

De-Mystifying Haitian Voudon

At School of International and Public Affairs
Room 220 2:30p-3:30p
October 12, 2018



Join us as Maalik Papasimbi takes us away from the mainstream idea of “Voodoo” misconstrued by mainstream religion and media giants as an evil magical religion and into traditional Haitian Voudon which is composed of elements from Western African, Haitian and Taino traditional knowledge and cosmology, the true form of Voudon.

Maalik Papasimbi is the grandson of traditional Haitian healers that used the natural environment for their practice. The natural healing tradition is something that he keeps alive in the family, and the drums are a major part of it. To him, they are much more than an instrument, but also a means of communication with spirits or the heavens and he wishes to spread that view about the drums, which have gained a very negative reputation after years of being demonized by western religions and especially pop culture. They are the center post of Voudon and Haitian culture and are the means through which Haiti gained independence to become the first ever nation to abolish slavery in the world. The power of the drums lies in its ability to heal and awaken the often dormant spirit (kundalini energy) within people making them impossible to be subdued, pacified and blinded by the illusions/lies. They can now see clearly through the veil and understand that the deity or primordial energy they have been searching for has always and will always be within them.

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