Living in the Américas - Syncretic Architecture

BAC CD102E/CD7102E: Spring 2012 Instructors: Luis Montalvo, John Pilling

Assignment 4: Due at the Fourth Class Spirituality and Religion

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

Become more acquainted with this spirituality.

1. Study this BBC website describing the religion:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/santeria/

2. Look at three sets of videos that speak to the idea of Santeria in Cuba:

callejon hamel video from Indiana Museum of Art: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OmE2UIr 9Q

RUMBA con los chiquiticos del Callejon de Hamel - Cuba http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEywIDi6IiA&feature=related

Callejón De Hamel : Solos de timbal de Changuito y Giovanni Hidalgo http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOXJG-pkV9g&feature=related

3. Study the material at this website:

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

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

4. Look at this set of images on Flickr:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/professor_p/sets/72157625917776490/

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

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 you 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.