



“The Healing Potential of Ayahuasca Shamanism: Case Studies at the Intersection of Biology, Emotion, and Spirituality”

Speaker: Joe Tafur MD, Guest Lecturer, University of Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine; Director of Modern Spirit, Inc.

Wednesday, March 14th, 2018

6:30 PM until 8:00 PM

The Beaumont Room, Yale University School of Medicine
333 Cedar Street, New Haven

In this talk, Dr. Tafur will review several case studies from his time working at Nihue Rao Centro Espiritual, a traditional healing center in the Peruvian Amazon. Over a period of six years, Dr. Tafur lived and worked at Nihue Rao and trained with master Shipibo shaman, Ricardo Amaringo. Using traditional Amazonian plant medicine and ayahuasca shamanism, they helped clients with PTSD, depression, migraine headaches, Crohn's disease, and other ailments. Dr. Tafur will discuss his theory of how emotional trauma can be seen as contributing to underlying physiologic dysfunction and maladaptive epigenetic imprinting in each of these cases. He will examine how ayahuasca shamanism and other psychedelic-assisted therapies may bring about deep emotional healing through effects on the psychoneuroendocrine immunologic network, which Dr. Tafur theorizes is the physiologic manifestation of the “emotional body.”

Bio: Joe Tafur, M.D., is a Colombian-American family physician originally from Arizona. After completing his family medicine training at UCLA, Dr. Tafur spent two years conducting research at the UCSD Department of Psychiatry. After his postdoctoral fellowship, he spent six years working and training at Nihue Rao Centro Espiritual. In his recently published book, "The Fellowship of the River: A Medical Doctor's Exploration into Traditional Amazonian Plant Medicine," Dr. Tafur shares his unique experiences and theories on how healing occurs on biological, emotional, and spiritual levels.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please RVSP at <https://goo.gl/forms/281jFzMfwbpQjDYF2> by: Monday, March 12th