

Ritual Humor in Highland Chiapas



by Victoria Reifler Bricker

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Victoria R. Bricker



Ritual Humor In Highland Chiapas:

Ritual Humor in Highland Chiapas Victoria Reifler Bricker, 2010-06-28 Zinacantan Chamula and Chenalh are neighboring Mayan communities situated in highland Chiapas Mexico near the city of San Cristóbal Las Casas The inhabitants of the three communities speak dialects of the Tzotzil language Five religious fiestas celebrated by these communities in honor of their saints provide the data for Victoria Bricker's comparative study of ritual humor In Chenalh and Chamula performances of ritual humor are concentrated in the five day period of a single fiesta while in Zinacantan similar performances are distributed over three fiestas In these fiesta settings performers in distinctive costumes make obscene and sacrilegious remarks in the context of religious ritual These performances are defined as ritual humor because they occur only in ritual settings Bricker's study constitutes a controlled cross cultural comparison of ceremonial or ritual humor in its social and cultural setting Much new information is provided in verbatim texts recorded during actual fiesta performances The study reveals that although the three communities share a common pool of ritual symbols they elaborate them differently in ritual humor The study analyzes the symbolic expression of values social organization and interethnic relations

Ritual Humor in Highland Chiapas Victoria R. Bricker, 1973 *Analyses of Ritual Humor in Highland Chiapas* William Woodrow Groves, 1996 **Skulls to the Living, Bread to the Dead** Stanley Brandes, 2007-01-08 Each October as the Day of the Dead draws near Mexican markets overflow with decorated breads fanciful paper cutouts and whimsical toy skulls and skeletons To honor deceased relatives Mexicans decorate graves and erect home altars Drawing on a rich array of historical and ethnographic evidence this volume reveals the origin and changing character of this celebrated holiday It explores the emergence of the Day of the Dead as a symbol of Mexican and Mexican American national identity **Skulls to the Living Bread to the Dead** poses a serious challenge to the widespread stereotype of the morbid Mexican unafraid of death and obsessed with dying In fact the Day of the Dead as shown here is a powerful affirmation of life and creativity Beautifully illustrated this book is essential for anyone interested in Mexican culture art and folklore as well as contemporary globalization and identity formation

The Open Invitation Freya Schiwy, 2019-06-05 The Open Invitation explores the relationship between prefigurative politics and activist video Schiwy analyzes activist videos from the 2006 uprising in Oaxaca the Zapatista's Other Campaign as well as collaborative and community video from the Yucatán Schiwy argues that transnational activist videos and community videos in indigenous languages reveal collaborations and that their political impact cannot be grasped through the concept of the public sphere Instead she places these videos in dialogue with recent efforts to understand the political with communality a mode of governance articulated in indigenous struggles for autonomy and with cinematic politics of affect

Palenque Damien B. Marken, 2007-04-09 Palenque is one of the best known and oldest Mayan archaeological sites But recently little has been published on the ongoing work here Marken's collection brings the archaeological record of Palenque up to date Chapters cover a wide range of topics from architecture to

hieroglyphic texts from broad issues of chronology to settlement to theoretical and methodological issues concerning architectural excavations Palenque represents an important update of research for any Mayan archaeologist *Infamous Desire* Pete Sigal,2003 What did it mean to be a man in colonial Latin America More specifically what did indigenous and Iberian groups think of men who had sexual relations with other men Providing comprehensive analyses of how male homosexualities were represented in areas under Portuguese and Spanish control *Infamous Desire* is the first book length attempt to answer such questions In a study that will be indispensable for anyone studying sexuality and gender in colonial Latin America an esteemed group of contributors view sodomy through the lens of desire and power relating male homosexual behavior to broader gender systems that defined masculinity and femininity Maya Resurgence in Guatemala Richard Wilson,1999-09-01 Across Guatemala Mayan peoples are struggling to recover from decades of cataclysmic upheaval religious conversions civil war displacement military repression Richard Wilson carried out long term research with Q'eqchi speaking Mayas in the province of Alta Verapaz to ascertain how these events affected social organization and identity He finds that their rituals of fertility and healing abandoned in the 1970s during Catholic and Protestant evangelizations have been reinvented by an ethnic revivalist movement led by Catholic lay activists who seek to renovate the earth cult in order to create a new pan Q'eqchi ethnic identity *Decolonizing the Sodomite* Michael J. Horswell,2010-01-01 Early Andean historiography reveals a subaltern history of indigenous gender and sexuality that saw masculinity and femininity not as essential absolutes Third gender ritualists Ipas mediated between the masculine and feminine spheres of culture in important ceremonies and were recorded in fragments of myths and transcribed oral accounts Ritual performance by cross dressed men symbolically created a third space of mediation that invoked the mythic androgyne of the pre Hispanic Andes The missionaries and civil authorities colonizing the Andes deemed these performances transgressive and sodomitical In this book Michael J Horswell examines alternative gender and sexuality in the colonial Andean world and uses the concept of the third gender to reconsider some fundamental paradigms of Andean culture By deconstructing what literary tropes of sexuality reveal about Andean pre Hispanic and colonial indigenous culture he provides an alternative history and interpretation of the much maligned aboriginal subjects the Spanish often referred to as sodomites Horswell traces the origin of the dominant tropes of masculinist sexuality from canonical medieval texts to early modern Spanish secular and moralist literature produced in the context of material persecution of effeminate and sodomites in Spain These values traveled to the Andes and were used as powerful rhetorical weapons in the struggle to justify the conquest of the Incas *Mesoamerican Mythology* Kay Almere Read,Jason J. Gonzalez,2002-06-13 Illustrated with scores of drawings and halftone photos this guidebook to the mythology of Mexico and Central America focuses mainly on Mexican Highland and Maya areas due to their importance in Mesoamerican history

Ritual Humor In Highland Chiapas Book Review: Unveiling the Magic of Language

In a digital era where connections and knowledge reign supreme, the enchanting power of language has be more apparent than ever. Its power to stir emotions, provoke thought, and instigate transformation is actually remarkable. This extraordinary book, aptly titled "**Ritual Humor In Highland Chiapas**," written by a very acclaimed author, immerses readers in a captivating exploration of the significance of language and its profound affect our existence. Throughout this critique, we will delve in to the book is central themes, evaluate its unique writing style, and assess its overall influence on its readership.

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