



The World Drum Project



Antara Center was approached about The World Drum Project by Dr. Gregory L. Miller, our first Medical Director, who will be leading The World Drum Ceremony (www.theworlddrum.com) at the Annual Conference of the Society of Shamanic Practitioners in the Catskill Mountains of New York on Friday, June 29. Dr. Miller will bring The World Drum to Antara Center in Nashville after this conference, and we will hold The World Drum ceremony in Nashville on Saturday, July 7, 12 noon at Bicentennial Mall. Please check our website for updates www.AntaraCenter.org. At the time this interview was conducted, The World Drum was in Hawaii in ceremony. After the ceremony with The World Drum in Nashville, Antara Center will then carry the drum to the next location in the U.S.

Janice Mickle, Founder of Antara Center, interviewed White Cougar who received the message of The World Drum. Other key participants involved in the project are Birger, the Sami drum builder and medicine man, and Wolf, the website and communications manager. We know you will enjoy these words of wisdom from our brothers in Norway.

Antara Center: Can you describe The World Drum Project and how it all began?

White Cougar: The World Drum project is a project founded in a "Shamanic" view of life. Today Mother Earth is reaching out to many people through visions to spiritual people all over the world. She tells us how urgent the situation is: She is sick and She is calling out to us to make us stop the madness. These messages will only grow stronger as time passes by and humankind continues its war against nature. The message has been with me for the last years, and healing Mother Earth has been a part of the teachings I give. The vision came to me after a drum circle where I was told that there was to be built a drum which should travel from country to country, from people to people, from man to man. The world drum is a wakeup call to all people that it is urgent to reinstate the spiritual relation to Mother Earth. As we move further and further away from nature, we have lost this relation and began to look at nature as something we must fight, exploit and destroy. It is urgent for us to understand that without Mother Earth and all that lives on her, there is no humankind. We are dependent on her.

The same day I received the vision I presented it to my uncle in spirit, Birger, who is a drum builder and a medicine person. He started to build

the drum, and the project soon was reality. The feeling in this project, both from the initiators and the participants, is that this is a very right thing to do. It's hard to express emotions since my native tongue is not English, but I hope that you understand what I mean. You ask me who is responsible for this project. I would like to say Mother Earth. I am only the receiver of this message; and, therefore, I claim no ownership to it. It is not the person behind that is important, but the message. The idea has come through participation between several people--Birger, me and Morten mostly, but also a lot of other people have given their time and efforts to this project. But I guess the readers still would like to know a little about me. I am 34 years old and born a healer. As a child I spent a lot of time alone in nature speaking with the spirits. I did not start to work as a healer until I was 20, but I always had the gift with me. I guess you could call me a wounded healer as I had a difficult childhood. Today I mostly work with remote healings and I do not charge for this since I feel that I am only a channel for this. I draw my inspiration from many things: Sami, North and South American natives, and, of course, the spirits.

Antara Center: What impact do you think this project will have?

White Cougar: As the drum travels the heart-beat of the drum will get stronger every day. The drum binds us together in a strong weave across borders and distance in our common struggle for Mother Earth. It reinstates our relation to Mother Earth. Through giving healing to Mother Earth, we heal our selves. We learn again to care. I would say love and respect Mother Earth as a living being whom we are all (Mitakuye Oyasin) dependent on. And by keeping the ceremony open to all people by letting them see this, we will also have an impact on them.

If we all stand together in this struggle not

regarding our differences, colour of skin, or religious belief, I believe that we really can make the changes that are necessary.

The Sami people of North Norway have shown that this is possible to make. When we had the ceremony in Gratangen some of the participants were from a very conservative Christian church (Læstadianere). This shows that the message is so important that we need to put whatever differences we have aside. When you participate in a world drum ceremony, you participate in all the ceremonies that have been held, and you participate in the ceremonies that are to come.

Antara Center: What has been the response so far with this project? How many countries are planning to participate?

White Cougar: So far 16 countries are participating with more participants coming every week, with the USA as the biggest participant so far. The response has been enormous. The first two weeks we had more than 15,000 hits on our website without even promoting the site.

Antara Center: Are there dreams/hopes for the earth and her people that you would like to share with us?

White Cougar: I hope that humankind will see that it is necessary to change our paths. We need to see that we are going the wrong way. We are, as we say in Norway, "Fouling (sic) in our own nest." We need to change, not only by our selves, but stand together in the struggle that is a struggle not only for Mother Earth; but in the end, is a struggle for our own life as we know it. We must find peace with Mother Earth.

Mitakuye Oyasin
White Cougar

For more information about Antara Center and a complete list of offerings, please visit www.AntaraCenter.org. Contact us at info@AntaraCenter.org or call us at 615.227.3008

Antara Center is a progressive healing community that provides a safe and sacred place for all to go within to seek the Source and refresh the Spirit.