

REVUE

Guatemala's English-language Magazine

FEBRUARY 2021 revuemag.com Year 29 No. 12



THIS MONTH IN REVUE



CLICK TO:

Rent a House

Buy a House

Buy Fresh-baked Bread

ADVERTISER INDEX

*places to go, things to do,
and fun to be had*

Restaurants - Hotels

Shopping - Services

Real Estate - Travel

From the Publishers

Previous Revue articles
and Photo Contests

RevueMag.com

PHOTO CONTEST MARCH, 2021

"Volcanoes of Guatemala"
click for details

La Antigua Interactive Map



On the Cover

2nd Place Judges Vote

"Nature + You = All what matters"

Hunalye by Isaac Orantes

VIDEO

REVUE STAFF

Publishers/Editors

John & Terry Kovick Biskovich

Photography Luis Toribio, César Tián

Graphic Designer Hadazul Cruz

Contributing Writer Mark D. Walker

Webmaster/Social Media JB

Administrative Assistant María Solís

Systems Luis Juárez, José Caal, Luis Toribio

Publishing Company

Producciones Publicitarias Estrella Antigua S. A.

REVUE

Guatemala's English-language Ezine

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE INTERACTIVE REVUE

consultas@revuemag.com

PBX 7832-4619

Corporate offices: 3a avenida sur #4-A, La Antigua Guatemala

For Business Listings, Information, Maps and Events Calendar **RevueMag.com**

36



Long Way Home by Elizabeth Rose

Director of Non-profit Receives Distinguished Humanitarian Award

In September 2020, when Matthew 'Mateo' Paneitz received the Sargent Shriver Award he credited his team at Long Way Home. [...more](#)

50



When Words are not Enough

Mott McCampbell -- Robert Flanagan
Larraitx Iparragirre -- Rodolfo de León
Edward Leonard -- Jennifer Page

A group show of contemporary visual artists from Guatemala and the United States will be on display in La Antigua through April 4, 2021. [...more](#)



94 The Future of the Peace Corps in Guatemala

by Mark D. Walker

Anna Zauner received the evacuation notice at 10 p.m. on March 15th, 2020: Have all of your things packed and ready in an hour. "I was 30 minutes from home with nothing packed," according to Anna, "home" being the highlands of Guatemala where Anna was one of 165 Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) serving in the "Land of Eternal Spring." Due to the global outbreak of Covid-19, over 7,300 PCVs were being evacuated from sixty-one countries. [...more](#)



food and drink

restaurants, bars,
cafés and diners





Click on title to go to desired page

ANTIGUA

DOÑA LUISA XICOTENCATL *home cooked meals and fresh bread baked daily*

CHOCO MUSEO *artisanal chocolates, restaurant, classes*

CAFÉ CONDESA *farm-to-table since 1993*

CAFETENANGO RESTAURANT *surrounded by gardens and volcano views*

CERRO SAN CRISTOBAL *organic farm, slow food, garden-to-table restaurant*

DEL ARCO RESTAURANTE *excellent food in a beautiful surrounding*

THAI-WOW *delicious thai food in a beautiful setting*

GUATEMALA CITY - ANTIGUA

ARRIN CUAN *over three decades offering the best of Guatemalan Cuisine*





Click on title to go to desired page

PLACES AND FU



Services

ANTIGUA

HOUSE FOR RENT *outside Guatemala City, excellent location and price*

HOSPITAL PRIVADO HERMANO PEDRO *24-hour emergency service*

BEAUTIFUL HOME FOR SALE *in a natural private reserve*

COMUNITEL *internet service where no one else gives it*

LA FÁBRICA SPORTS & GYM *rock climbing, cross training, bilingual trainers*

VET PRO *veterinary clinic - English, Spanish, French spoken*



Shopping

ANTIGUA

LA ANTIGUA GALERÍA DE ARTE *Contemporary and traditional artists*

RANDOM TREASURES *pre-owned clothes, furniture - benefits animal welfare*

GUATEMALA CITY

HOUSE & GREEN *kitchen and restaurant supply*

JOCOTENANGO

PLAZA JOCOTENANGO *shopping and convenience under one roof*

TO GO, THINGS TO DO UN TO BE HAD...



Hotels - Lodging

ANTIGUA

ANTIGUA HOTEL SOLUTIONS *several great hotels to choose from*

LAKE ATITLAN

JARDINES DEL LAGO HOTEL *you deserve to relax at the lake*

HAWAII / MONTECICCO

PLAYA PLANA *relax and enjoy at the pacific coast*

RÍO DULCE

HACIENDA TIJAX *ecolodge and marina - waterfront cabañas*



Travel - Tours

ANTIGUA

FILADELPHIA COFFEE RESORT *farm and production tours, mountain bikes...*

ANTIGUA - GUATEMALA CITY - QUETZALTENANGO

TURANSA TRAVEL AGENCY *tour packages, bus rental, shuttle service*





Feliz mes de San Valentín



Tostadas francesas con fruta **Q21**
del 1 al 7 de febrero

Panqueques **Q20**
del 8 al 14 de febrero

Sandwich de Jamón y Queso
con Ensalada y Bebida **Q40**
del 15 al 21 de febrero

Sandwich de Roast Beef
con Ensalada y Bebida **Q40**
del 22 al 28 de febrero

Servicio a domicilio de 7am a 3pm
Tel. 7832-2578 - 7832-7751

DOÑA LUISA XICOTENCATL



Restaurant and Bakery
4a. calle oriente #12 La Antigua G.



PAN DE BANANO

FRESH BREAD & ROLLS DAILY

Whole Wheat, Raisin, All-Grain, Black Olive,
White, Potato & Onion Rolls, Banana Bread

TODOS LOS DÍAS HAY

Integral, Pasas, Todos los Granos, Aceitunas Negras,
Blanco, Panitos de Papa & Cebolla, Pan de Banano

HOME-COOKED MEALS

Breakfasts, Sandwiches, Burgers,
Stuffed Potatoes, Cakes, Pies & Cookies

COMO HECHOS EN CASA

Desayunos, Sandwiches, Hamburguesas
Papas Rellenas, Pasteles, Pays & Galletas



Recognized with distinctive
TOURISM QUALITY



PAN DE NUTRI HIERBAS



ZEPELÍN DE JENGIBRE



ESCANEA Y CONOCE
NUESTRO MENÚ



HOUSE FOR RENT

Outside Guatemala City

Santa Rosalía, km 12.5 Carretera a
El Salvador

- Private, super safe
- Scenic wooded wa
- Cool climate
- View on small lake
- Safe water supply



GREAT VALUE

5318-2567



CHAT ONLY

Man spricht auch deutsch



guidaurus@yahoo.com
estelaestrella51@gmail.com

lkways

- Big living/dining area
- Beautiful kitchen with breakfast bar
- 3 bedrooms
- Study room
- 4 and a half bathrooms
- Family room,
- 3-car garage
- Electric door opener
- Unfurnished, maid's quarter
- Laundry room.



4th Place Popular Vote “Todo Santera Couple / Pareja Todo Santera”
Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Huehuetenango by Jose Manuel del Busto

HOUSE FOR SALE

IN A VERY PRIVATE, EXCLUSIVE COLONY



**15 MINUTES
FROM PANAJACHEL
ATITLÁN**

Located in a **private natural reserve**
surrounded by trees. A very secure, quiet place
with a **peaceful neighborhood**

INFORMATION CALL: 5202-9114





3rd Place Judges Vote "untitled"
Mirador de Santa Catarina Palopó by Moises Pivaral

**DELIVERY SERVICE
AVAILABLE**

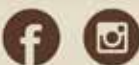
RESTAU



Arrin Cuan que significa ac
K'eqchi', nació hace 40 años
comida típica artesana

Arrin Cuan es pi
guatemalteca cocinan

BÚSCANOS EN



5ta Av. 3-27 zona 1, Centro Histórico
Teléfono: 2238-0242

Km 18.5 Carr. Interam
Teléfono: 2438-5

RANTE TÍPICO

Arrin Cuan

Una rica tradición

40 años

¿Qué hay o aquí está en idioma Maya
con la intención de servir auténtica
guatemalteca, 100% natural.

Compromiso en la gastronomía
hecho con amor para Guatemala.

América
5551

5a. Av. 10-22 zona 9
Teléfono: 2360-5555

Casa #2 Callejón Concepción, Antigua Guatemala
Teléfono: 7832-0831



EL CLUB ROTARIO GUATEMALA U.S.A.
presenta
RESTAURANTE ARRIN CUAN
Por participar durante los últimos años
FESTIVAL GASTRONÓMICO INTERNACIONAL DE GUATEMALA
Club Rotario y Restaurante de Antigua Guatemala, para la



From the Publishers

Welcome to the February, 2021 edition of *Revue*. The theme of our Photo Contest this month ***Friends & Lovers in Guatemala*** goes hand-in-hand with the tradition of Valentine's Day. Though the origins are shrouded in mystery, Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written Valentine's didn't begin to appear until after 1400.

Also in this issue, Elizabeth Rose writes about Matthew Paneitz receiving the Sargent Shriver Humanitarian Award and how his NGO ***Long Way Home Hero School*** continues to help communities.

Mark Walker gives us the inside scoop on ***The Future of the Peace Corps in Guatemala***, and what has happened with the organization since the pandemic.

When Words are not Enough is a group show of contemporary visual artists from Guatemala and the United States on display in La Antigua through April 4.

Thank you for reading *Revue* and we wish you all the best in all of your quests.

— John & Terry Kovick Biskovich



Using the interactive features

As you turn a page you'll notice some of the text/images are briefly highlighted. All you have to do is click or tap on them to enter the world of interactivity, including virtual reality tours. Double-tap on a page to zoom in. Click on a page to view highlighted content.

In the contents and advertiser index pages just click or tap on whatever subject you're interested in and that's where you'll go. Videos will play directly in the page.

Follow us



CENTRO COMERCIAL
PLAZA JOCOTENANGO

COME AND ENJOY
happy moments




**5 minutes from
Antigua Guatemala**

Shopping and convenience under one roof

Supermarket - Coffee Shop - Food court
Pharmacy - Dentist - Beauty salon - Electronics
Fashion - Barbershop - Plenty of Parking

Coming soon: **Movie Theater**

 Calle Ricardo Arjona zona 4, Jocotenango Sacatepéquez

 7831-0045



**"Love in the Sky" Mirador Juan Dieguez Olaverri,
Huehuetenango by Mario Santizo**





celebre
juntos el mes del
amo



JARDINES DEL LAGO

www.jardinesdellago.com

Tels: +502 7762-0606 - 7762-6114

Calle Monterrey, Panajachel, Sololá

 [jardinesdellago](https://www.facebook.com/jardinesdellago)  [hoteljardinesdellago](https://www.instagram.com/hoteljardinesdellago)



**Safe
travels**





THAI-WOW



TO MAKE RESERVATIONS
PICK UP OR FREE DELIVERY

PLEASE CALL
40974768

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY
1:00 - 7:00 PM





Open

Saturday and Sunday 1 to 7

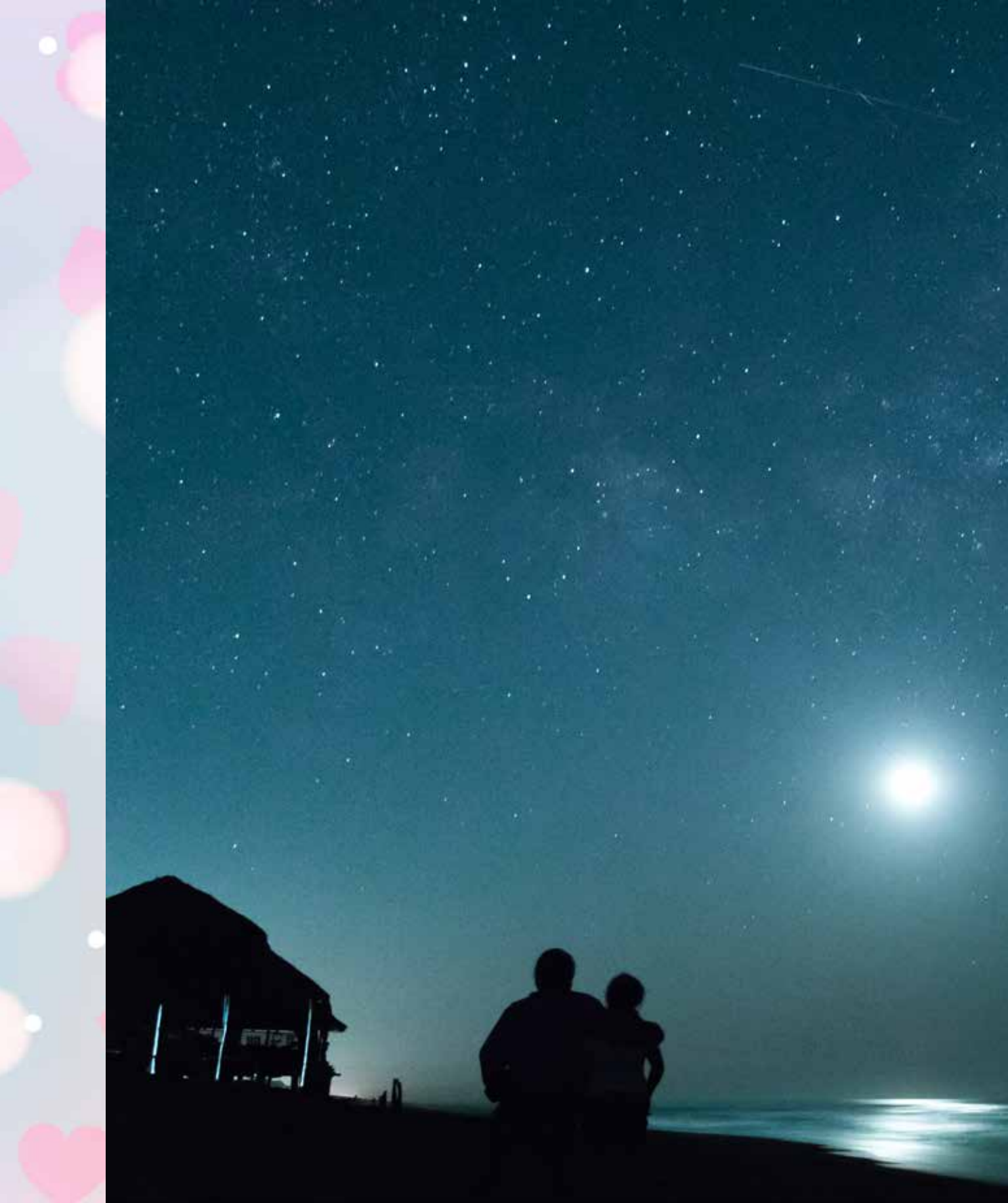
FREE DELIVERY



Call 4097 4768

For Reservation or
Place an Order

www.thai-wow.com





**"Contemplando el Amanecer" Playa de Sipacate,
Escuintla by Oscar Giovanni Orantes Ortiz**



1st Place Judges Vote "Amor entre volcanes"
Rostro maya by David Alinan

Fotografía David Alinan

1st Place Popular Vote
"Subiría la cumbre por irte a encontrar"
Volcán de Acatenango by Eugenia Gómez





"Amor en tiempos de covid"
Quetzaltenango by Guido De León

Love cures people - both the ones who
give it and the ones who receive it.

—Karl A. Menninger



2nd Place Popular Vote "At Peace with my Friend"
by Bo Chelette

Things are never quite as scary
when you've got a best friend.

—Bill Watterson



"Las dos Fuerzas (La Naturaleza y el Amor)"
Volcán de Pacaya by Berner Villela





"Historia de amor" Plaza España ciudad de Guatemala
by Carlos Francisco Hernández Juárez



3rd Place Popular Vote "Urban Valentines"
Zona 4, 4 grados norte by Constanza de Ortega



Matthew 'Mateo' Paneitz received the 2020 Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service

Executive Director of Non-profit Receives Distinguished Humanitarian Award

by Elizabeth Rose

In September 2020, when Matthew 'Mateo' Paneitz received the 2020 Sargent Shriver Award for Distinguished Humanitarian Service he credited his team at *Long Way Home*.

"I'm just the one being recognized but everyone on the team is responsible for this award," he said.

Paneitz has much to boast of, in spite of his modesty. The Shriver award is given annually by the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) to Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who have continued to make a distinguished contribution to humanitarian causes in the United States or abroad.

Paneitz was recognized for eighteen years of service within Guatemala, including two in the Peace Corps, where he has worked in the community to redress ethnic violence and systemic oppression against indigenous people. This repair includes the development of a "democratic education" curriculum inspired by philosophers J.P. Dewey and Bertrand Russell, and taught at the *Long Way Home Hero School*. The school emphasizes project-based learning where students learn by doing. This educational system is also demonstrated on Long Way Home's hillside campus in San Juan Comalapa.

Long Way Home's tagline is "using innovative solutions to local and global problems." The school campus is a thriving example of the benefits of building with non-perishable trash, an innovative construction model that impacts environmental pollution, health and the need for low-cost building. The Long Way Home Hero School has been built over 11 years by more than 2,000 volunteers with 15,000 tires and 500 tons of trash.

The eighteen-building campus is predominantly composed of upcycled non-perishable waste such as earth-filled tires, plastic and glass bottles, and cans. It educates 121 students in grades K through 11, employs five administrators and 23 teachers. The construction crew consists of five builders and two construction managers. The current staff consists of Paneitz, Katie Larson, Sonia Membreno, Ryan Torres, and several interns.

Paneitz concedes "there is no one answer to poverty," but green building provides immediate



Long Way Home Hero School students, 2020

relief to a community drowning in its own waste.

“The reduction of trash and contamination is an immediate benefit. It gives the community the idea that improved living conditions are possible. And people need alternatives to expensive construction,” he said.

Paneitz has led the physical construction of the campus, personally collecting and packing hundreds of tires. He has also influenced the curriculum taught inside the classrooms. In 2015 earned a Master of Education at Goddard College. His thesis examined the intersection of current social and environmental factors with the learning needs of indigenous Guatemalans.

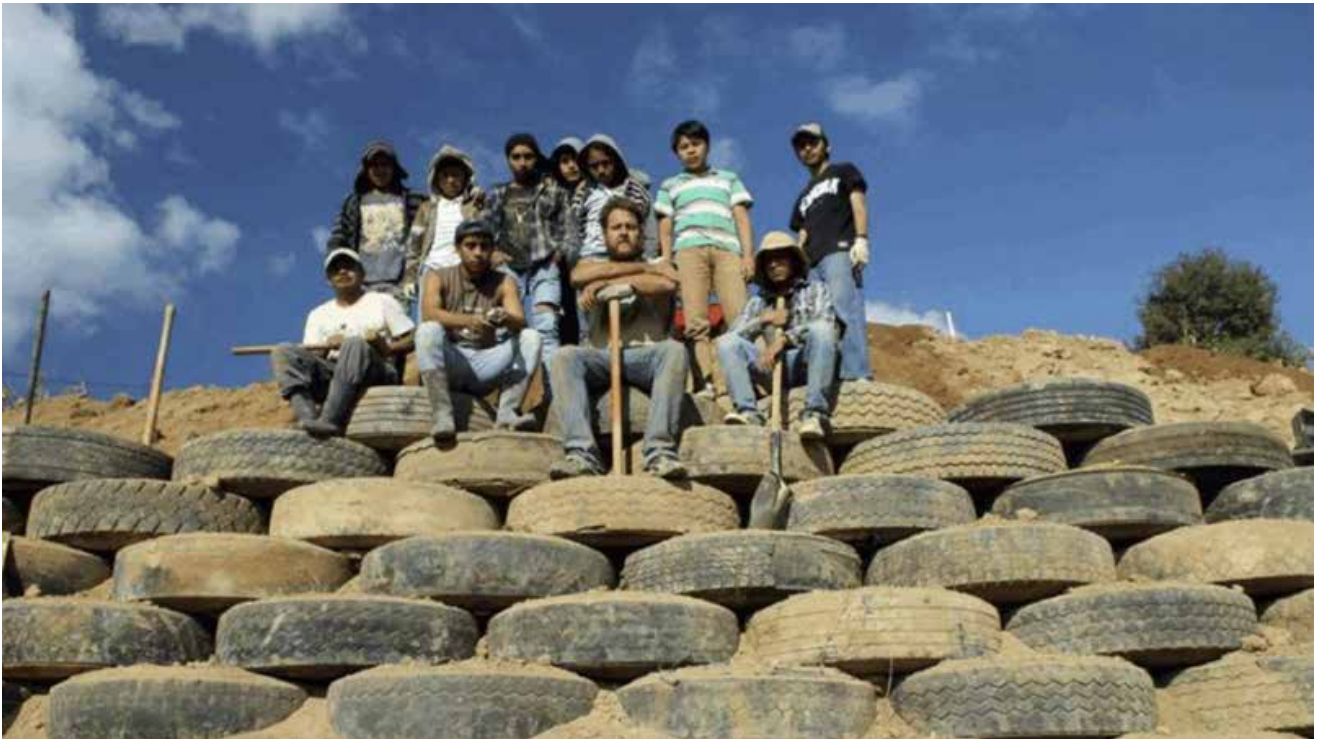
Stalking a financial foothold for a non-profit with an innovative mission in a conservative indigenous area was a path littered with many obstacles. After eighteen years, Paneitz is seeing financial stability with a stronghold of community support and recognition of this innovative approach. In addition to the K through 11 edu-

cation at the campus, two Green Building Academies for adults are held each year. They are accompanied by the Green Building Manual, written and published by the Long Way Home staff. There are plans afloat for similar schools in India, Zimbabwe and Livingston, Guatemala.

Paneitz was the middle of three boys living in a single-parent family in Lufkin, Texas. His father was often absent, and his parents eventually divorced. His mother, Janet, was ambitious, had sewing skills and creativity. She founded her own interior decorating company to support her family.

Following his mother’s example, Paneitz nurtured his own dream of entrepreneurship, but in the non-profit sector. After completing an associate degree in Applied Sciences, he began a career as a paramedic in rural Virginia, where he and his wife, Emily, had relocated for her career.

His interests were distant from full-time service goals.



Matt and group #1

“At the time, (2002), I was the proud owner of a 1978 mint-condition Caprice Classic convertible with 50,000 original miles, a four-wheel drive extended-cab Nissan pickup truck, and a fully decked-out flat-bottom boat. I drank 12 Busch tall boys a day, watched football on the weekends and was always ready to see the next live concert.”

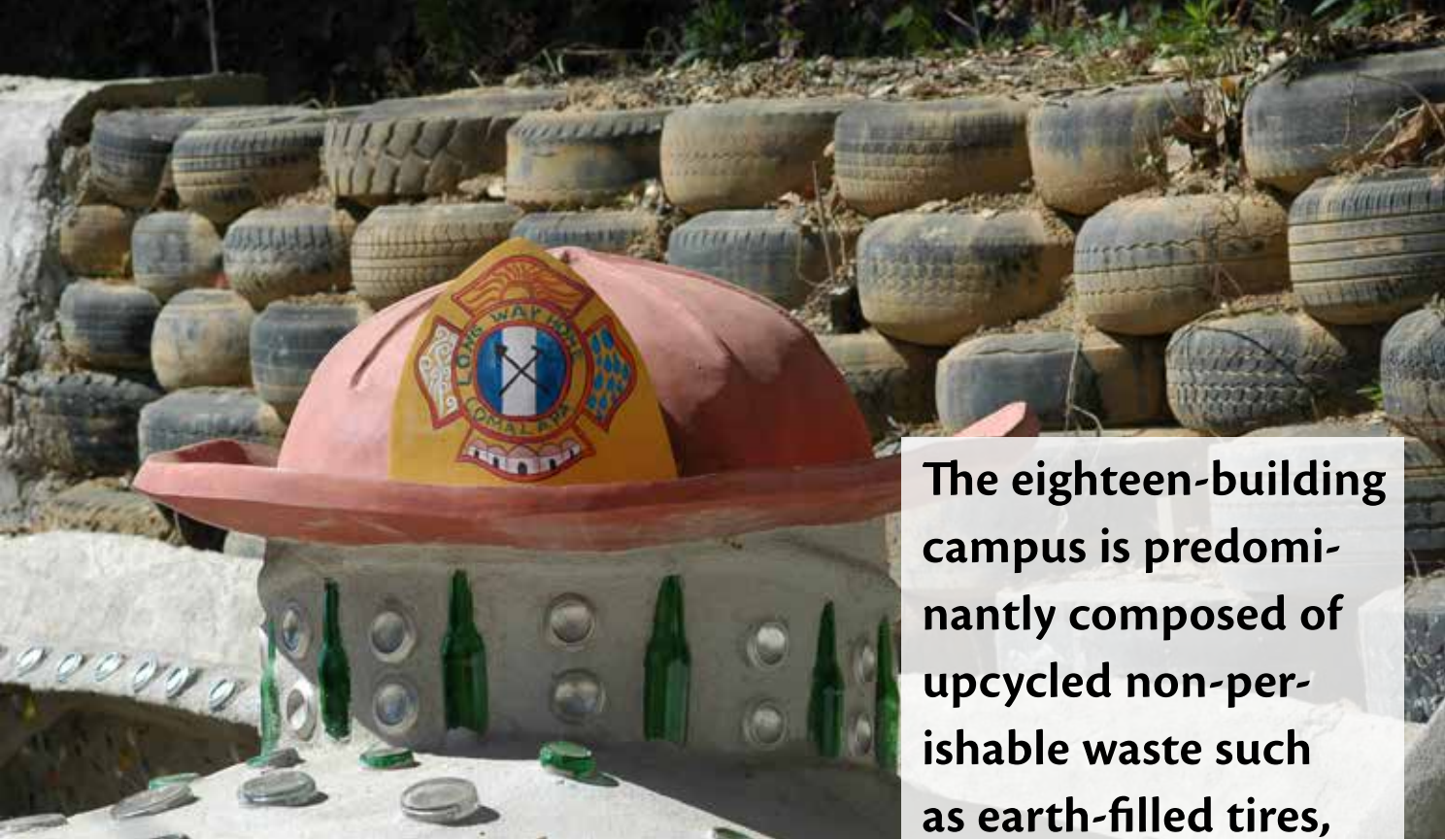
He was more concerned about being a good mate. “I didn’t have a dream of helping people. It was a direct result of the woman I was involved with at the time. One day, while I was trying to get the smell of burning flesh out of my nose, my wife suggested we join the Peace Corps. When she told me that we were assigned to Guatemala a few months later, I was like...where is Guatemala?” Paneitz said.

Although his job as a paramedic had introduced him to the reality of human tragedy, he was

unprepared for the extreme poverty he witnessed while orienting as a Peace Corps volunteer. Before Guatemala, he had rarely left the States except for tourism in Cancun, Mexico.

“I knew nothing. The learning curve was really sharp. Every day was new, exciting, exhausting, compounding, perplexing, all at the same time. It was a life altering experience,” said Paneitz.

Texas and Guatemala shared similarities, including ubiquitous pickup trucks, dogs, friendly people, and an outdoorsy environment, but the lack of recreational options meant an adjustment. He missed football, TV, movies, radio, takeout, and fast food. It wasn’t advisable to leave home after 8:30 PM. In addition to the obvious sacrifices of leisure activities, the more dramatic tableau of poverty got his attention.



The eighteen-building campus is predominantly composed of upcycled non-perishable waste such as earth-filled tires, plastic and glass bottles, and cans.





Matt Paneitz. Peace Corps volunteer, 2002

“I had never seen extreme poverty.”

His Peace Corps group toured an orphanage near the Guatemala City dump. During the visit, they witnessed a young girl having her stomach evacuated of semen.

“The orphanage director told us the dump was where the children are often disposed of when their captors are no longer able to make money off of them as sex slaves. It was on the way to our training site that I first saw a child hauling firewood on her back, walking along a busy highway, during school hours. I can still see the expression of despair on both of those faces,” said Paneitz.

His changes came at intervals. Settling into the couple’s worksite in the northern department of Alta Verapaz brought him further intimacy with Guatemalan culture. He enjoyed the “walk everywhere” custom of their small indigenous town.

“You’re always on foot. You pass next to people. There’s a connection at a slower pace. You could hardly avoid it. People have the time to look each other in the eye and make a connection. Everyone is super curious. They invite you to their house to meet their family.”

Visiting homes, making new acquaintances, and learning the language carried revelations. New friends consistently broached the raw topic of disappearances and recent losses during the Civil War years.

“It was the first time I was immersed in a post-genocidal nation. They were exhuming bodies in my town. They were bringing exhumed bodies past my house. Everyone I met would end up crying, telling me about their four brothers who had disappeared in 1987,” he said.

Witnessing the trauma of these stories was profound and he would carry their effect over the next eighteen years, but first Paneitz had to return home.

After completing his Peace Corps service in 2004, and following a wrenching divorce, Paneitz returned to Ashland, Oregon.

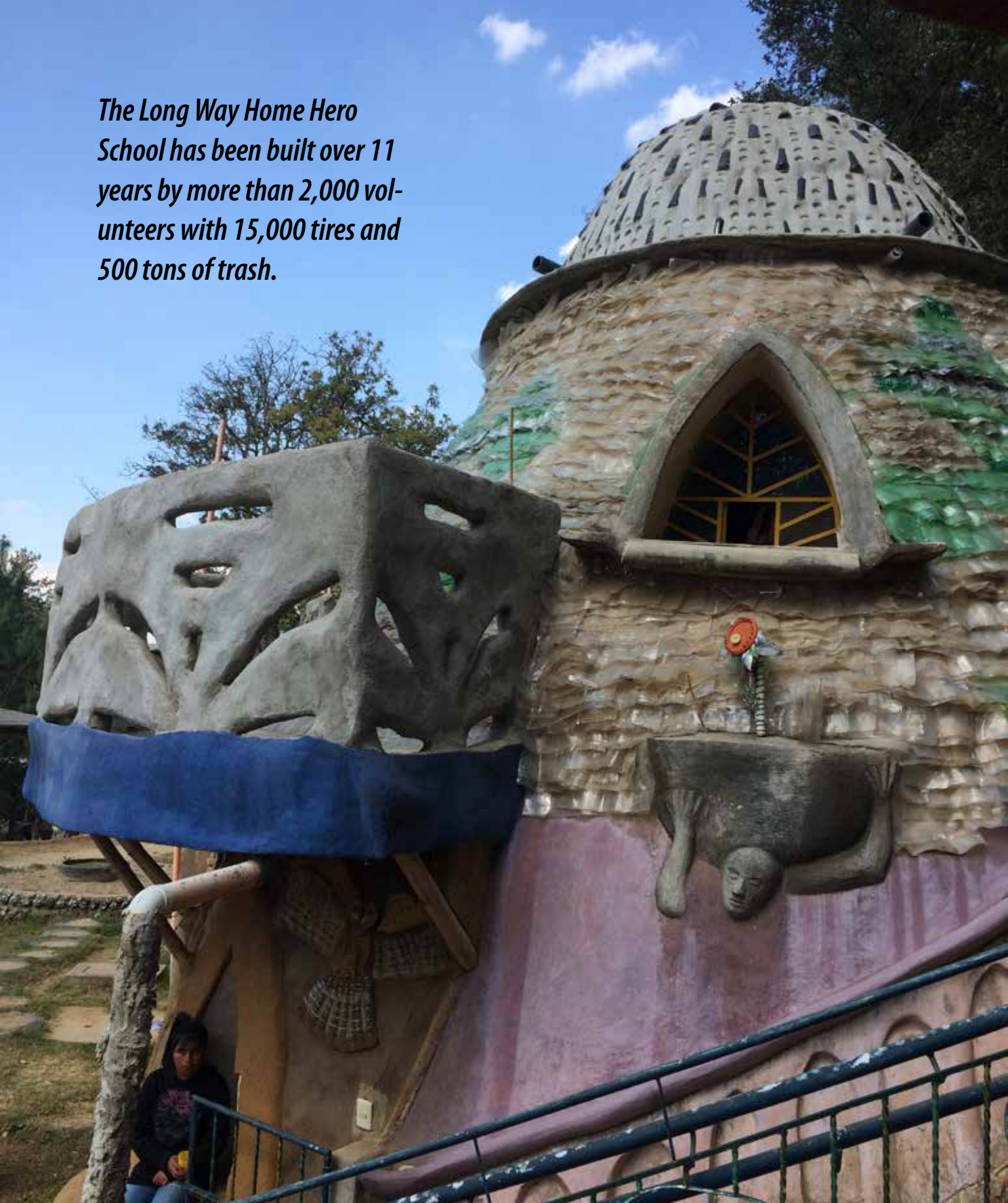
“After you’re done with Peace Corps you want ice cream and wine, hot showers and amenities, but something felt off.”

A nagging uneasiness plagued Paneitz.

“Everyone was drinking the finest wines, but I felt like I was turning my back on the people [in Guatemala]. I couldn’t live with that. It felt like an emergency. How could you walk by a house on fire?”

He asked his brother to place a large jar in his wine shop for a fund to benefit Guatemala. His sister-in-law suggested he begin a non-profit and

The Long Way Home Hero School has been built over 11 years by more than 2,000 volunteers with 15,000 tires and 500 tons of trash.



steered him the local library. He began the exciting and arduous process of developing a small hope into a reality, but it needed a name. One night with friends around a campfire, Paneitz decided on the name Long Way Home, after a Dwight Yoakum song with the same title.

His first fundraiser was a year-long auction of his prized possession: the 1978 mint-condition Caprice Classic convertible. He filed the necessary 501(c)3 documents and asked friends to sign on as board members.

Once he had raised \$5000, he traveled back to Guatemala. Two old friends, Evan Johnson and Rick Kimbrough, accompanied him on the long drive and bringing only personal possessions. Arriving in February 2005 they moved into a small house on five acres of undeveloped land on the outskirts of Comalapa.

Chuhi Tinamit, an NGO in Comalapa, had tasked Paneitz with developing the vacant land into a recreational park. The mission was to offer alternatives to gang membership for local youth. They called their “ecofarm” Pargue Chimiyà. Over the next four years, Long Way Home installed a soccer field, basketball court, family recreation area, playground, walking trails, tree nursery, and organic gardens.

Adam and Liz Howland, Peace Corps cohorts, joined his effort. Adam Howland, a graduate of a construction management course in New York, suggested they use trash in their building projects in mimicry of Michael Reynolds, a self-claimed biotecture architect. This approach to construction offered multiple benefits, such as cleaning the environment and using trash for good.

Construction would serve the local community by offering employment. The building skills needed are easily taught and local builders already had

other expertise in the building trades. Secondly, the health benefits to the community were enormous. The health problems associated with trash, such as pollution and gastrointestinal diseases, inequitably affect the planet’s rural poor. In order to build a coalition in a new community, Paneitz believed the community should see the newcomers doing the hard work.

“We knew we couldn’t scream from the mountain tops, so we had to get down and do the work. We provided an ongoing example,” he said.


They began charging admission to the park of two empty, discarded plastic bottles. There was less plastic refuse in streets around the park and by January 2009 they had gathered enough materials to begin school construction.

There have been disappointments. Initially he thought that by building the campus in the spirit of a “farm-raising,” the community would unite and collectively turn to trash building.

“That hasn’t happened. Retaining walls have been popular but it hasn’t been the overwhelming affect that we expected, although there are examples here and there,” he said.

The reasons for this are myriad.

“Innovation takes commitment, people and resources, but everywhere there’s dirt and trash we have an impact. We have the tangible results. I got the award, but I only did a small percentage of the work, everyone in LWH did the work.” he said.

“When you think of trash, think of Long Way Home,” he added. 

www.lwhome.org

<https://www.facebook.com/lwhomeorg>

Library of Hero School,
San Juan Comalapa



Students in classroom prior to COVID-19



Equipe su cocina
comercial con productos
de alta calidad

THERMA-TEK
RANGE CORP.



House & Green
UTENSILIOS · EQUIPOS · SUMINISTROS

PBX 2427 4400 | FAX 2427 4401
Línea directa Hoteles y Restaurantes 2427 4455
12 Calle 1-25, Z. 10 Edificio Géminis, Local 124

www.houseandgreen.com.gt
ventas@houseandgreen.com.gt
servicioalcliente@houseandgreen.com.gt



24 hour assistance (502) 5651-2289

AGENCIA DE VIAJES

TURANSA

Tour Packages, Bus Rental w/driver, Shuttle Service, Hotel Reservations & More.
Worldwide Air Tickets, Professional staff, high quality service for individuals or groups.



Everything
Guatemala

OUR AGENCIES (Ask for our business hours)

Guatemala City, Zona Viva

Walking distance from all the Zona Viva Hoteles.
12 Calle 1-25 Edif. Géminis 10, zona 10 LOCAL 310

Tels: 2338-2361 74/98/99

Metro Centro Villa Nueva

Tel. 6631 4327/28/29/30

Antigua Guatemala

Tels: 7938-5113 / 5651-2289

THESE AGENCIES OPEN 365 DAYS A YEAR UNTIL 8:00 P.M.

ESKALA ROOSEVELT

Carr. Roosevelt Km. 13.8 Zona 7 local 119
Centro Comercial; **PBX: 23905757**

PRADERA XELA, QUETZALTENANGO

Tels 77637475 - 79680272/3
77675913/14

info@turansa.com

(reservations & payment online)

Visit our website and Suscribe for discounts and services

turansa.com/blog



turansa.com

find us on





"Amor y Montaña - Pablo y Wendy"
Volcán Santiaguito by Elvis Avila



La Antigua *Galería de Arte*



laantiguagaleria.com
laantiguagaleria@gmail.com

La Antigua Galería de Arte is honored to present Guatemalan artist Rodolfo de León in a solo show entitled “Abanico”. The exhibit opens Saturday March 6th from 3 to 6pm at 5a. Avenida Norte No. 29, La Antigua Guatemala

“**Abanico**” is an exhibition that came about from the invitation by La Antigua Galería de Arte, which I deeply appreciate since these activities promote the work of local, national, and international artists. “Abanico” is a series of recent works that include humble techniques such as charcoal or pastel, and pieces of cut paper with that wonderful technique inherited from the genius Matisse.

This collection is the result of continuous and patient work, like that of any artist, that is fruitful, producing oneiric pieces,



portraits or still lives. Pieces that are built on their own, thanks to my condition of being like an antenna; a simple medium through which creation flows.

This is why I consider myself a painter by ear, I just listen to the materials and let them guide me. I think that the material already “comes” with its own theme or drawing, and I agree with Redon when he says that “art should be made by itself”, and I know that those who have experienced that miracle will understand me.

I hardly ever know what will happen on the blank canvas, I am always surprised. I can say that there is no greater abstraction than my figurative pieces. These are almost always based on the exercise of the cloud, the so-called “dirty drawing”. What are the images formed in our minds when as children we look towards the sky? A sheikh’s from the Far East elephant, a pitched battle, or simply a woman who extends her hand fan in signal that we can take her out to dance?” Rodolfo de León, La Antigua Guatemala 2021.

This collection gathers more than 20 works in different techniques. The artist will attend the opening. The exhibit will be on display throughout the month.



**5a Avenida Norte # 29
(near the arch)
La Antigua Guatemala**

VISITING HOURS

**THURS-MON
10am to 6pm
TUES-WED CLOSED**

Tel (502) 7832-5911



Simple Saint by Robert Flanagan

CUANDO LAS PALABRAS SE ACABAN

When Words are not Enough

A group show of **contemporary visual artists** from Guatemala and the United States will be on display at the **Centro de Formación de la Cooperación Española** in La Antigua, Guatemala through **April 4, 2021**.

The exhibition is free and open to the public.

At this time attendance is possible by appointment Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm under current regulations and complying with the sanitary measures. We hope weekends will be open soon. For appointment please call +502 7932-3838.

The show is curated by **Suzan Al-Doghachi** and consists of works by six artists:

Mott McCampbell

Robert Flanagan (AJAX)

Larraitz Iparragirre

Rodolfo de León

Edward Leonard

Jennifer Page



JACOB'S LADDER

1/18

Jennifer Page

Jacob's Ladder by Jennifer Page

This exhibition is a collection of seventy six works on canvas and paper, abstract as well as figurative, in oil, acrylic, charcoal, photogravure, collage and encaustic. These six artists were selected because their work is characterized by a search, a poetic urgency to reveal the mystery of reality, a reality, both internal and external. The medium and method of each artist is very different from one another, a magnificent and fascinating diversity, yet they are held together by a kind of unsolvable mystery that is prevalent in each piece; they are suggestive images, open to interpretation.





Art by Mott McCampbell

The evolution of art is marked through historical movements and though art history plays an important role in the growth of each artist, history is really made by people. The interaction of artists on a personal level contributes to their artistic development to a very high degree. Such is the case in this occasion where local and international artists meet and influence each other.

The major difference between art and illustration is that illustration presents a conscious, literal, preconceived idea, and though it is often more effective as an image, it can easily be put into words. Art on the other hand cannot be put into words, no more than music can; there is no way it could exist without the visual medium. These artists do not present a preconceived idea but invite the viewers to use their own imagination, opening a space to create meaning, thus touching upon the unconscious

and stimulating deeper emotions. This is what the title of the show “WHEN WORDS ARE NOT ENOUGH” refers to, it is also what binds the work together.

ABOUT EACH ARTIST:

The oil paintings of **Mott McCampbell** (New York) are abstract works on canvas. His starting point is one color, a color scheme or a landscape. His works evolve from the application of many layers of paint over time. His watercolors and drawings are of common, everyday subjects depicted in a minimal, impressionist style that is deceptively simple. Just as life is not complete nor in a static state, there is a sense that his paintings are unfinished, still in process.

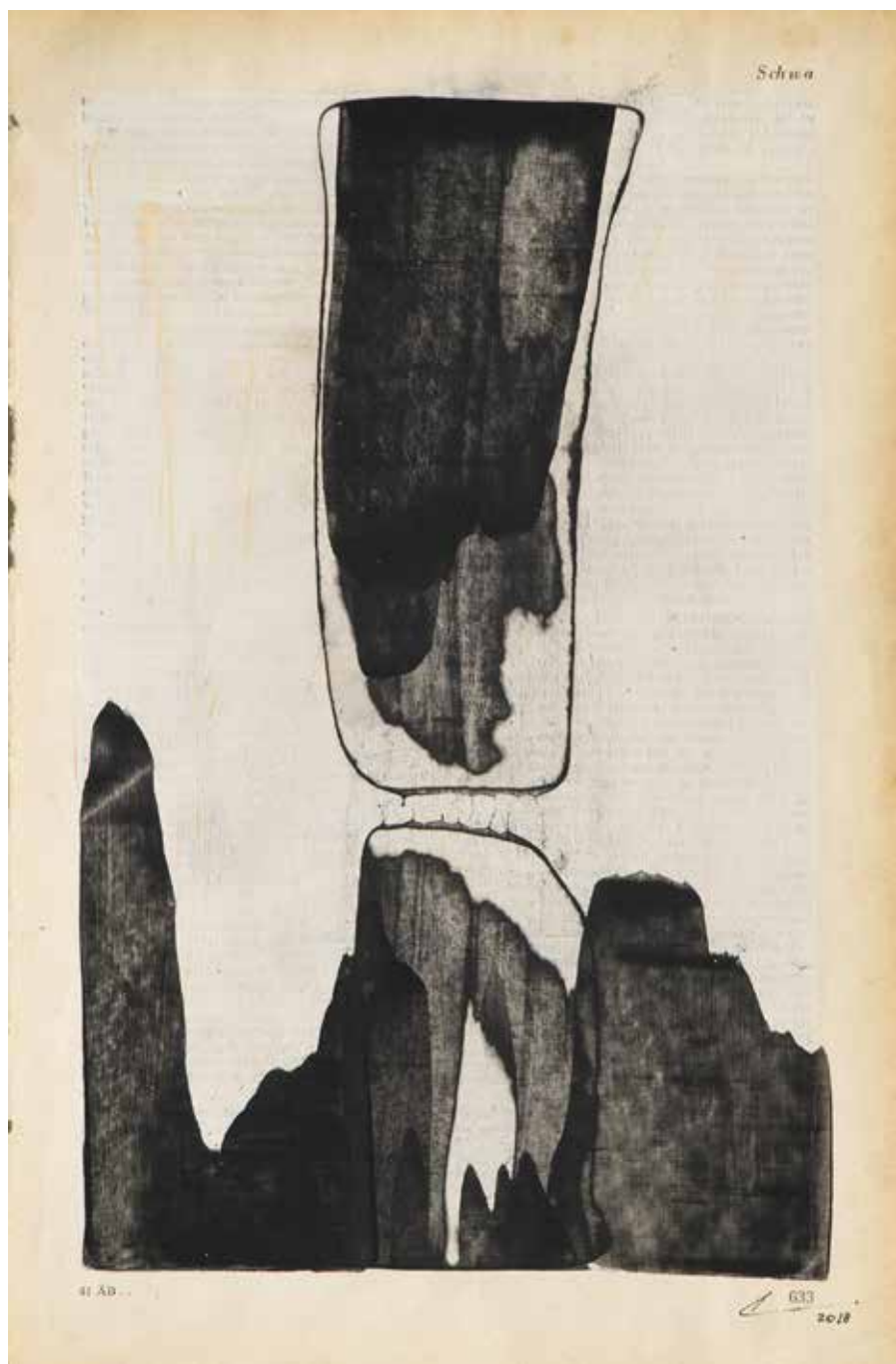
“Art is born from frustration. Frustration over Love. Love of things, people and places that surround the Artist. I feel an immediate need to hold and capture not just the object of that love but also the very feeling. To draw something is to capture it, but it’s slippery and elusive. The subject can remain the same and yet it changes as the approach varies...never pinned down, never fully and completely described or rendered. Thus, the frustration and my repeated attempts to describe it.”



Funambulista by Robert Flanagan

“Rarely do I start a painting with an idea in mind” explains **Robert Flanagan** (Antigua/New York), “I prefer to let the medium and model guide my hand, thus allowing the unconscious to surface. In all my work I am searching for the shadow that hides behind the façade of the physical reality. When you talk about a dream you can do so only with a dream.” When we enter the mystical and mysterious world of Robert Flanagan, who uses the artist name “AJAX,” we are unsettled by his colorful dream universe, populated with energetic and enigmatic beings. There is a dramatic aspect to his work, implying stories and inviting the viewer to participate. AJAX states “I paint people because bodies and faces go beyond ideas and connect straight to the emotions, like a close-up in a silent movie.”

... “we have gotten to the point where everything has become meaningless, the constant bombardment of information, so when I am working I am trying to loose myself in a space of tranquility and silence, this silence that should be a human right, that should be as pure as when looking at a landscape, it is not saying anything but nevertheless telling you everything.” With these words **Larraitz Iparragirre** (Antigua/Basque Country) tells us a lot about her character which is also reflected



Art by Larraitz Iparragirre



Art by Larraitz Iparragirre

in her work. In a formal sense her work consists of black and white pieces, whether in ink, canvas or collage. They are works full of subtlety that demand time from the spectator, time that gives us the possibility to lose ourselves within ourselves. They are minimal signs that seem to come from a thousand years ago, printed on pages of old books which have through time acquired an amber patina reflecting the depth of an old soul.

The paintings and drawings of **Rodolfo de León** (Antigua) convey a sense of lightness even when they depict serious or political subjects; they comment with humor on inequality and the abuse of power. They make us aware of the problems in society and at the same time suggest poetic solutions. But they also depict very simple things with unequalled poetry. His ideas come from books he has read, music he has heard, news and situations he has witnessed.



Tururu by Rodolfo de León





Art by Edward Leonard

The work of Rodolfo is able to evoke profound emotions with incredible simplicity. In his drawing “El Loco” (The crazy one) for example, just the small inclination of the character’s head induces sympathy. The ephemeral charcoal drawings transport us into a dream-like world, black and white, obscure, deep.

Edward Leonard (New York) is known for his abstract encaustic paintings, a technique that uses wax as a binder of the pigments. He uses this technique to create very delicate and subtle paintings that exist deep in the wax, beyond the surface. In recent years he has returned to figurative work, concentrating on landscapes and animals witnessed in still, quiet moments. He elaborates, “The image of my dog asleep, basically a gesture and line, is on a used canvas scraped down but brought into action by the old and new surfaces combined. Hopefully with line, color, through mark making and erasing I translate my observation. In these works, I want to use only the essential information needed to convey my pleasure of observing and creating.”



Art by Edward Leonard

Jennifer Page (New York/ North Carolina) specializes in photogravure, a photographic etching process. In New York she worked with several well-known artists, amongst



MUSTANG

A.P.

Jennifer Page

Mustang by Jennifer Page

them Robert Motherwell, Peter Max and Tom Wesselman. She has developed a non-toxic technique of photogravure, refined and perfected it and has been giving workshops since 2010. She is the founder of Cape Fear Press. In her own artwork the processes of alchemy are mirrored in the materials she uses as well as in the choice of subject. “The elaborate process of photogravure is a microcosm of nature itself and how these various elements and materials interact. For me, art making by transmuting copper (plates) with photogravure is ultimately a search for truths, both within and without”, states Jennifer. “I like to photograph nature as I find it, usually right at home or very close to home, studying its patterns and cycles.” With her astute observations, her images allude to the mysteries of nature and the collective symbols of the psyche.

Curator – Suzan Al-Doghachi is a film/video producer and editor who has been living and working in Guatemala for seven years. Born in Germany, she started her career as assistant set designer for opera followed by three years of architecture studies. She then got her training as editor at the public television station in Hamburg (NDR), Germany. In 1993 she moved to New York where she worked as editor and started to produce short films, features and documentaries with AJAX FILMS. In 2011 she completed her documentary LIFE WITHOUT COMPROMISE (50 min.), a portrait of three women artists in New York. Dividing her time between Antigua, Guatemala, and New York City she has come to know the works of various artists in both places and was inspired to organize a group show to promote the exchange of ideas and techniques.

Guatemalan Handmade Chocolate



CHOCO
museo



5ta Avenida norte #15
La Antigua Guatemala
Tel: 7832 0219
antigua@Chocomuseo.com



- Free MUSEUM
- Shop
- Restaurant

- Chocolate -
- Workshops
- Cooking Classes -





"Amor de 13 años"
by Elvy López Torreblanca



Antigua Hotel Solutions

¡Siempre tendremos un hotel para ti!

¡We have hotel for you!



#QuédateEnCasa



Restaurante

ESTAMOS TRABAJANDO

PARA TI

¡VOLVEREMOS PRONTO!





"Parasol Pals"
Parque Central, La Antigua by Geoffrey McDade

**OUTDOOR DINING
AVAILABLE**



Cafe Condesa
Farm - to - table since 1993.

Seasonal Daily Specials

Omelets, Pancakes, Quiche, French Toast, Sandwiches, Salads, Soups, Cakes, Pies, Muffins, Scones, Smoothies, Espresso, Cappuchino, Chai.

Local, organic ingredients, free range eggs, whole milk.

7am - 8pm Sun-Thu 7am - 9pm Fri-Sat

Breakfast served all day! Sunday Brunch

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

Inside La Casa del Conde, West side of Central Park,
La Antigua Guatemala

In a hurry? **Cafe Condesa Express**

Central Park - next door to Café Condesa Restaurant
Near La Merced - 6a Avenida Norte #60
On the way to the City - 4a Calle Oriente #51



lastrescondesas@hotmail.com
www.cafecondesa.com.gt - PBX: 7832-0038



A unique experience,
in a natural environment,
elegant and charming,
in harmony with nature

Viva una experiencia única, en un ambiente
natural, elegante y encantador, en armonía
con la naturaleza.

Tel. (502) 7728-0800
hotel@filadelfiaresort.com
150m. North from Iglesia de
San Felipe de Jesús, La Antigua G.



filadelfiaresort.com





Desayuno Buffet Saturdays and Sundays

Buffet sábados y domingos.



CAFETENANGO
Restaurant



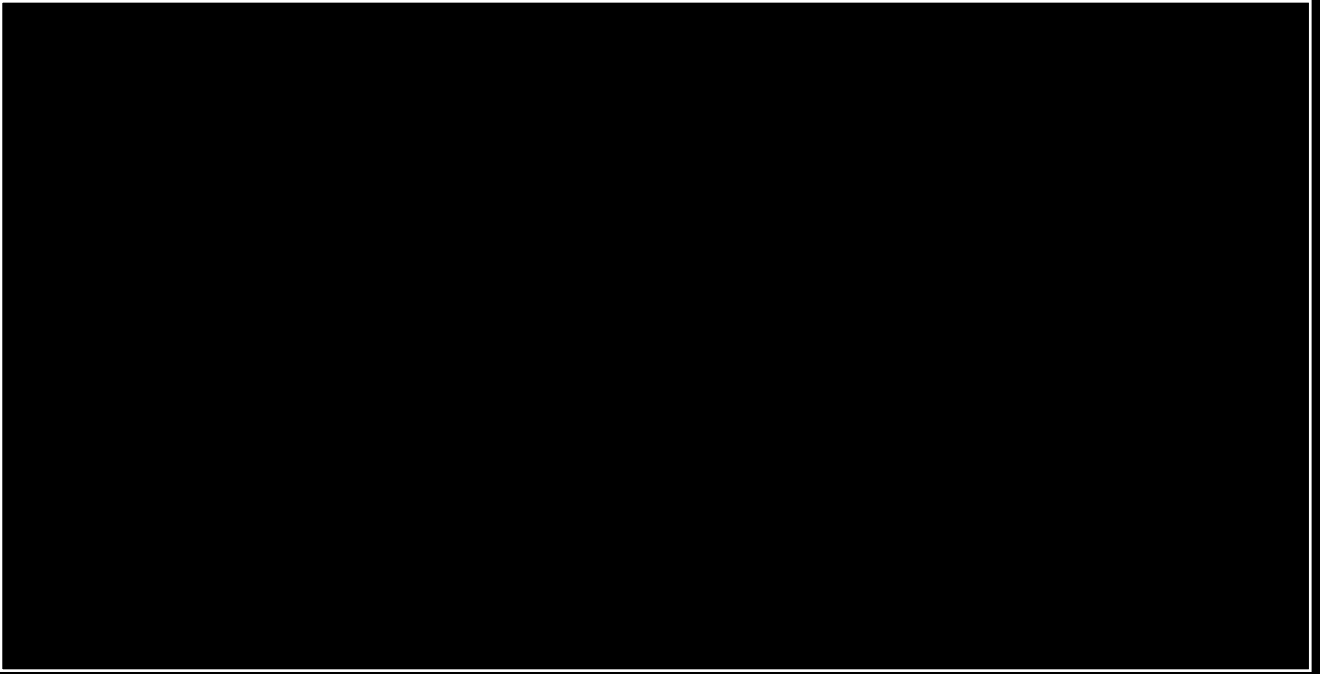
Tel. (502) 7728-0800
hotel@filadelfiaresort.com
150m. North from Iglesia de
San Felipe de Jesús, La Antigua G.



filadelfiaresort.com

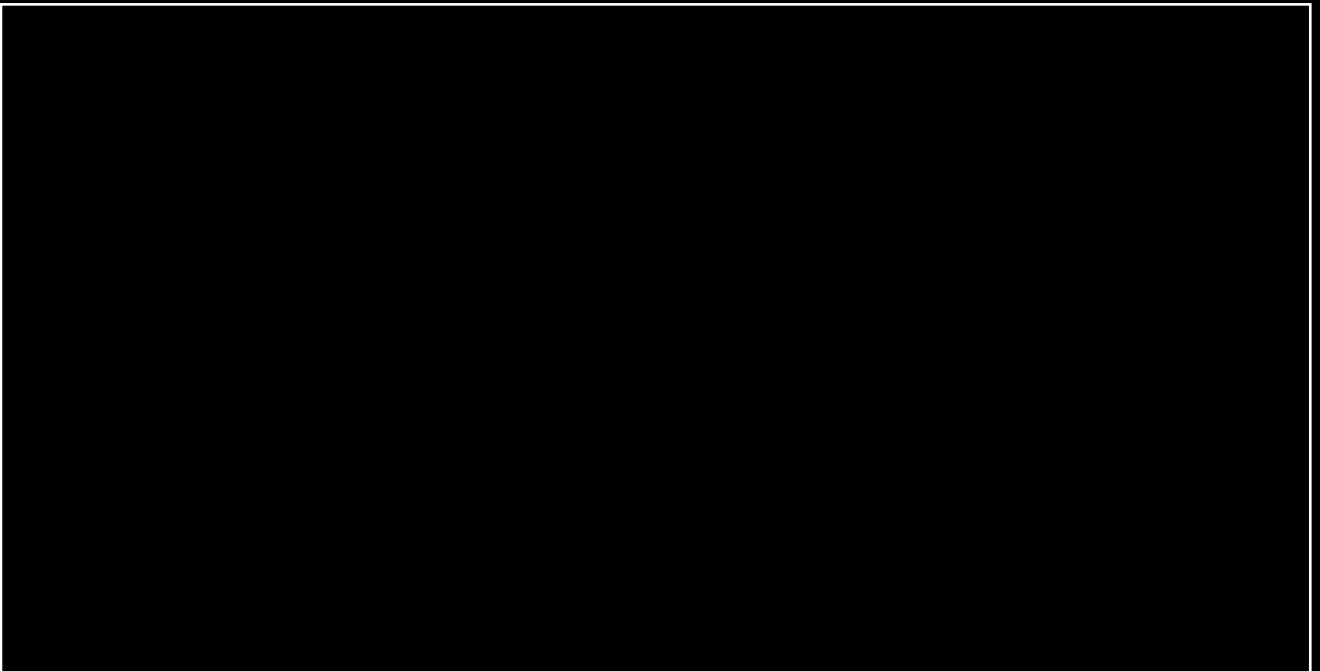
FEATURED VIDEOS, GUATEMALA

Restaurant Cerro San Cristóbal, La Antigua



video courtesy of Mexcal - Rhet

Filadelfia Coffee Tour in Antigua



Pizzas

Si extrañabas nuestras pizzas ahora puedes pedir las a domicilio o pasarlas a recoger a nuestro mini market.

Pizza de Camarones

Pizza del Cerro

Pizza de Salsa Blanca

Pizza de Queso

Vegetales

Albahaca

Aguacate Hass

Arugula

Espinaca

Lechuga

Y mucho mas!

Nuestro Mini-Market

Encuentra nuestras pizzas, vegetales, aderezos y vegetales, así como una buena variedad de suculentas y plantas para tu hogar, café, chocolate y mucho más.



Nim Pot

Visita nuestro mercadito adentro de Nimpo't:
5a Avenida Norte #29, Antigua Guatemala



Calle Principal #5 San Cristóbal El Alto, Guatemala



www.restcerrosancristobal.com



Cerro San Cristobal



[rest.cerro.sancristobal](https://www.instagram.com/rest.cerro.sancristobal)





"La Magia, un 9 de enero"
San Gregorio, Hotel & Spa
by Andrea Nathalie Vásquez



**"Untitled" Salamá, Baja Verapaz, Izabal
by Luis Arnolando Guzmán Prera**



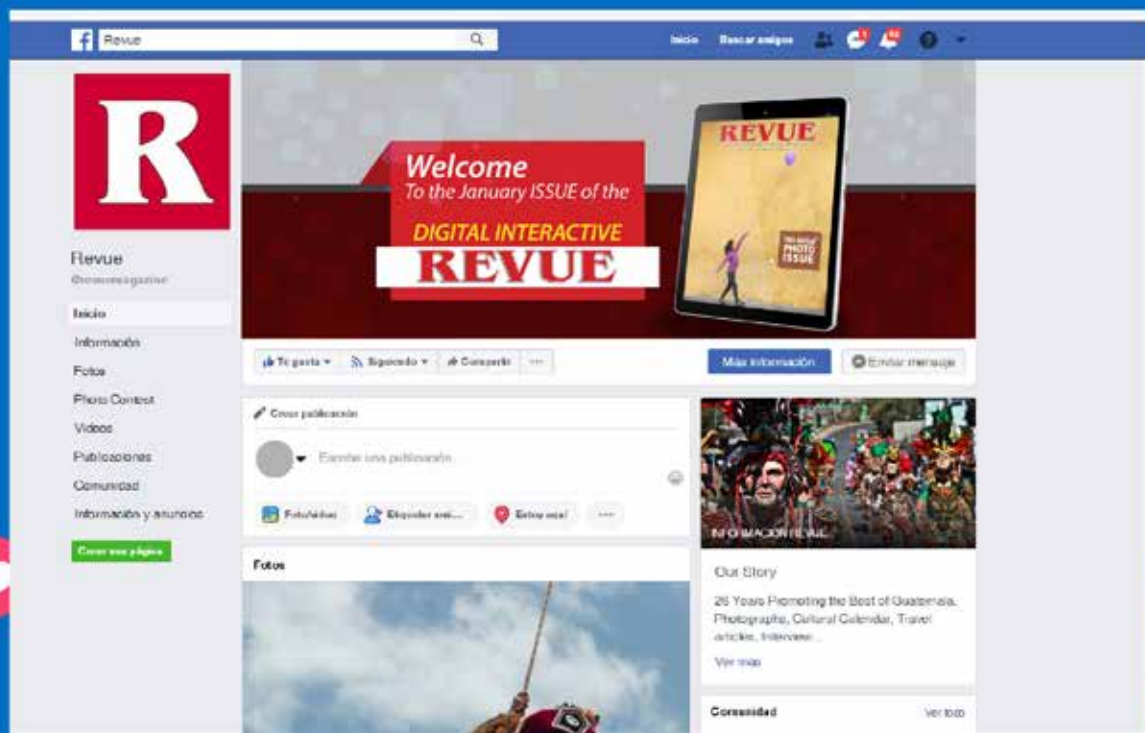
"Friends Forever / Amigas por siempre"
La Antigua by Rosario Rodriguez

@revuemagazine

Follow us on
facebook



for current Calendar Events and more!





Hospital Privado Ermanno Pedro

**24-hour Emergency Service
& Medical Consultation**

PBX: 7790-2000

Services we provide

- Medicine and General Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Maternity & Gynecology
- Traumatology, Orthopedics & Arthroscopy
- Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
- Laparoscopic Videosurgery
- Otorhinolaryngology
- Urology
- Cardiology
- Clinic Laboratory
- Videoendoscopy
- Videocolonoscopy
- X-rays
- Electrocardiogram
- Mammography
- Ultrasound
- Computerized Axial Tomography
- Electroencephalogram
- Osseous Densitometry
- Ambulance Service

hpantigua@gmail.com



Avenida de La Recolección #4, La Antigua Guatemala





"De tu mano en cada pueblo"
San Juan La Laguna by Jacob Arriola

Hacienda Tixax Videos

Happy Guests



videos by Eugenio Gobbato

Kayak Tour





HACIENDA TIJAX

Ecolodge & Marina
Río Dulce - Caribbean - Reserve



Waterfront Cabañas
Full Service Marina
Restaurant & Bar
Swimming Pool
Reforestation Project
Jungle Sky Trail
Bird Watching
Horseback Riding
Tours & Much More



Tels: 7930-5505/07



info@tijax.com

tijax.com

Playa Plana Videos

Hotel Overview



video by Trishoot Studio

Sea Turtle Conservation



video by Edgar Solorzano



Calle principal Aldea Limones, El Hawaii Santa Rosa Chichimulilla, Guatemala, Km.161



Reservaciones: 5628-0379 / 5417-6860 / 5949-8090 / 5717-8107

playaplana.com

 /playaplanahotel



"Más que amigas, hermanas"
Guatemala City by Zury Adamy Sagché Locón

Friendship improves happiness and abates misery, by the doubling of our joy and the dividing of our grief. —Marcus Tullius Cicero



"Amor y Montaña - Pablo y Wendy"
Tajumulco by Pablo Gaitan



"Couple walk / Pareja camina"
Malecón de Puerto Barrios, Izabal by Jaime Pérez

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy,
they are the charming gardeners who make
our souls blossom. —Marcel Proust



"Super Amigos"

La Antigua by Jaime Barrientos Montalvo

I never considered a difference of opinion in politics,
in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing
from a friend. —Thomas Jefferson

INTERNET SERVICE WHERE NO ONE ELSE GIVES IT

- CIUDAD VIEJA
- SAN MIGUEL DUEÑAS
- SAN PEDRO LAS HUERTAS
- SAN PEDRO EL ALTO
- ALOTENANGO
- EL HATO

BROADBAND INTERNET
DOWNLOADS UP TO
10MB

OFFICE: 2375-0101
WHATSAPP: 4416-4289


COMUNITEL
CLOUD SERVICES INTEGRATION



LA FÁBRICA
Gym & Cross training



The largest fitness family
in Antigua Guatemala

Climbing Wall - Cross Training
Group Classes
Certified, Bilingual Trainers

7832 9840

1a Ave. Norte #7 A, La Antigua





"Friends ready to perform together" La Antigua by J.B.

"One of the most beautiful qualities of true
friendship is to understand and to be understood."
—Lucius Annaeus Seneca

V E T E R I N A R Y C L I N I C



Mon-Fri: 8am - 1pm & 2:30 - 6pm - Sat: 9am - 2pm



E N G L I S H
F R E N C H
S P A N I S H
Spoken

Dr. Juan Pablo Calderón

* Gas anesthesia

- Vaccinations
- Surgery
- X-ray
- Dental Clinic
- Ultrasound
- Laboratory Services
- Emergencies
- Export Licenses for pets

Tel: 7965 3347
Km. 47 Carr. a Ciudad Vieja,
Casa No. 1
San Pedro El Panorama



Hospital Veterinario Vet-pro

Tienda Solidaridad SECOND-HAND STORE

offering an abundance of books, clothing, house & kitchen wares, CD's & DVD's (music/movies/games), furniture, decorative items, and lots more

Proceeds Benefit Animal Welfare Programs

3a Ave Sur #4-A, La Antigua Open MON-FRI 9am - 5pm



Expanded Inventory



Mascarillas Face masks***
pintadas a mano Carin Steen hand-painted



☆☆
hand



HAND-PAINTED FACE MASKS FOR SALE, FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Lock-down or not, life goes on in Unidos para los Animales' shelter! New rescues, as tiny as a week old pup, keep coming in and all this costs money. You can help by buying one of my hand-painted face masks! All profits go directly towards Unidos para los Animales' medical bills, operational costs or sterilization clinics.

The masks cost Q60 each and are for the moment **ONLY** available at Harmony (accessories store) at 5a Calle Poniente # 4, Antigua Guatemala, only doors away from Central Park. Open from 11 am till 2 pm. (No deliveries, cash only)

These high-quality masks are made of two layers of cotton with a double polypropylene filter and disinfected with Lysol, ready to use. They can be hand-washed at least 7 times.

The masks are hand-painted by Carin Steen and each one is unique.

unidosparalosanimales.org

FRIDITAS

☆☆ FACE MASKS ☆☆☆ MASCARILLAS ☆☆☆
l-painted Carin Steen pintadas a mano



Folklore

*** Mascarillas *** Face Masks ***
pintadas a mano Carin Steen hand-painted



The Future of the PEACE CORPS in Guatemala

By Mark D. Walker



Peace Corps Volunteer Anna Zauner

Anna Zauner received the evacuation notice at 10 p.m. on March 15th, 2020: Have all of your things packed and ready in an hour. “I was 30 minutes from home with nothing packed,” according to Anna, “home” being the highlands of Guatemala where Anna was one of 165 Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) serving in the “Land of Eternal Spring.” Due to the global outbreak of Covid-19, over 7,300 PCVs were being evacuated from sixty-one countries.

Departure for Anna was chaotic with many “stops and starts.” After saying goodbye to as many friends as possible in Santa Lucía Utatlán, Sololá, Anna headed to a hotel near the airport in Guatemala City to await a chartered flight that was to depart the next morning. After a sleepless night, Anna and her fellow Volunteers found out that the flight had been canceled due to “restricted airspace.” Restricted airspace! What did that mean? After U.S. embassy officials negotiated with the Guatemalan government, the Volunteers—flanked by embassy and police escorts—headed for the airport with sirens blaring and lights flashing, the multiple vehicle escort something right out of a Hollywood movie. Once the plane lifted off, there was a palatable sense of relief, and a few hours later, they touched down in Miami.

The first thing that occurred to Anna once she returned was that she was happy to be home, but “What about the ones I left behind? When I told my host family in Guatemala and tried to explain through tears that I was hoping to come back but was unsure if I would be able to, they said to me, ‘No tenga pena’ [‘Don’t worry’] for the lack of goodbyes, for leaving the community I pledged to serve for two years. The students I was teaching have been spending their time at home, leaving quiet soccer fields and classrooms bereft of laughter. I hope the lecture I gave on positive youth

development through life skills will protect students going forward. There was so much more, which I did not get the chance to address: substance abuse, reproductive health, and mental health for starters.”

Anna Zauner is one of a long line of Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs), who first arrived in Guatemala in 1963. Since then, almost 5,200 have served in Guatemala, providing assistance to rural and urban families in cooperation with governmental and nongovernmental organizations. Anna arrived with 134 other volunteers working in health, youth, and food security programs. Anna was a youth development specialist.



Anna Zauner teaching a class, Sololá

Much has changed since I was a PCV in Guatemala in the 1970s. The world has become more complex and dangerous, leading to a greater focus on security issues within the Peace Corps, something I became aware of while interviewing for a Guatemala Country Director’s position

in 2014. About three-quarters of the way through the interview I realized that I had not been asked one question about program development or monitoring and evaluation. All the questions related to potential security threats.

Later that evening after my interview, I met the Program Director for Peace Corps Guatemala at a reception. He told me that the Peace Corps office had been moved from Guatemala City, the country capital, as well as the largest city in Central America, to a small rural site outside of the city because it would be closer to the rural areas where the volunteers are based, although others have since confirmed that it was due to security concerns.

I also learned that Volunteers were not allowed to enter the capital due to concerns for their safety. Volunteers could no longer jump on “chicken buses” like I had used frequently as a Volunteer (customized school buses decorated with exotic paintings and colors) but had to use Peace Corps-provided shuttles to and from their sites. The Peace Corps staff now included security personnel, and when I contacted a Volunteer about collaborating with a local Rotary International program in her area, she told me she would find it difficult to connect with them because she had to be home for a 6 p.m. curfew! Although informed that I qualified as a potential



**Author Mark D. Walker and
filmmaker Luis Argueta**

Director, I decided not to pursue the opportunity.

What Do Guatemalans Think?

I turned to award-winning Guatemalan filmmaker and friend, Luis Argueta, for a Guatemalan perspective on Peace Corps in his country. Luis, who received the “Harris Wofford Global Citizenship” Award from the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), spoke to the attendees of the Peace Corps “Connect to the Future: A Global Ideas Summit” held in Austin, Texas in July of 2020. Some of his comments are included in the Fall 2020 issue of “Worldview Magazine,” in an article titled, “A Time to Reflect.”

Luis and I have a special interest in the emigration/immigration conundrum. He has paid close attention to forced displacement, forced migration, and asylum seeking, and asks a very timely question, “...even if borders today are closed, once they open... people will be forced again to leave their

homes. What is the Peace Corps to do at a time like this? I think it is to go and work at the very basic community level and help better conditions that are making it impossible for people to stay at home and be with their family and prosper and be healthy.”

He goes on to say, “At the same time that we self-reflect on our role and our privileges, and the privileges of Volunteers, we should look at the historic ties between the host countries and the U.S. ... the U.S. government is not issuing visas for my fellow Guatemalans to travel to the U.S., while there is a threat of cutting visas even for exchange students who pay full tuition at U.S. universities, let alone temporary workers who pick the crops in the fields of the U.S. So, we must be conscious of these contradictions. And we must relearn the history between our countries.”

He ends with the fact that although Peace Corps Volunteers reached home safely during the pandemic “... this took them away from a place where they had committed to work—and where people without that privilege, that choice, had to remain in a more vulnerable position.”

To that point, the Director of the school where Anna Zauner worked says that her students are studying online and some of them have reached out to Anna on their English assignments. But some students have revealed that working from textbooks alone is difficult and some feel they “aren’t

learning.” To date, these students don’t know when their school will reopen, which is the case throughout Guatemala.

The Peace Corps in Guatemala

Peace Corps Director, Jody Olsen, was tasked with the unenviable job of evacuating the 7,300 around the world. It must have been painful, as the Peace Corps has been in her “blood for 54 years” (she served as a volunteer in Tunisia in 1966). Her comments on the future of the Peace Corps, made on July 18, 2020, began with, “We will be stronger for what we have been through together. The Peace Corps mission of world peace and friendship is as relevant today as it was in 1961.”

Peace Corps Guatemala Director of Programming and Training, Jeremy Boley, is still in Guatemala and gave me a heads-up on the status of the Peace Corp’s return: “Peace Corps Guatemala is diligently elaborating the strategy to return Volunteers to Guatemala. This includes close coordination with our partners in host country agencies as well as closely monitoring the progression of the pandemic. We are looking forward to welcoming Volunteers into all four of our programs, including Community Economic Development, Agriculture, Youth in Development, and Health.”

He also confirmed that the security of Volunteers is “of utmost importance and maintaining an Emergency Action Plan and having a system to monitor the location of

Volunteers are indispensable tools in ensuring the well-being of our Volunteers.”



Peace Corps Response to Recent Disasters

Recent natural disasters that precipitated deadly landslides and flooding, which destroyed crops, impacted over 1.7 million Guatemalans. Government data shows acute malnutrition among under-fives rose by 80% last year in comparison to the previous year. With this in mind, Jeremy stated “Since it takes time for communities to recover from the effects of these events, Volunteers may find that their community development skills are needed in these areas. Agriculture Volunteers, for example, may assist their work partners in training on soil conservation techniques that maximize infiltration during heavy rains and reduce flooding. With respect to migrant caravans [heading to the U.S.], Volunteer efforts in our Youth in Development program encourage youth to stay in school and develop job-related skills to improve their employment

prospects in Guatemala. Our Community Economic Development Volunteers will support income-generating activities that encourage development and growth within Guatemala. These efforts promote alternative pathways to migration.”

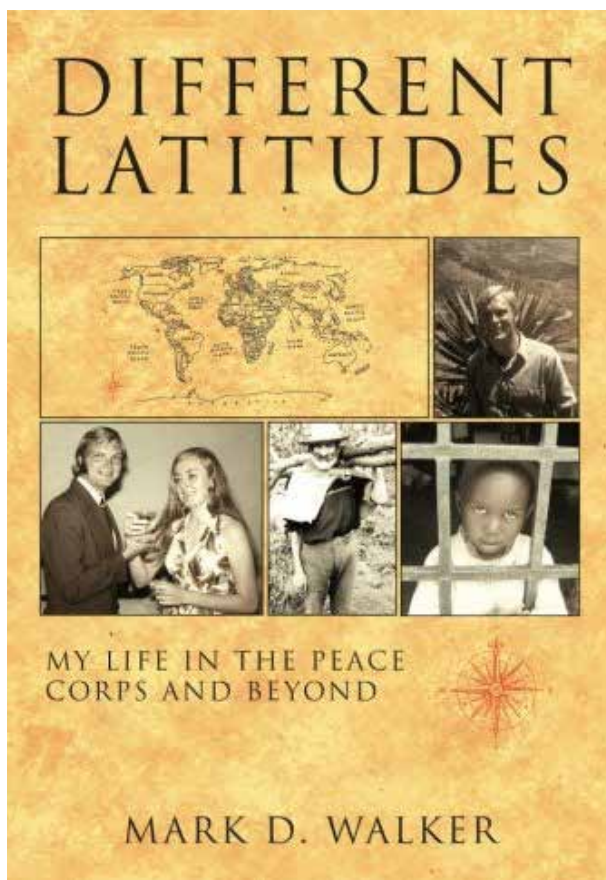
A Time for Reflection

Although 134 Volunteers were forced to evacuate, close to 5,200 returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCVs), whose lives were impacted by their service in Guatemala, remain a positive influence on the country as well as the Volunteers who will return. My experience as a Volunteer indicates that no matter how effective I was, I learned more from Guatemalans than I was able to teach them, and what I learned would motivate me to continue supporting the most vulnerable populations in any way possible. One way to accomplish this is to fulfill the third objective of the Peace Corps, which is to promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans. The Peace Corps Writers Group lists 327 RPCV authors who have written two books or more and they have generated somewhere around 1,000 memoirs.

One such author, Mark Brazaitis, has written eight books including “Stories from Guatemala: The River of Lost Voices,” winner of the Iowa Short Fiction Award. He also wrote the script for the award-winning Peace Corps film, “How Far Are You Will-

ing to Go to Make a Difference?” The best memoir among RPCVs/Guatemala would be Ellena Urbani’s, “When I Was Elena.” She has written for “The New York Times” and her stories have been selected for inclusion in a number of collections and books about her Peace Corps service.

Much of my book, “Different Latitudes: My Life in the Peace Corps and Beyond,” took place in Guatemala. I totally agree with Luis Argueta’s observation about being conscious of the relationship between the U.S. and its host countries and I included a chapter entitled, “Guatemala Guate peor,” which starts with a quote from writer Eduardo Galeano, on “Rigoberta: The Granddaughter of the Maya.” “This book relates to the dreams and nightmares of a land pulled apart from the army, raped by businessmen, lied to by politicians, despised by doctors.” The CIA led a military intervention of Guatemala in 1954 with the overthrow of Arbenz and the elimination of important changes like land reform, destroyed the opportunity to deal with the serious inequality and poverty facing most Guatemalans, especially in the highlands, and is the basis of many of the country’s social ills today. These publications and the many presentations and materials written by other RPCVs, help educate the public in the U.S. about the realities and needs of Guatemala and help inform U.S. policy makers. Also, RPCVs can do things that the Peace Corps can’t as a government agency with certain norms placed on it by our country’s foreign policy.



What Have We Learned?

The Peace Corps, like our country, has changed a good deal over the last 60 years. When President Kennedy asked, “Technicians or engineers, how many of you are willing to work in the Foreign Service and spend your lives traveling around the world? ... But on your willingness to contribute part of your life to his country, I think will depend on the answer whether a free society can compete.” But as author and RPCV Paul Theroux points out, “It is impossible to imagine any politician — anyone at all — saying that today.” And yet the urge to serve, to travel and learn a new language

will assure that some of the evacuated Peace Corps Volunteers will return and many more will apply to volunteer in the “Land of the Eternal Spring.” This desire to serve and the actual economic downturn and impact of COVID-19 in the U.S. will accelerate the number of individuals willing apply and serve in Guatemala. And based on my interview with the Peace Corps Program Director, Jeremy Boley, I think that the organization is positioned to deal with some of the special challenges facing them today, including the growing levels of hunger and malnutrition experienced by Guatemalans as well as issues like climate change.

Over the years, these 5,200 RPCVs have formed lifelong relationships and a series of organizations that continue to benefit Guatemala. Overall, 245,000 RPCVs have formed 180 affiliate groups, which are part of the National Peace Corps Association. These individuals and the alliances they’ve formed with international groups take many forms and shapes. I’m a board member of “Partnering for Peace,” which promotes shared programs between Peace Corps Volunteers and Rotary International, and which has 1.2 million members worldwide and a strong presence in Guatemala. I’m also a member of “Friends of Guatemala,” which has provided scholarships benefiting children for over thirty years. Larger chapters like the affiliate in Washington D.C. have over 4,000 members and develop partnerships with many non-governmental organizations.



No doubt, Returned Peace Corps Volunteers and some of the groups they've formed, along with the International community, will need to support local leaders' efforts to hold their government officials accountable by sending them to prison for corruption, as is the case with former President, Otto Perez Molina, and his Vice President, Roxana Baldetti. And push for the return of U.N. agency CICIG (a powerful U.N. backed commission formed to investigate corruption), which exposed over 60 corruption schemes, implicating officials in all three branches of the Guatemalan government. These alliances must support and attempt to protect the lives of local leaders and advocates fighting for basic rights, push for more influence in the government and in the workplace as well as local rural alliances that promote economic development and education.

For the last fifty-seven years, the Peace Corps has been part of the development process in Guatemala. Now that the Peace Corps is preparing to send Volunteers back to the field, they'll need to retool in order to meet such challenges as the growing malnutrition, climate change and a lack of a basic healthcare needs. Simultaneously, Returned

Peace Corps Volunteers and their affiliate groups will need to continue telling the stories of Guatemalans and supporting the best programs and local leaders they can identify. Given the enthusiasm of the incoming volunteers and the commitment of the Returned Peace Corps Volunteers, in conjunction with local and international alliances promoting human rights and development, I have great expectations that the Peace Corps can help Guatemalans meet the new challenges of the future.

About the author Mark D. Walker (MillionMileWalker.com)

Mark Walker was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala, 1971-1973, working on fertilizer experiments with small farmers in the Highlands. Over the next 40 years, he managed or raised funds for many international groups, including **Food for the Hungry** and **Make A Wish International** and wrote about those experiences in **Different Latitudes: My Life in the Peace Corps and Beyond**. He is also a contributing writer for the **Revue magazine**: *Maya Gods & Monsters*; *The Making of the Kingdom of Mescal*; *Luis Argueta – Telling the stories of Guatemalan Immigrants*; *Luis Argueta: Guatemalan Filmmaker* Recipient of a Global Citizen Award and *Traveling in Tandem with a Chapina*. His wife and three children were born in Guatemala.

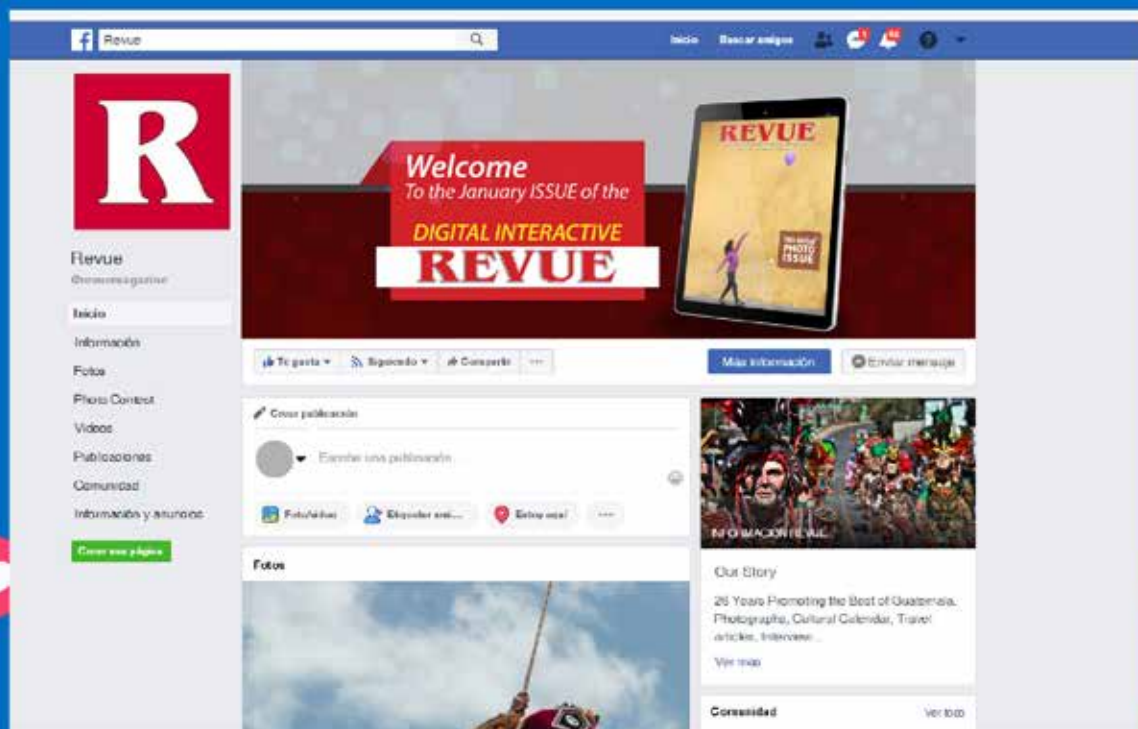
Go to MillionMileWalker.com or write the author at Mark @[MillionMileWalker.com](mailto:Mark@MillionMileWalker.com)

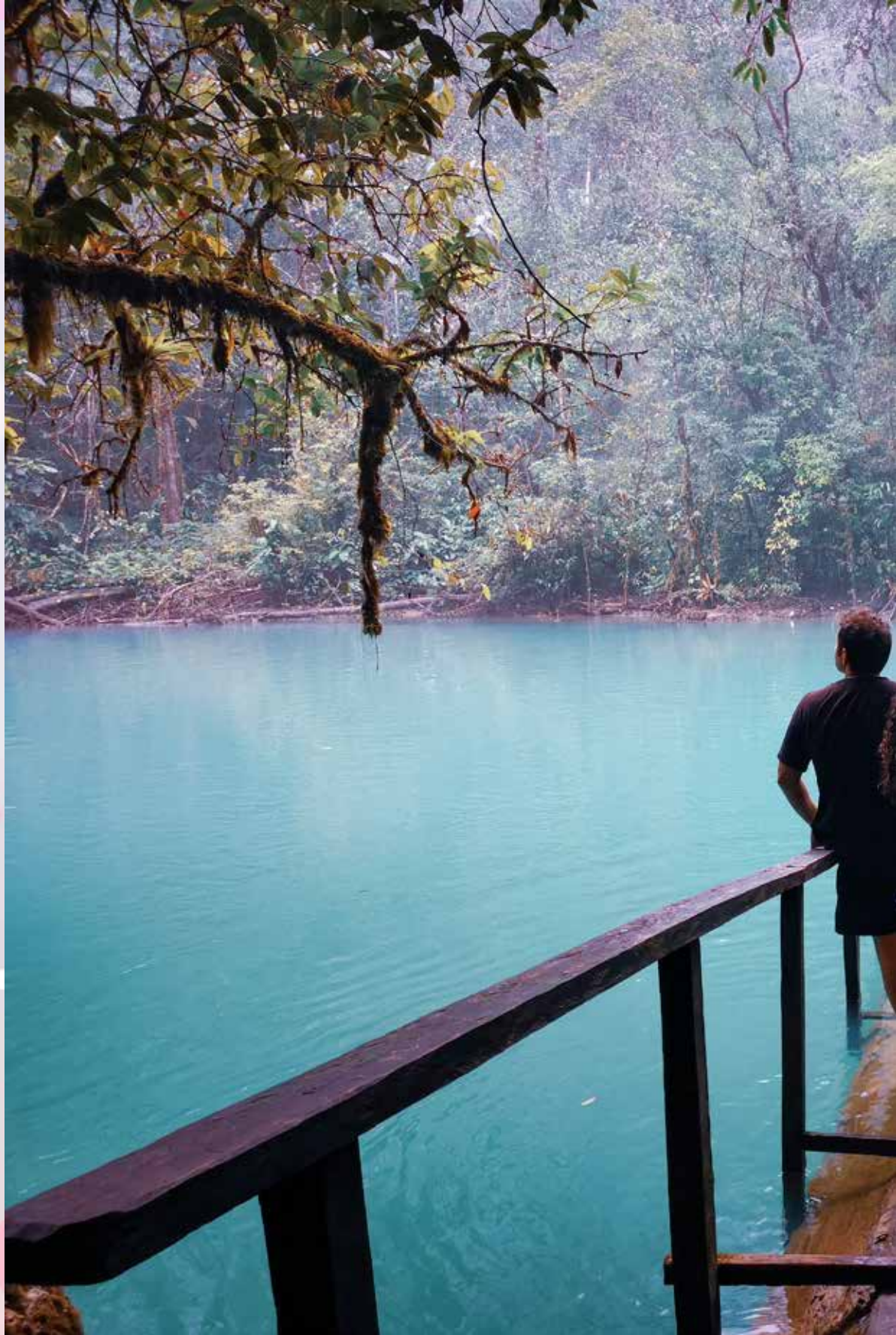
@revuemagazine

Follow us on
facebook



for current Calendar Events and more!







2nd Place Judges Vote
"Nature + You = All what matters"
Hunalye by Isaac Orantes

REVUE Photo Contest

MARCH 2021



"VOLCANOES OF GUATEMALA"



We invite you to participate in our **MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST** for March 2021 with the theme: **VOLCANOES OF GUATEMALA.**

Please send ONE (1) HIGH RES photo with caption/location and your name & website for the credit line to: **photos@revuemag.com**

More information at: **revuemag.com**

Submissions entered by the 15th of February will be eligible.

Photos in this ad are from previous contests by:

Angel Giovanni Morales, Murciélagos sin Aire, Adolfo Córdova, Terencio Tiul Fernández, Luis Aldana, David Rojas and Rodolfo Batres.



Te invitamos a participar en nuestro **Concurso Fotográfico** de marzo 2021 con el tema:
VOLCANES DE GUATEMALA

Enviar (1) foto en ALTA RESOLUCIÓN con el título, lugar donde fue tomada, su nombre y el sitio web para el crédito a:
photos@revuemag.com

Para más información: **revuemag.com**

Serán elegibles las fotos recibidas hasta el 15 de febrero de 2021.





"untitled" La Antigua by Tato Estralday





VISIT US:



Photography • Food & Drink • Travel • Culture • Lifestyle
Community Service • Calendar Events & More

DIGITAL INTERACTIVE
GUATEMALA'S ENGLISH-LANGUAGE MAGAZINE

REVUE