TRAVEL WITH THE NEW YORK OPEN CENTER

AN ESOTERIC QUEST FOR THE

LOST WORLD OF THE INCAS

AND THE LIVING SPIRITUALITY OF INDIGENOUS PERU AND BOLIVIA

AUGUST 20 OR 22 - 28, 2018

IN THE SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS, MACHU PICCHU AND CUSCO

POST CONFERENCE JOURNEY

LAKE TITICACA AND THE WILD BEAUTY OF BOLIVIA

AUGUST 28 - AUGUST 31, 2018

OR

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2018

WWW.ESOTERICQUEST.ORG

CO-SPONSORED WITH THE CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES
The High Andes of Peru and Bolivia

ARE SOME OF THE MOST MYSTICAL LANDS ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH, AND THE BIRTHPLACE OF PROFOUNDLY SPIRITUAL CULTURES THAT FLOURISHED WITH GREAT SOPHISTICATION FOR MANY CENTURIES. FEW PLACES PRODUCE SUCH AWE AND WONDER AS THE MYSTERIOUS INCAN CITADEL OF MACHU PICCHU, OR GENERATE A FEELING OF SUCH SERENITY AND TRANSCENDENCE AS LAKE TITICACA.

The Open Center’s 14th Esoteric Quest—our first in South America—will take place primarily in the tranquil Sacred Valley of the Incas, not far from Cusco, next to the rushing Urubamba River, with its snow-capped mountain vistas. The time has come to explore esoteric cultures beyond Europe and the Mediterranean to find forms of holy wisdom shared by both the Western Tradition and pre-Columbian civilization. This Quest will include a visit to Machu Picchu, indeed one of the world’s unmissable experiences, and two nights in Cusco itself, the capital of the Incan Empire.

We will learn from writers, scholars, and artists steeped in the wisdom of the ancient Andean cultures, and also participate in ceremonies with indigenous healers and paqos (shamans), intended to deepen our attunement to the mysteries of the living earth and cosmos, and the many beings who inhabit it.

An optional two-day Pre-Conference sojourn in the Sacred Valley will visit the stone terraces and temples of such beautiful and elevating sites as Pisac, Moray, and Ollantaytambo. Join us as we immerse ourselves in the Incan and pre-Columbian mysteries of Peru and Bolivia at the heart of their place of origin amidst the magnificent Andean landscape of mountain peaks, rushing rivers, tranquil lakes, and serene valleys. We will also gaze at night upon brilliant skies with their unrivaled panoply of stars wisely reminding us of our interdependence with a vast and silent cosmos.

The New York Open Center has been, for over thirty years, one of America’s leading institutions of holistic learning. www.opencenter.org

California Institute of Integral Studies
California Institute of Integral Studies is an accredited university in San Francisco that strives to embody spirit, intellect, and wisdom in service to individuals, communities, and the earth. www.ciis.edu

For more information, please contact Andrea Lomanto at 212.219.2527 x101, or write quest@opencenter.org. Please see our website at www.esotericquest.org for additional conference details and program updates.
EXPLORING INCA SPIRITUALITY  
Juan Carlos Machicado Figueroa

While the Spanish Inquisition of the 17th and 18th centuries did everything it could to eliminate the Inca religion, it has nonetheless survived, still to be practiced in certain indigenous Andean communities, and even in some Peruvian cities, where revival of it is taking place. In this plenary, we will examine spiritual symbols from the past which can be found in museums, archaeological sites and carved into Incan stone walls. These will explain clearly the Inca philosophy of life which continues today and provides much needed inspiration to live in harmony with our planet.

THE INCAS: CHILDREN OF THE SUN  
Jorge Luis Delgado

We will discuss many of the key spiritual features of Incan culture that have been preserved by their descendants. These include an emphasis upon clarity, honesty, luminosity, warmth, enthusiasm for life, brightness of soul, and illuminated awareness. The Incan traditions are alive and well in Peru today and are making an important contribution to the return of earth-based spirituality and wisdom.

THE ESOTERIC QUEST, NORTH AND SOUTH  
Leonard George, Ph.D.

The ancient lines and figures carved into Peru’s Nazca Plain needed a god’s-eye view to appreciate, in the least in imagination. Such places remind us that the esoteric quest for a transcendent perspective is world-wide. As we survey pre-Columbian Andean cultures, we find echoes of the esoteric ways of the northern hemisphere. From the trance-inducing waterworks at Chavin de Huántar to the oracle of Pachacamac, from the mediums of Cusco to the sacred astronomers of Machu Picchu, southern questers have trodden similar paths to those of their northern kin.

THE TRADITIONAL WISDOM OF ANDEAN CULTURES  
Theo Paredes, Ph.D.

More than 6000 years ago in South America, in what now is Peru, diverse human groups settled and developed high-level regional cultures. At different stages of their evolution, all of them shared and exchanged their knowledge, forging what is now known as Andean culture, which reached its apogee towards 1530 CE, before the arrival of the European invaders. Recent studies are clarifying the scope of what these ancient peoples achieved: an integral balance between the human being and the environment, where concepts such as ecology, sustainability, the environment, harmony, and ethics seem to have been at the heart of their worldview.

THE MEANING OF MACHU PICCHU  
Ruben Orellana Neira

Machu Picchu is much older than Tawantinsuyo, the Inca Empire, which expanded into territories occupied by prior civilizations and ethnic groups. Ethno-historical and archaeological evidence, and research into oral traditions, shows that its real name may be Picchu. This name perhaps allows us to better understand its history. Although this spiritually powerful site embodies the Inca cosmo-vision, it also has a past that dates from the pre-ceramic age and is full of mysteries. It is the magic of the light there that ultimately imparts transcendence to this justifiably world-famous citadel. Ruben Orellana Neira draws on his 22 years as the chief archaeologist at Machu Picchu to take us deeper into its secrets.
WHO ARE THE PAQOS, THE ANDEAN HEALERS?
Wilbert Salas Atasi

During our Quest, a significant role will be played by Q’ero Paqos, healers or shamans who have maintained the spiritual traditions of their culture. Wilbert, who grew up in a family of Paqos in a mountain village seventy kilometers from Cusco, will speak about the path of the Paqo, the various levels and dimensions of this work, and the multiple forms of ritual and ceremony that Paqos perform, including those honoring Mother Earth. Their training involves the acquisition of profound knowledge, the role of unconditional love, and the development of an understanding of healing energies.

PACHAMAMA: THE SACRED FEMININE
Mirabai Starr

One of the most comprehensive embodiments of the Earth Mother archetype in any civilization is the Incan goddess, Pachamama. As relevant today as she was to the ancients, Pachamama can guide us into right relationship with a planet on the brink of disaster. In this gathering, we explore the environmental and mystical aspects of the great mother goddess in an effort to embody her essential qualities in our own quest to awaken feminine wisdom and participate in the healing of the earth.

ANDEAN ARCHEOASTRONOMY
Cusco, City of the Puma, and Machu Picchu
Erwin Salazar Garcés

The city of Cusco was designed in accordance with the religious beliefs of the Incas and takes the form of a Puma, the sacred animal which served as the familiar deity of the community. Each part of the figure of the Puma is recognizable: the head was Saqsaywaman, two rivers outlined the body, and various streets were aligned with the placement of the Sun at the solstices and equinoxes. The heart of the Puma was in the Plaza de Armas and the reproductive organs in the place of origin of Cusco, the Corikancha, the most important temple in the Incan empire. From this temple, lines proceed that signal the directions to minor shrines. We will also examine the archeoastronomy of Machu Picchu, and the Incan cosmovision of the sky, earth and underworld (Hanan Pacha, Kay Pacha, and Ukhu Pacha) which linked observation of the heavens with human activities in daily life.

UNCOVERING NATURE’S GREATEST OF MYSTERIES
Wedding Ancient Wisdom with the Shamanic Path
Scott Olsen, Ph.D.

This story is the result of a decision to marry together more traditional western esoteric subjects such as Plato, Pythagoras and sacred geometry, with the more shamanic states of consciousness experienced by some indigenous healers of Peru. Seekers have struggled for spiritual experience, especially those in the West since the closing of such mystery centers as Eleusis (with its mysterious kykeon drink.) For seven years, Scott underwent multiple shamanic adventures with master plant teachers in the rainforest as well as the sacred valley of Peru. These transformative experiences were crowned by a climactic vision of how The Golden Section works throughout nature and the cosmos.
WORKSHOPS

TIWANAKU: ELEUSIS OF THE ANDES
Leonard George, Ph.D.

On January 21, 2006, Bolivian President Evo Morales called the old gods to bless his inauguration from the top of a pyramid in Tiwanaku. With this act, he tapped the site’s ancient meaning and power. The Incas revered Tiwanaku as the womb of humanity. Spanish priests damned the place as a hive of devils. Independence fighters proclaimed it a beacon of national freedom. Mormons held that the city is mentioned in The Book of Mormon as an antediluvian seaport. But long before the coming of the Incas, Tiwanaku was a magnet for pilgrims from across the Andean world, akin to the antique Mediterranean mystery centers.

SUN AND SKY – EARTH AND STONE
Mystery Architecture of Peru
Steve Bass, M.A.

Peru has been home to a series of cultures beginning many thousands of years ago. By 2500 BCE, settled civilization was underway and monumental urban structures started to be built, contemporary with the civilizations of India, Egypt, Mesopotamia and megalithic Europe. This presentation surveys the range of structures the ancient Peruvians left to us, following their development from early times through to the 16th century Incas. Many questions remain: Just what were the functions of these structures? How were they built, with either enormous volumes of earth or gigantic megalithic stones? Were they astronomically oriented? Where does Peruvian civilization fit into the more substantial development of humankind? Architect Steve Bass will engage with these and other long-standing mysteries of Peruvian architecture.

YANANTIN AND MASINTIN
Juan Carlos Machicado Figueroa

These two important Quechua words are related to the complementarity between the masculine and the feminine, and offer a doorway to discuss the search for genuine solutions to our global social problems. In this workshop, we will go deeper into the nature of Inca society and will compare it with our own in the present day. What were its core differences from contemporary Western society, and what do Andean values have to contribute to the resurgence of respect for each other and our growing awareness of our interdependence with the Earth and the Stars? Our quest will be for this profound wisdom.

THE ANDEAN LEGACY
Theo Paredes, Ph.D.

The Andean cultures historically have been viewed through a lens that has not acknowledged their true holistic dimensions in which they link human beings and the environment as an indissoluble unit. Fortunately, a new vision and understanding based on information and principles left by these ancestors are finally allowing us to have a different perception of them and their way of preserving their wisdom teachings. This authentic Andean legacy still offers powerful guidance in developing a wiser relationship with our planet and cosmos.
THE HIDDEN JEWS OF PERU
Refugees from the Inquisition
Mirabai Starr

There were Jewish families from Spain who pretended to convert to Christianity and slipped away on the expeditions to the New World to escape the Inquisition. Some of these Jews landed in Peru and intermarried with indigenous people, eventually embracing a blend of Judaism, Christianity and Indigenous Incan beliefs and practices. In this workshop, we will explore the phenomenon of syncretism, using the presence of Jews in Peru as an example of inter-spiritual vigor and how this can serve as an inspiration for us to incorporate the wisdom of multiple spiritual traditions today.

THE MYSTERIOUS QUEST OF COLONEL FAWCETT
Malcolm Kennard, Ph.D.

In 1925, Colonel Percy Fawcett journeyed into the uncharted depths of the Amazonian jungle in search of an ancient lost city, only to vanish without a trace. Why did this English gentleman leave his comfortable life to head into the wilderness? Was he moved by the recent exploits of Hiram Bingham, the first modern explorer to discover Machu Picchu? Had tales of El Dorado and an old story of a stone metropolis driven him? Or, inspired by the writings of Blavatsky and other esoteric authors, was he seeking forgotten spiritual secrets? Many searched for him and vanished too, and his fate is a lingering mystery. However, recent satellite imagery appears to validate the existence of a lost, sophisticated civilization in the Amazon.

WORKSHOPS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

PRE CONFERENCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 20</td>
<td>Arrival in the Sacred Valley</td>
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<td>Afternoon Ceremony</td>
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<td>Welcome Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 21 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Pre-Conference: Spiritual Sites and Ceremonies of the Sacred Valley</td>
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CONFERENCE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 22</td>
<td>Welcome Dinner and Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 23 &amp; 24</td>
<td>Conference in The Sacred Valley - morning plenaries, afternoon workshops, evening cultural events or ceremony</td>
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<td>Aug. 25</td>
<td>Machu Picchu - train travel and day of exploration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Overnight in Aguas Calientes</td>
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<td>Aug. 26</td>
<td>Travel to Cusco</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Afternoon workshops</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Evening ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 27</td>
<td>Conference in Cusco - morning plenaries, optional afternoon excursions to Corikancha and Saqsaywaman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Afternoon workshops</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Closing circle, dinner and show</td>
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<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Main Conference Only participants depart from Cusco</td>
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LAKE TITICACA POST CONFERENCE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>Post Conference travel to Lake Titicaca</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Visit to Viracocha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Optional boat trip to the floating islands of Uros, and Taquile</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Optional excursion to visit the Inca Uyu fertility temple or relaxation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 31</td>
<td>Coach transfer to Juliaca Airport for departures</td>
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POST CONFERENCE BOLIVIA

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 28 &amp; 29</td>
<td>As above on Lake Titicaca</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Travel to Bolivia - Copacabana, and the Islands of the Sun and Moon</td>
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<td>Aug. 31</td>
<td>Travel to Chuquiñapi retreat on Lake Titicaca</td>
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<td>Sep. 1</td>
<td>Tour and ceremony at Tiwanaku</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Travel to La Paz</td>
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<td>Sep. 2</td>
<td>La Paz and El Alto - museums and culture, indigenous activists and sustainability practitioners</td>
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<td>Sep. 3</td>
<td>Departure from La Paz</td>
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Throughout the Quest, various sacred ceremonies will be conducted by Paqos, shamans from the Q’ero people native to the region who have maintained the wisdom, practices, and insights of the Incas. These are intended to deepen our relationship with the three worlds of the heavens, the earth and the underworld that lie at the heart of this spiritual tradition. The experience of these rituals will be an integral part of the Quest.

**PRE-CONFERENCE:**
- **Sacred River Ceremony** — a ceremony in which we will use the Cuyas river stones said to possess healing qualities
- **Fire Ceremony** — a ceremony of the sacredness of fire, intended to liberate us from regressive or negative patterns and tendencies that we do not need to carry anymore
- **Mama Coca Ceremony at the ancient site of Moray** — in which prayers and requests are made to Mother Earth, and an offering is given to Her

**AT THE CONFERENCE:**
- **An Evening Ceremony with Ancestral Music** — which aims to harmonize the seven relationships in life – with Mother Earth, Father Sun, family, neighbors, the past, the future and with ourselves
- **A Closing Ceremony (Hatun)** — in Cusco at the end of the conference during which we will set our intentions for work, love and good health

**A JOURNEY TO MACHU PICCHU**
With Ruben Orellana Neira and guides
We will travel by train from Ollantaytambo at the head of the Sacred Valley to Aguas Calientes, the small town at the foot of Machu Picchu beside the muddy, fast-flowing Urubamba River. After checking into our hotel and having lunch, we will take the bus up to the citadel of Machu Picchu itself. Guided by Ruben Orellana Neira, who was for twenty-two years the head of archeology at this celebrated site, we will explore this sublimely beautiful and mystical icon of Andean civilization, clearly a sacred destination for the Incan and pre-Incan people and justifiably considered one of the wonders of the world. There will be ample time for contemplation and meditation before sunset. The late afternoon light at Machu Picchu is an exquisite experience not to be missed. After having dinner and spending the night in Aguas Calientes, we continue on to Cusco the following morning.

**AFTERNOON AND EVENING ACTIVITIES**
No visit to the Sacred Valley would be complete without a concert of the distinctive Andean panpipes and flutes, an art form renowned for its preservation of indigenous customs.
In Cusco, participants will be given the opportunity to choose guided afternoon excursions. Our first goes to the Casa Concha Museum, containing the most comprehensive collection of Inca artifacts anywhere, and then to Corikancha, the most important temple in the Incan empire.
Our second option is to visit the famous fortified citadel of Saqsaywaman. Overlooking Cusco, this extraordinary and unique construction, likely also used for ceremonial purposes, is profoundly impressive in both its beauty and scale.
Finally, on our closing night in Cusco, we will enjoy a delightful performance of traditional Andean dance and with music that is soulful, vibrant and uplifting.
SPIRITUAL SITES AND CEREMONIES OF THE SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS

August 20-22, 2018

Our Quest begins in the lovely Sacred Valley, which lies at an altitude that is several thousand feet below Cusco. We will be based at our serene hotel retreat on the banks of the Urubamba River, the gardens of which are designed for the visitor attuned to the spiritual and esoteric dimensions of Incan culture.

From there we gaze across the valley to distant snow-capped mountains as we gradually absorb the soothing sounds and melodies of the river at our doorstep. We will visit the sacred site of Pisac at the south end of the Valley, with its ancient ruins and terraces high above the valley floor. It is an impressive testament of Incan culture’s unique attunement to the harmonious balance of heaven and earth.

After visiting the celebrated market in Pisac, we will return to our hotel outside Urubamba to immerse ourselves in a sacred ceremony led by Q’ero Paqos intended to deepen our awareness of Pachamama, Mother Earth. The following day we will ascend the valley sides by bus to the lovely and mysterious site of Moray, a series of concentric terraces emerging from deep in the ground. From this vantage point, the high peaks and their spiritual guardians, the Apus, stand draped in the gentle white clouds with which, according to local tradition, they are said to converse.

After a Mama Coca ceremony at Moray in which offerings are made to Pachamama, we descend to the impressive ruins in the Incan town of Ollantaytambo at the head of the Sacred Valley. We then return to our hotel retreat for our conference opening. We strongly recommend participation in this optional, experiential, Pre-Conference program as the lower altitude of the Sacred Valley facilitates acclimatization to the High Andes.
LAKE TITICACA AND THE WILD BEAUTY OF BOLIVIA

Any journey to the High Andes ideally includes a visit to the serene and beautiful Lake Titicaca, birthplace of the Incan gods. Our first option is to travel by bus to Puno to spend three nights on the Peruvian side of the Lake, stopping en route at the temple of Viracocha, the great creator deity of Inca mythology. We will stay in the tranquil small village of Chucuito where we will have the choice of a boat trip to the floating islands of the Uros people and the remote natural island of Taquile. We may also choose to explore nearby Inca Uyu, possibly used as a fertility temple, or simply relax and integrate our Quest amidst the tranquility of the highest large lake in the world.

Our second option is to spend two of those nights in Chucuito on the Peruvian side of the Lake and then go on for four further nights in Bolivia. We will cross the border to this less visited and mostly indigenous country with more peaks over 20,000 feet than Tibet. Entering this complex and fascinating country, possessed of outstanding natural beauty, can feel like entering another, more traditional, world. On our first day we will visit the Islands of the Sun and the Moon, sacred places from which these celestial bodies are said to have emerged. We will spend the night in the lakeside town of Copacabana, and then travel to a remote and simple retreat lodge on the eastern shore for a day of peace and contemplation amidst silence and beauty. The following morning we will drive to the enigmatic pre-Incan ruins of Tiwanaku, for centuries a great ceremonial center, where we will participate in a traditional offering to Pachamama.

We conclude our travels in the capital city of La Paz where we plan to meet, amidst the heights of El Alto, traditional Aymara healers and activists who are engaged in bringing Andean indigenous values, including a deep respect for Pachamama, Mother Earth, into global awareness and practice.

Lake Titicaca Only: $565 in double accommodations; $700 in single accommodations
Includes: coach transfer from Cusco to Puno, three nights’ accommodations, entrance and guided tour of Viracocha, all meals from lunch on the 28th through breakfast on the 31st, and airport transfer to Juliaca on the 31st.

Lake Titicaca and Bolivia: $2425 in double accommodations; $2950 in single accommodations
Includes: coach transfer from Cusco to Puno, six nights’ accommodations, all meals from lunch on the 28th through breakfast on the 3rd, fully-guided tour, all entrance fees, all ground and cable car transport, and transfer to El Alto airport on the 3rd.

Optional Boat Trip to the Floating Islands and Taquile: $105
For participants in either Post-Conference trip
BIOGRAPHIES

Wilbert Salas Atasi was born in the small mountain village of San Francisco, south of Cusco. In addition to working in his family business, which is dedicated to providing a deeper understanding of the Incan mysteries and the Peruvian people, Wilbert helped create Kusikuy (“happiness” in Quechua). This organization focuses upon directly supporting under resourced communities in the areas of health, education and sustainable development.


Jorge Luis Delgado was trained by the Kallawaya shamans of the Lake Titicaca region and the Q’ero elders of Cusco, the last remaining tribal descendants of the Incas, and is widely recognized as an authority on the Inca traditions.

Leonard George, Ph.D., is a faculty member of the Department of Psychology and the Chair of the School of Social Sciences at Capilano University in North Vancouver, British Columbia. The author of Crimes of Perception and Alternative Realities, he is a life-long student of esotericism and has served as an advisor and presenter for The Esoteric Quest for many years.

Malcolm Kennard, Ph.D., has had a diverse career as a professor, director and consultant in the UK and Canada with many peer-reviewed publications both in science and the arts. He is currently an adjunct professor affiliated with the University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University.

Erwin Salazar Garcés is a professor emeritus of social sciences who taught in many colleges in Cusco for more than thirty years. He has also been an amateur astronomer for over forty years and is the author of Inca Astronomy and The Inca Astronomy Handbook in English. He is currently director of the Cusco Planetarium.

Juan Carlos Machicado Figueroa is a Native American from Peru born in Cusco, the ancient capital of the Incas. He has done 30 years of research on Inca Spirituality and wrote When the Stones Speak: Inca Architecture and Spirituality in the Andes, winner of two international awards on Art and Native History. He has taught Incan civilization at the University of Nottingham in England, and at the University of New Mexico where he researched parallels between the Native Americans of the Southwest and the Incas.

Ruben Orellana Neira was chief archaeologist at Machu Picchu for twenty two years and is deeply versed in its mysteries. He studied social sciences and anthropology at the University of San Antonio Abad in Cusco. More recently he has been researching the art of healing and examining archeological sites in the Valley of Cusco for the National Institute of Culture.

Scott Olsen, Ph.D., is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy and Religion at the College of Central Florida, and author of the award-winning The Golden Section: Nature’s Greatest Secret, and the forthcoming Divine Proportion. He lectures widely on the Perennial Philosophy and Transformative States of Consciousness. He also curated the 2017 exhibition and publication of the associated catalog, Mysteries of the Amazon: Visionary Artwork of Pablo Amaringo & His Students.

Theo Paredes, Ph.D., is an anthropologist who consults with indigenous cultures worldwide to maintain sustainable communities, and teaches their myths, symbols, and architecture. A native of Cusco, he has studied Andean and Amazonian healing techniques for over twenty years, and is the founding director of the Pogen Kanchay Foundation (“Where Light Germinates”), an NGO which seeks to rescue, research and teach ancient knowledge and techniques from Pre-Incan and Incan societies to transform living into an art.


Conference Staff:
Director: Ralph White, New York Open Center
Coordinator: Carrie Wykoff, Events That Matter
Registrar: Andrea Lomanto, New York Open Center
Director of Finance: Nancy Rotger, New York Open Center

Ralph White is co-founder of the New York Open Center, one of America’s leading institutions of holistic learning. He has directed the Esoteric Quest conferences since their beginning in 1995, and is the author of the highly regarded memoir, The Rosicrucian Enlightenment Revisited.

Carrie Wykoff has been the conference coordinator for the Esoteric Quest since 1998. She produces all types of events and the Quest is truly one of her favorites. She is also an interfaith minister, a musician, a fitness instructor and a teacher.

Andrea Lomanto has served as the registrar for the Esoteric Quest since 2006. She is also a puppetista, educator, and founder of Power Up Youth Project.
REGISTRATION

Main Conference Fee
Course Code: 18SQUEST
Registration through May 30, 2018: $3915 per person in double accommodations; $4285 in single accommodations
Through July 9, 2018: $4065 per person in double accommodations; $4435 in single accommodations

The conference fee includes six nights’ accommodations in Urubamba, Aguas Calientes and Cusco, all meals from lunch on the 22nd through breakfast on the 28th of August, the full main conference program, train and bus travel and entrance to Machu Picchu, all cultural events, and airport transfer on the 22nd from Cusco to Urubamba. Afternoon activities in Cusco are optional (see esotericquest.org for additional fees).

Pre and Main Conference Fee
Course Code: 18SQUESTPRE
Registration through May 30, 2018: $4855 per person in double accommodations; $5325 in single accommodations
Through July 9, 2018: $5005 per person in double accommodations; $5475 in single accommodations

The conference fee includes eight nights’ accommodations in Urubamba, Aguas Calientes and Cusco, all meals beginning with lunch on the 20th, airport transfer on the 20th from Cusco to Urubamba, two-day guided tour of the Sacred Valley with all ceremonies, entrance fees and coach transport, and full Main Conference program.

For full registration details (including group discounts) and to register, please see www.esotericquest.org.

Payment
Payment in US dollars is required to secure your registration. Please pay by credit card, international money order or personal check (US bank accounts only). Prices do not include travel to and from Peru or Bolivia. An affordable payment plan for the conference is available. Please contact Andrea Lomanto at 212.219.2527 x101, or at quest@opencenter.org for details.

Travel Arrangements
Main-Conference participants must make their own travel arrangements to and from Cusco, Peru. Post-Conference participants will return home from either Juliaca, Peru or La Paz, Bolivia.

Arrival in Peru
Pre-Conference participants or those choosing to fly in early will arrive in Cusco on August 20 and be met by an Open Center coach for the drive to Urubamba. Main-Conference Only participants will arrive into Cusco on August 22 for the drive to Urubamba. More information may be found on our website at www.esotericquest.org.

Refunds
A full refund, less a $200 processing fee, is offered for cancellations made by Monday, July 9. Travel insurance is strongly recommended for travel in Peru, and required for Bolivia, in the event of unexpectedly having to cancel or change your travel plans either before or during the conference, losing your luggage, needing medical assistance, or if the program is affected by circumstances beyond our control.

Scholarships / Work Study
A limited number of partial scholarships are available. A scholarship application can be found on our website at www.esotericquest.org.

Puma and moon constellation of Llama wind and ice beautiful enchantment. Night in the highlands thus am I fed.
—Traditional Quechua poem
CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Exploring Inca Spirituality
Juan Carlos Machicado Figueroa

The Esoteric Quest, North and South
Tiwanaku: Eleusis of the Andes
Leonard George, Ph.D.

The Meaning of Machu Picchu
Ruben Orellana Neira

Pachamama: The Sacred Feminine
Mirabai Starr

The Traditional Wisdom of Andean Cultures
Theo Paredes, Ph.D.

Andean Archeoastronomy
Cusco, City of the Puma
Erwin Salazar Garcés

A Journey to Machu Picchu
With archaeologist Ruben Orellana Neira
August 25, 2018

Pre-Conference Experience
Spiritual Sites and Ceremonies of the Sacred Valley of the Incas
August 20 - 22, 2018

Lake Titicaca and the Wild Beauty of Bolivia
August 28 - August 31 or September 3, 2018

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