

THE MIAMI SHORES HEARTBEAT

"Journey to Mutum" at MTC Will Feature Dance and Sacred Music of Indigenous Brazilian People

From deep in the Amazon forest of Acre, Brazil, eight members of the Yawanawá Tribe take a journey from their home to share their sacred songs, ancestral dance, language, and spiritual heritage. Be among the first to experience this intimate, once-in-a-lifetime encounter with a culture that lives in true harmony with nature.

The members of the Yawanawá Tribe who are participating in "Journey to Mutum" have trained with an elder named Pajé (shaman) Tata who is approximately 98 years old – and only one of two remaining elders of the tribe. Knowledge is passed down from one generation to the next through the spiritual initiation known as the "Muka Dieta". This involves a year-long spiritual diet and several months of isolation in the forest where they train with their tribal elder – dedicating themselves to studying the spiritual and ceremonial traditions of the tribe.

In addition to the seventy-five minute "Journey to Mutum" experience at MTC, the Yawanawá will host a "Family Day" of tribal games, body-painting, story-telling, jewelry-making, and dancing on the lush grounds of The Kampong in Coconut Grove. Additionally, a fundraising "Dinner for Mutum" will also be held at The Kampong.



Journey to Mutum. (Photos courtesy of Zack Embree)

MTC has been able to embark on a wonderful journey of Indigenous initiatives thanks to the support of the National Endowment for the Arts. "We are very grateful for the collaboration of all of our partners and for the NEA's support in helping us build relationships with Indigenous people from this

continent and others," says Stephanie Ansin, MTC's founder and artistic director.

Officially launching its five-city North American tour, Journey to Mutum: a Cultural Encounter with the Yawanawá of the Brazilian Amazon premieres on the main stage at Miami Theater Center, September 29th, 2016. Show times are Thursday, September 29th at 10 am; Friday, September 30th



at 10am; and Saturday, October 1st at 8pm. Appropriate for all ages. Tickets: \$30 General Admission; \$25 for Seniors, Students w/ valid I.D. & Children under 12. Proceeds will benefit the establishment of the Traditional School of Mutum (TSM) in the Mutum Village of Acre, Brazil for Yawanawá children ages 7-14.

Journey to Mutum: a Cultural Encounter with the Yawanawá of the Brazilian Amazon
 September 29 – October 1, 2016

Miami Theater Center - MainStage
 9806 NE 2nd Avenue
 Miami Shores, FL 33138

For tickets or & information call 305-751-9550, mtcmiami.org



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