities of Formabiap's indigenous bi-lingual education centre at Zúngarococha. Due to the geographical characteristics of the zone, mobility is made exclusively in motorboats and by foot to delve into the tropical jungle.

All accommodations, meals and logistics are included in the workshop enrolment fee and arranged by the team. Given the diversity of locations, accommodation will range from comfortable river lodges to rough field camps in the

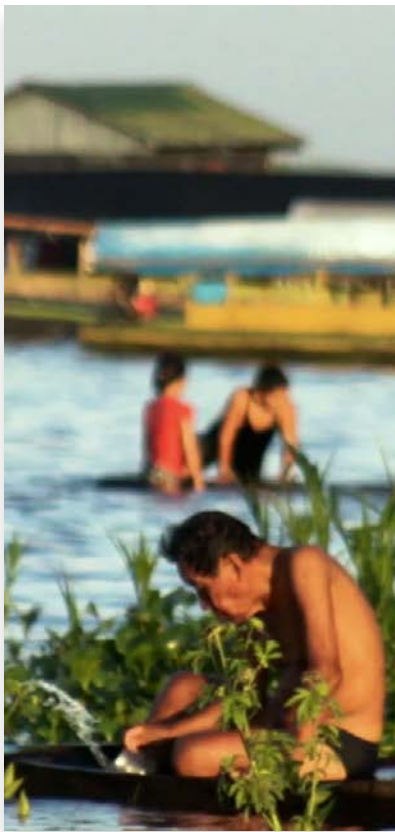
rainforest itself. Transportation will be predominantly by canoe and participants should carry daily essentials/equipment in the dry bags provided as part of the Field Kit.

The workshop is eminently practical, so it is essential that participants are autonomous and have knowledge of their own artistic process as well as have access to their own necessary tools and equipment.

The fieldwork will be enriched with daily Master Classes and dialogues concerning the principal challenges that the storyteller has to face in various phases of creation. Each mentor will share his/her own method of working, style and technique with the writers, artists and filmmakers of the workshop.

"You have to actually experience something before you have a story to tell. Arrive, sit, and experience the moment using all five senses, first." Mark Abouzeid

For participants to take full advantage of the ten days, they will be provided with a workshop field kit for them to familiarise themselves prior to arrival. The Field Kit, that comes with a dry sack to protect essentials during fieldwork, includes equipment, materials and all the basic information needed to allow participants an easy plunge into creation and inspiration.



LOCATIONS

To speak about Loreto, the Amazon region of Peru, is to speak about authentically indigenous and mestizo populations, about ancestrally inalienable territories, that is, about indigenous, rural, and urban cultures. Iquitos moves between the traditional and the modern.

Various places in Iquitos echo the history and world views of these indigenous peoples, interwoven within the different urban societies.



FOOD & LODGING

The workshop has been designed to be an authentic and pervasive immersion. The diet and accommodations have been specifically chosen to reinforce this in-depth and personal experience of the people, nature and places of the Peruvian Amazon: sharing their lives on their terms.

While every endeavour has been made to mitigate discomfort, authenticity over luxury has been the overriding criteria in selection.



EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

The workshop is eminently practical, so it is essential that participants are autonomous and have knowledge of their craft, as well as have access to their own personal tools and equipment.

For participants to take full advantage, they will be provided with a workshop field kit complete with a dry sack to protect essentials during fieldwork, equipment, materials and all the information needed to allow to plunge into creation and inspiration.



Workshop Program

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Discourses/Films	Locations
Day 0 Wednesday		arrival Iquitos airport transfers	welcome dinner workshop orientation discourse by mentors	“Telling our Stories”	Iquitos
Day 1 Thursday	field kit training lesson: “Sitting: arriving in a new culture”	Bario y Mercado Belen exercise: “Collecting sensations”	daily wrap-up film by mentors	“El Rio” by Galeano, Ramirez & Chanchari	Iquitos
Day 2 Friday	lesson: “Identifying cultural context”	Iquitos Centre and river field study: “Idea books and collecting culture”	daily wrap-up night life on the river excursion	none	Iquitos
Day 3 Saturday	checkout lodge transfer to Reserve	excursion from San Jose to the heart of Allpahuayo Mishana Natural Reserve, Nueva Esperanza	evening with R. Chanchari	“Indigenous cosmovision”	Allpahuayo- Mishana Reserve
Day 4 Sunday	forest sunrise lesson: “Identifying key and base elements of a story”	excursion to the virgin forest exercise: “Collecting key and base elements”	bath in Tamshi stream discourse S. Beer	“Signs: Icons, Indexes & Symbols”	Allpahuayo- Mishana Reserve
Day 5 Monday	“Identifying stories: planning your final project” meetings with mentors personal exploration		Ramirez/Galeano discourse	“Experience in expression: lives and poetry of the Amazon”	Allpahuayo- Mishana Reserve
Day 6 Tuesday	Day 6 - 9 daily schedule will be based on the participants’ final project plans. Daily excursions to the rainforest, Iquitos or indigenous villages will be arranged in small groups of 4 or less accompanied by a guide and mentor. Mentors will work individually with participants and group collaborators giving feedback, criticism and guidance as needed. Participants will be ensured significant autonomy in order to allow their personal narrative to guide their creative process without interference.		Post production access to editing suite refinement of field work	“Parables and jokes” the highest form of storytelling	Allpahuayo- Mishana Reserve
Day 7 Wednesday				“Reading Paintings”	Zúngarococha
Day 8 Thursday				“Dolphins or mermaids”	Zúngarococha
Day 9 Friday			Presentation of final works.		Zúngarococha
Day 10 Saturday	Workshop wrap- up	departure Iquitos airport transfers			Iquitos

"Whoever sees the Amazon from the perspective of Amazonians will understand that our stories work as "seeing instruments" that help us develop an understanding of the larger physical and spiritual world and entire bioregions. These are not just stories for entertainment."

Leoncio Ramírez Vásquez



Voces Indígenas is the first step towards empowering underrepresented voices. As a pilot project, Voces Indígenas - Peru, will give a voice to indigenous youth and bi-lingual teachers of the Peruvian Amazon Region/Loreto through training in indie documentary filmmaking.

Objectives

- Strengthen the impact and capacities of bi-lingual education providers to contribute to protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expression in Peru.
- Empower indigenous youth from various communities by training them in Indie filmmaking skills and promoting cultural entrepreneurship.
- Foster and promote indigenous cultural industries in the region using mobile and indie filmmaking technologies specifically adapted to the environment and economic realities.
- Build an international audience for films produced by young filmmakers.

Activities

Over a 2 year period, experts will train teachers and students of the Awajun, Kichwa, Kukama-Kukamiria and Shawi people at Formabiap facilities.

Strategies and methods will empower the teaching staff to integrate filmmaking into their curriculum. Additionally, the appropriate, long lasting equipment will be secured and left to the care of Formabiap. A self-sustaining Film lab will be established for youth to use in creating culturally relevant works and developing career opportunities.

Young cultural entrepreneurs will be given specific training in cultural, commercial and press media production opening opportunities to serve local demand as well as for international distribution.

ACCLAIMED STORYTELLERS - INDIGENOUS MENTORS



Juan Carlos Galeano

Poet, filmmaker, professor | Colombia/USA

Juan Carlos Galeano is an Amazonian poet, documentary filmmaker, and essayist whose fieldwork on symbolic narratives of riverine and forest people in the Amazon basin resulted in his production of a comprehensive collection of storytelling (Folktales of the Amazon, ABC-CLIO, 2008).

As a filmmaker, he made a plea for environmental justice, threatened landscapes and cultures of Amazonia in his documentary, *The Trees Have a Mother* (Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 2008).

He has published several books of poetry and has translated the works of North American poets into Spanish. His poetry inspired by Amazonian cosmologies and the modern world is anthologized and published in international journals such as *Casa de las Américas* (Cuba), *The Atlantic Monthly* and *Ploughshares* (U.S.).

He teaches Latin American poetry and Amazonian Cultures at Florida State University and is currently the director of the FSU Service/Learning Program: Journey into Amazonia in Perú.

Rafael Chanchari Pizuri

Teacher, shaman & philosopher | Peru

Born in the Peruvian Amazon, Rafael Chanchari Pizuri is a philosopher and Amazonian from the Shawi ethnic group.

His spiritual ecological discourse, rooted in indigenous cosmovisions of the indigenous cultures of the Peruvian

Amazon, foregrounds the current environmental challenges and complex symbolic narratives of indigenous Amazonians.

He is also a shaman and a teacher, who has contributed a great deal to the education of indigenous bilingual teachers of many ethnic groups in the Zúngarococha FORMABIAP-AIDSEP Educational Center in Iquitos, Peru.

Featured in award-winning documentaries and feature articles, Rafael is uniquely able to transmit a holistic cosmology of the Shawi people, changing eco-system and traditional mythology with an ease of storytelling that captivates his listeners.



Mark Abouzeid

Filmmaker, photojournalist, storyteller | USA/Italy/Lebanon

Mark Abouzeid is a multidisciplinary professional whose work resides at the crossroads of exploration, innovation, inspiration and education. Over his extended career, he has worked in International Economics, Technology Development, Innovation Theory, Photojournalism, Documentary Filmmaking and Cultural Heritage.

Today, Mark collaborates on projects around the world to protect cultural heritage, build links between communities, raise awareness of pressing risks, and transmit traditional knowledge to future generations. Abouzeid has lived and worked in over 35 countries including the polar arctic, bedouin deserts and countless seas.

He is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, photojournalist, author and fine artist. Currently, he is the Director of Filmmaking for Real Lives.

Sophie Beer

Object Artist, Art Historian, Cultural Manager | Austria

Sophie Beer grew up in Vienna and, from an early age, learned to appreciate both rural and urban life, nature and culture. Since then, these seeming contrasts have evolved as an expression of inclusive diversity and not of opposites.

Beginning her career in cultural management, she served 9 years as a supervisor at the Wiener Festwochen in Vienna and continues to manage contemporary art collections for high net worth individuals. In 2012, Sophie started to follow her passion in jewellery design and goldsmithing attending Le Arti Orafe Contemporary Jewellery School (LAO) in Florence, Italy.

Despite being trained as a goldsmith and designer, she chooses to be an object artist. Her pieces speak of memories, relationships and connections between human beings. Her focus is to use 'wearable art', made of unconventional materials, as a tool to communicate stories and to open up a dialogue.

Since 2015, she has collaborated on films with Cedars Productions in Europe and Lebanon in the areas of cultural heritage and production. She is the author of the book "The Hans Schullin Collection - Jewelry Design of the 1990s", and the founder of Real Lives Multicultural Association.



Leoncio Ramírez Vásquez

Photographer, producer, Peruvian Amazon expert | Peru

Based in Iquitos, Leoncio is expert in local cultural realities, indigenous communities and rainforest film production. He has received numerous recognitions for his films, including "El Rio" at Ethnografilm Festival in Paris 2019.

As a uniquely knowledgeable and experienced audiovisual artist of the Peruvian Amazon, "Leo" works as a photographer, producer and teacher.

Mentored by Mario Acha, an internationally known documentary filmmaker, "Leo" grew up in Iquitos in the

Peruvian Amazon and was a general producer of the documentary "Amazónico Soy" ("I am Amazonian").

He is currently the director of Xinguito Producción Audiovisual and for many years he coordinated the Audio Visual Production unit of La Restinga and participated in itinerant audiovisual workshops for Kinomada (Iquitos, 2009; Quebec, 2010; Habana, 2011; Mexico 2013).

His documenting of various sustainable development projects for international and Peruvian NGOs has contributed to the cultural continuity of indigenous peoples and riverine inhabitants of the Amazon basin.



10 REASONS

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PERUVIAN AMAZON STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

- *An opportunity to go deep beneath the surface of a place, time and culture;*
- *A chance to remove yourself from your daily life and immerse your creativity in another's;*
- *Share this experience, your inspiration and numerous stories with like-minded people;*
- *Opportunity to travel somewhere you might not otherwise go;*
- *Get uncomfortable in a safe place;*
- *Time to ponder and time to focus;*
- *Time to relax and have fun;*
- *Build community and network;*
- *Learn from experienced artists, writers and indigenous storytellers; and*
- *Collaborate with indigenous artists and support their development.*

For more information on the workshop, locations, logistics, frequently asked questions and on applying, please visit <https://www.cedarsproductions.com>

Release of call for applications: 30th January 2020

Deadline for applications: 30th March 2020 00:00 CET

Notification of selected participants: 6th April 2020

Tuition deposit deadline (€2500) : 20th April 2020

Final payment deadline (€2500): 11th May 2020

Arrival Iquitos: 24th June 2020

REAL LIVES MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Verein für kulturellen Austausch

ZVR-Zahl: 1776044357

web: <https://www.reallives.press>

email: contact@reallives.press

phone: +43 699 11559243

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/reallives>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/19088703>

Medium: <https://medium.com/real-lives>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/indigenous_voices/

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RealLivesNGO/>