

Global Forum on Renewable Energy

As part of a working tour of the state of Guanajuato, President Calderon inaugurated the Global Forum on Renewable Energy, held in the Municipality of León.

One of the main challenges facing Mexico is to include the environment as one of the elements of competitiveness and economic and social development. This is the only way to achieve sustainable development, in compliance with one of the fundamental premises for Mexico.

The Global Forum included discussion of Energy Poverty, Economic and Financial Crisis and Climate Change; Renewable Energy and Energy Transition; Potential of Renewable Energy; Renewable Energy and the Access Agenda; Biofuels; Investment in Renewable Energy and Innovative Policies and Institutional Frame work.

> www.presidencia.gob.mx

Climate change: a challenge for life



President Felipe Calderon declared that this generation has the enormous challenge of repairing the damage humans have caused the earth by guaranteeing a world and a Mexico that will last forever.

"Today, all the world's inhabitants will have to make every effort to ensure that society is able to cope with climate change and deal with it. But nothing of what Government does will work if the new generations of Mexicans do not have the commitment to respect and protect nature instilled in them in their education, training and awareness.

During the inauguration of the Temporary Exhibition: Climate Change, a Challenge for Life and a New Energy Future, the President declared that it is crucial to educate the new generations on this issue, since it is not a question of aesthetics or appearance but of survival.

"We have to fight it together, because paradoxically enough, those that will end up paying for the consequences of climate change will be the poor countries

That is why Mexico has assumed its responsibility in order to change the logic that only developed countries should work to combat climate change: "We should all work, each according to his possibilities and capacities but we all have to work."

President Calderon listed the programs and action his government has implemented in this area such as the Green Fund proposal, which he will take to the Copenhagen Summit in Denmark in December.

"So it is up to us to work as much as possible, which we are doing, but also to instill the environmental awareness we lacked in the upcoming generations."

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Flavours of Mexico on the small screen

On 30 September the television series *Flavours of Mexico*, produced by the Travel Channel, was launched at the residence of the Ambassador of Mexico. The series has seven 45 minute episodes. The programmes are being broadcast on Sky Channel 251 (until 2 November). It promotes Mexican cuisine, culture, environmental issues, and social news. The programmes were produced in collaboration with a number of entities, including the Mexican Office of the Council for the Promotion of Tourism in the United Kingdom.



Present at the launching were Richard Wolf, President of the Travel Channel, Charlie Ottley, the host of the series, and representatives of the tourism industry, specialised media, and cultural, academic and diplomatic personalities.

The launch of this television series is a part of the “Mexican Autumn in the United Kingdom”, an initiative to promote Mexico in the UK. For more information on activities related with the Mexican Autumn, please check our calendar of activities in this issue of *Mexico Today*.

www.travelchannel.co.uk/mexico/

“Moctezuma and Fiesta”: fascinating reads



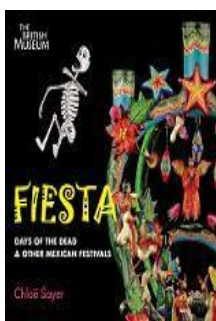
The books were presented at the Embassy of Mexico on Monday 5 October. Ambassador Bremer celebrated the publications of these outstanding volumes.

Moctezuma, Aztec Ruler



This richly illustrated book is published to accompany the British Museum’s final exhibition in the series exploring great rulers, on view from 24 September 2009 – 24 January 2010. With chapters by international authorities, it looks at the world of the Aztecs and the life, reign and ultimate fall of Moctezuma II. Attention is drawn to the fascinating but often contradictory accounts of key events given by Mexican and Spanish sources and the circumstances surrounding Moctezuma’s own death are examined afresh. Drawing upon the latest international research and the ongoing archaeological discoveries in Mexico City, the book reassesses the aftermath and legacy of the Conquest, including the role it played in shaping the modern Mexican identity.

Fiesta, days of the dead and other festivals



Mexico has a vast range of festivals, several commemorating national events but mostly religious or spiritual in inspiration. After the Spanish Conquest of 1521, Roman Catholic teachings fused with the beliefs of native civilizations, and even today the popular arts and crafts draw upon the Church as a rich source of imagery. Fiestas are often lavish and extremely costly. With extensive preparations, they commemorate local saints’ days and religious holidays such as Christmas, Carnival and Holy Week.

Drawing on her extensive travels in Mexico and the collections she has helped create in the British Museum, Chloë Sayer provides contemporary context to these colourful annual celebrations, showing what makes these festivities so attractive and also uniquely Mexican. *Fiesta* is packed with vivid full-colour illustrations of an amazing array of objects, as well as photos of people making and using them to celebrate an intriguing variety of local festivities.

Launching of the network “*Entrepreneurs for Mexico*”



Ambassador Juan Jose Bremer, Lord Digby Jones, and Bruno Ferrari.

The initiative *Entrepreneurs for Mexico*, designed by ProMexico, is a network of strategic allies worldwide which, in coordination with ProMexico, identifies economic opportunities for the country, supports in entering new markets, facilitates more flexible access for foreign investors in Mexico and promotes an image of our country in the world. It was launched at the Residency of Mexico with Ambassador Juan Jose Bremer and Bruno Ferrari, CEO of ProMexico.

Emerging Markets Conference, The Economist Intelligence Unit



The head of Economic Planning at the Mexican Ministry of the Treasury, Miguel Messmacher, participated in a panel on Latin America in which he highlighted the measures that have been taken by the Mexican government to address the economic downturn. He also spoke of the important effort Mexico has made in the last decade to diversify its trade relations, in line with ProMexico’s message to trade partners. Mr. Messmacher shared the floor with representatives of Brazil and Argentina.

Mexico to increase port capacity



The General Coordinator for Ports and Merchant Marine, Alejandro Chacon, made a presentation of the new port projects in Mexico at a Seminar, organized by ProMexico and the Society of Maritime Industries. Mr. Chacon mentioned that the goals for the Mexican Port System are to build 4 new ports and expand or modernize 22 existing ports and 10 cruise docks; increase available container terminal capacity from 4 a 7.2 million TEUS and increase productivity rate of operations in specialized container terminals from 68 to 75 containers per hour-ship in operation.



In their Autumn Newsletter the **British Mexican Society** describes the range and variety of events that they are organizing.

The **BMS** has been very active and it is constantly expanding its calendar of activities. We congratulate them for their excellent work and invite you to explore their programme at: www.britishmexicansociety.org.uk

Day of the Dead Celebrations in London

This year there will be many opportunities for celebrating the Day of the Dead in various venues across London.



Starting on 27 October and until 1 November, the charity organisation Mencap will host a Day of the Dead festival that includes an exhibition featuring artworks uniquely created by some of the UK's most celebrated artists. A variety of events such as a Día de muertos ball with live music, and a Q&A session with Mexican art expert Chlöe Sayer accompany the exhibition. All of these events will take place at Proud Camden, Stables Market, Chalk Road Farm, London NW1 8AH. For more information please visit: www.mencap.org.uk and click on Get involved.



On the other hand, as part of the Dos Equis Series, on Saturday 31st October 2009, Brick Lane in East London will play host to a Mexican Day of the Dead Festival. The event will run between 11am and 9pm and will include a procession of Day of the Dead characters, including stilt walkers, altars, offerings, art and much more. Details: www.dosequisseries.com



The British Museum, as part of the activities related to the *Moctezuma Aztec Ruler* exhibition is hosting a Day of the Day Festival, supported by BP, on 1 November from 11.00am to 5.00pm. Activities will include workshops, storytelling, gallery talks, processions, films, music among other events throughout the day.

For information on the full programme click: www.britishmuseum.org/whats_on/events_calendar/november/day_of_the_dead.aspx



Dos Equis Series of Mexican contemporary art: Beatriz Canfield

As every autumn, the Mexican Embassy in the UK supports the Dos Equis Series, produced by Jon Bonfiglio, presenting the best of emerging Mexican art in alternative and hugely original locations around London.

The 2009 series bring new and unseen work by Beatriz Canfield, who participated in the successful collective exhibition *Betrayal* in 2007. The exhibition entitled *The Anonymus* will be shown at the gallery of the Vibe Bar, located at the Truman Brewery in the heart of Brick Lane. The exhibition will then travel to Belgium and Spain in late November.

Beatriz Canfield (Mexico City, 1972) graduated from the National School of Painting, Sculpture and Lithography, La Esmeralda. Her work encompasses a wide array of styles, methodology and materials. She has worked using salt, wood, and metals, as well as experimenting with new technologies such as video.



For more information on Beatriz and her work please visit: www.beatrizcanfieldzapata.com and www.dosequisseries.com

The Vibe Bar
91 Brick Lane,
London E1 6QL

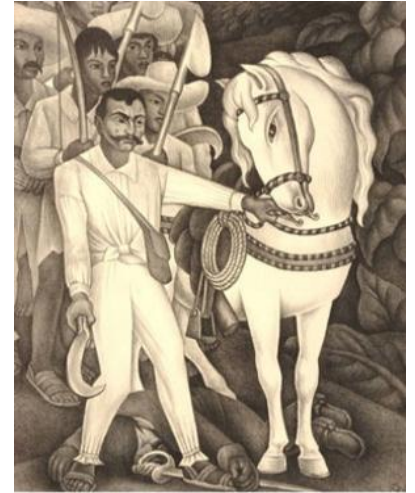
Revolution on Paper: Mexican prints 1910-1960

From 22 October and until 5 April the British Museum presents this wonderful exhibition, supported by the Mexico Tourism Board, which focuses on the great age of printmaking in Mexico during the first half of the 20th century.

Revolution on Paper features works more than 130 works by iconic artists such as Diego Rivera, David Alfaro Siqueiros, José Guadalupe Posada, José Clemente Orozco just to mention a few.

The exhibition is accompanied by a programme of activities at the museum including concerts, theatre and a session on live music with songs of the Revolution.

For more information and details on the public programme visit: www.britishmuseum.org



The Annual William Fagg Lecture: Moctezuma predecessors, in search of Mexican Kings

Dr. Leonardo López Luján, Senior Researcher and Professor of Archaeology at Museo del Templo Mayor, Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, is the author of several books on archaeology of Central Mexico.

In this lecture he will speak about the recent excavations in the surroundings of the Templo Mayor in Mexico City, where the latest impressive discoveries include a huge sculpture of the goddess of the Earth, Tlaltecuhltli.

Thursday 29 October
18.00hrs
BP Lecture Theatre
The British Museum
For tickets please visit
www.britishmuseum.org



Mexican films at the British Museum



To accompany the exhibitions *Moctezuma Aztec Ruler* and *Revolution on Paper*, the British Museum in collaboration with the Mexican Embassy in the UK have created a film programme featuring well known Mexican blockbusters such as *Amores Perros*, *En el hoyo*, *Y tu mamá también* and *Duck Season*.

On Friday 30 October there will be a Day of the Dead double bill with the screening of the documentary *Saint Death* (*La Santa Muerte*) by Eva Aridjis inspired on a short story by the famous Mexican writer Homero Aridjis accompanied by the original short film *Hasta los Huesos*.

For more information and details visit www.britishmuseum.org

MEXICAN AUTUMN NOVEMBER

1 November

Día de Muertos

The Blue Coat will dedicate a traditional *altar de muertos* to Malcom Lowry, accompanied by other cultural activities.

The Blue Coat
School Lane
Liverpool L1 3BX
www.bluecoat.org.uk

1 November- 11.00 am a 5.00 pm

Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead)

Join this unique Mexican celebration to remember the departed. Family activities, workshops, films and talks will take place at the Museum throughout the day.

Museo Británico
www.britishmuseum.org

3 November- 6:30pm

History:
Moctezuma's World

In this lecture, Ignacio Durán, Minister for Cultural Affairs of the Embassy of Mexico, will talk about the omens, the gods and the court surrounding Moctezuma. He will touch fascinating subjects such as the military conquest that made the Aztec empire rich from California to Honduras and the tragic fall of the Aztec king.

Instituto Cervantes
102 Eaton Square
London SW1W 9AN

4 November- 6.30pm

Lecture:
"Death in Mexican Cinema"

Mexican cinema expert Dr. Andrea Noble (University of Durham) and Ignacio Durán, Minister for Cultural Affairs of the Embassy of Mexico, will discuss the importance of death as a subject in the history of Mexican cinema.

Canning House
2 Belgrave Sq
London SW1X 8PJ
www.canninghouse.com

9 November

Mexican Institute of Sound
UK Tour

www.comono.co.uk

9-12 November

World Travel Market

Excel London
www.wtmlondon.com

11-15 November

Iberoamerican Book Fair

Book launches, talks and film screenings as part as this festival celebrating the uniqueness of Latin American literature.

Foyles
113-119 Charing Cross Road,
London, WC2H 0EB
www.foyles.co.uk

13 November - 6:30pm

Cinema:
Y Tu Mamá También (2001)
Dir. Alfonso Cuarón

Mexico's most successful road movie starring Gael García Bernal and Diego Luna. Introduced by Dr. Ceri Higgins.

The British Museum
Lecture Theatre
Clare Education Centre
www.britishmuseum.org

MEXICAN AUTUMN NOVEMBER

21 November- 10.00am - 5.00pm

Study Session:
Moctezuma's Feast

Experts from Mexico and around the world explore the role of food in the Aztec world.

The British Museum
Lecture Theatre
Clare Education Centre
www.britishmuseum.org

23 November

"Cornish Miners, their adventurous journey to Pachuca and Mineral del Monte in the 1820's and its aftermath"

Canning House
www.britishmexicansociety.org.uk

23 November - 6:30pm

History:
"El juego de lo humano y lo divino"
(in Spanish)

Renowned Mexican specialist Dr. Alfredo López Austin, explores the relation between men and deities before the arrival of the Spanish conquistadores.

Canning House
2 Belgrave Sq
London SW1X 8PJ
www.canninghouse.com

24 November - 5:00pm

History:
"Un Dios llamado Moctezuma"
(In Spanish)

Dr. Alfredo López Austin talks about the role of the Moctezuma as emperor and deity of its people.

Universidad de Cambridge
Latimer Room
First Court
Clare College

24 November - 7:00pm

Music:
Cuarteto Latinoamericano

A unique opportunity to enjoy one of the world's greatest quartets. The programme includes works of Heitor Villa Lobos, Revueltas, Ginastera and Javier Álvarez among others.

Bolívar Hall
54 Grafton Way, W1T 5 DL
www.ilams.org.uk

25 November

Academic seminar:
Imagining La Malinche

Renowned academics from Mexico, the United States and Britain gather to talk about this crucial female character of the Conquest of Mexico. Speakers include: Ruben Gallo, Margo Glantz, Rebecca Earle, Patricia Quintana and Valerie Fraser among others.

Universidad de Warwick
www2.warwick.ac.uk

25 November

Gastronomy:
Mexican contemporary cuisine

Mexico's most famous chef, Patricia Quintana talks about modern day Mexican cuisine followed by a cooking demonstration.

Universidad de Warwick
www2.warwick.ac.uk

27 November - 6:30pm

Cinema:
En el Hoyo
Dir. Juan Carlos Rulfo

Award winning documentary about the workers of Mexico City's second storey built as a measure to improve the flow of traffic in the city.

Museo Británico
Lecture Theatre
Clare Education Centre
www.britishmuseum.org

30 November

Felipe Ehrenberg- Performance: The many Revenges of Moctezuma

University of Essex

www.essex.ac.uk

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