

Assignment 3:  
Spirituality and Religion

Do something that expresses your personal sense of spirituality, that is, your personal way of interpreting or expanding on organized religion as you know it. Create some piece of art - sculpture, collage, drawing, slide show, video - that expresses your feelings about the topic. Luis has suggested that your work might be in the form of an artistic 'petition' to a Greater Power to grant a wish.

Many people of the Antilles express their spirituality through the syncretism of the Yoruba and Catholic faiths, called variously Santería, Palo Monte, Espiritismo, Pocomania, or Voodoo.

Here are three sets of videos that speak to the idea of Santería in Puerto Rico and one musical derivation of it, Bomba:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXHxcGgClc4>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J09tYXHH0uk&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wJrQWB1-jQ&feature=related>

Here is a site devoted to the making of wooden saints, Santos - which is not specifically related to Santería, but, to my mind, still has to work with it, since it's likely that practitioners of Santería might very well have made use of these Santos to represent their Orishas:

<http://www.santosdepr.org/>

This website:

<http://www.crossingthewater.com/index.htm>

Summarizes the actions of Santiago Castañeda Vero a a priest in his faith.

This set of images on Flickr:

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/professor\\_p/sets/72157625917776490/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/professor_p/sets/72157625917776490/)

illustrates some of the objects and costumes associated with the faith.