



WAKIA UN MANEE



DAIARA TUKANO



PATRICIA ELLEN



TAINÁ SANTOS

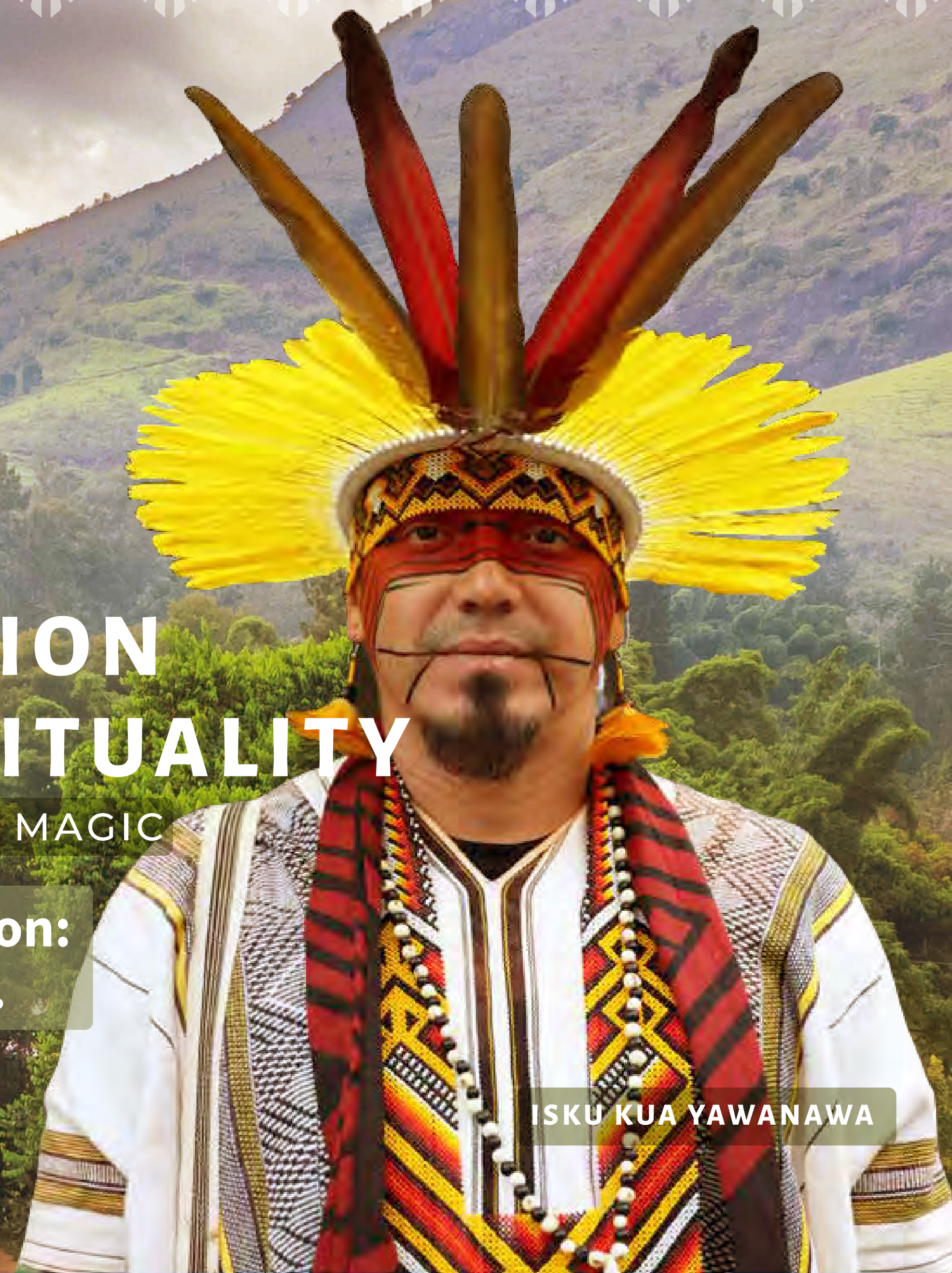


GUI ALVES

A DEEP IMMERSION IN AMAZONIAN SPIRITUALITY

EXPERIENCE THE YAWANAWA MAGIC

in our special COP30 edition:
envisioning the future.



ISKU KUA YAWANAWA



NOVEMBER 21ST-28TH 2025

AKASHA RETREAT CENTER
ITAIPAVA - RIO DE JANEIRO - BRAZIL

WWW.UNIRETREATS.ORG



We are deeply honored to invite you to **Akasha Retreat Center in Itaipava** for the very special edition **Uni Retreats COP30: Envisioning the Future**, led by **Isku Kua** and representatives of **Nova Esperança Village**, the largest village of the **Yawanawá Nation**, together with select guests.



Retreats guided by **Isku Kua** have been exceptional, bringing the spiritual strength of his family and community in deep alignment with **Yawanawá ancestral wisdom**. In this unique edition, aligned with **COP30**, we unite tradition and future: a sacred space to envision new paths for humanity, guided by the forest, the medicines, and the guardians of life..





For this journey, **Isku Kua will be accompanied by his family and a circle of young spiritual leaders, forming a group of 10 Yawanawá who embody the living strength of the forest.** His family lineage carries profound ancestral knowledge: guardians of sacred songs, traditional healing practices, and ceremonial leadership that has been passed down for generations. Alongside them, the younger generation brings the freshness of renewal — voices, prayers, and visions that ensure the continuity of Yawanawá culture and spirituality into the future.

Together, they represent the union of experience and youth, tradition and renewal, standing as a bridge between ancient forest wisdom and the urgent calls of our present time.



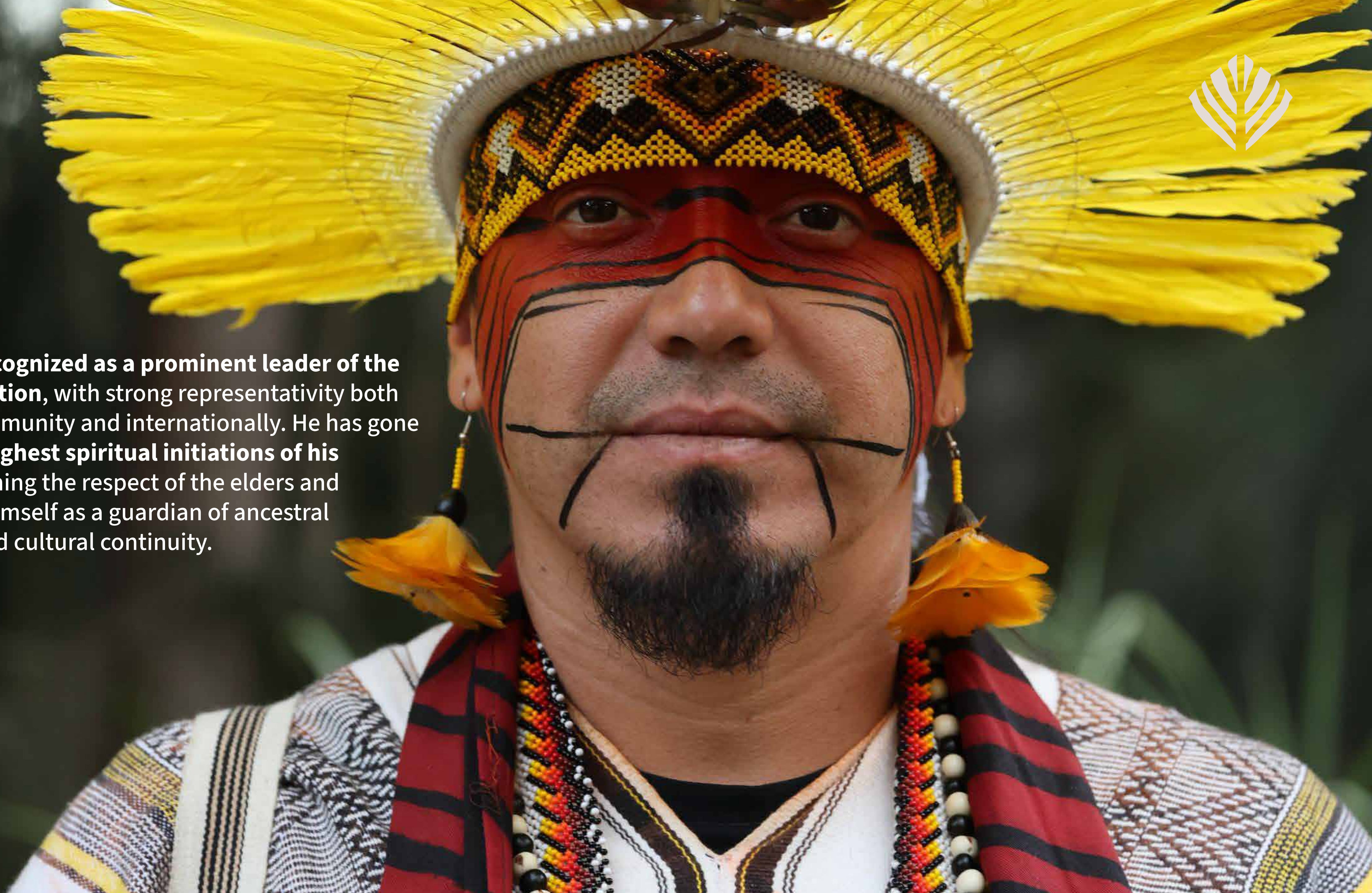


ISKU KUA YAWANAWÁ

For many years, **Isku Kua Yawanawá** supported his father, **Chief Nixiwaka**, in the leadership and administration of **community affairs**. Today, he is the **chief of Nova Esperança (“New Hope”)**, the largest Yawanawá village with more than 300 people.



Isku Kua is recognized as a prominent leader of the Yawanawá Nation, with strong representativity both within his community and internationally. He has gone through **the highest spiritual initiations of his tradition**, earning the respect of the elders and establishing himself as a guardian of ancestral knowledge and cultural continuity.





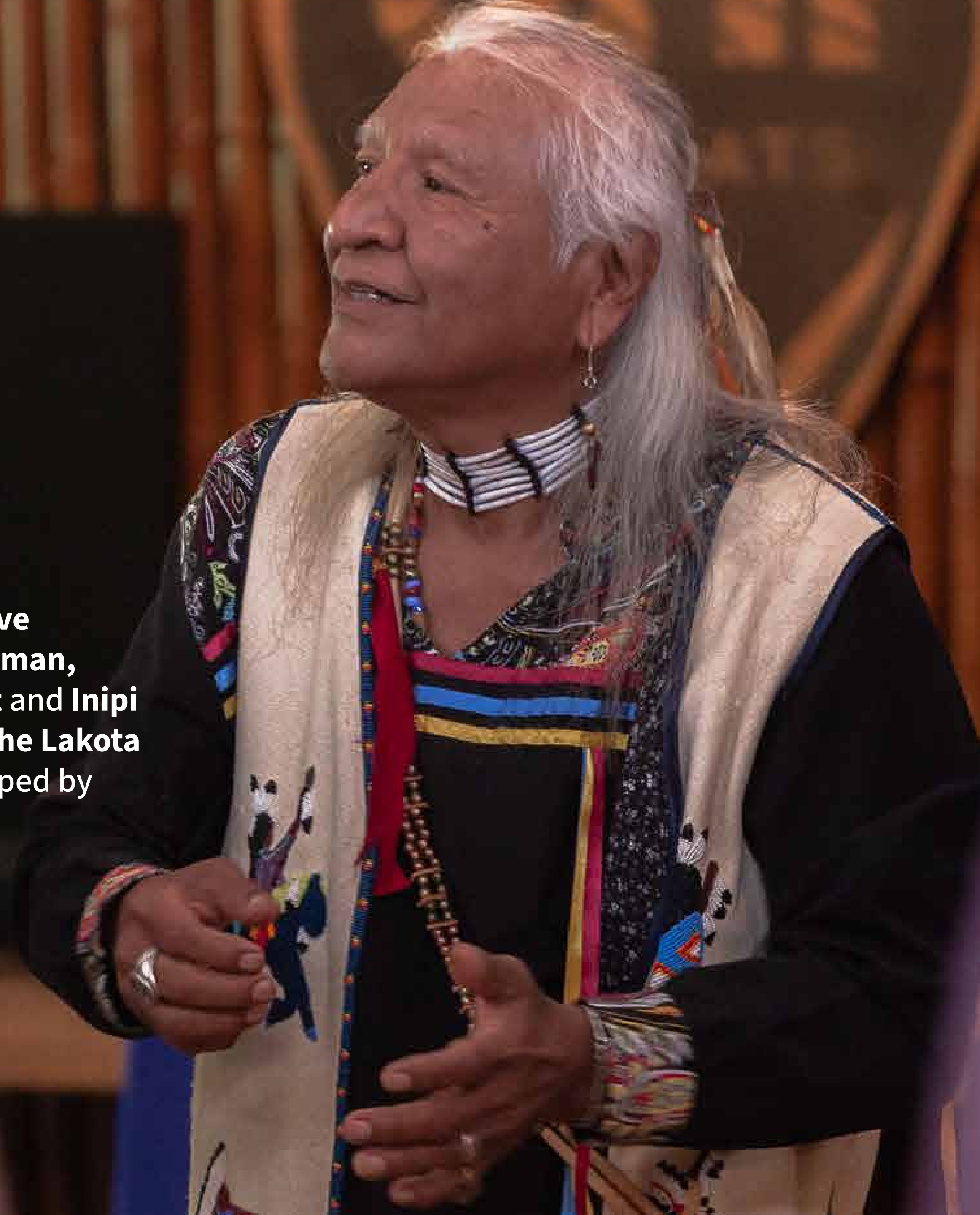
He is also a **talented musician and guitar player**, known for adapting traditional Yawanawá chants to the guitar and sharing them with authenticity and beauty. Frequently traveling to **Europe and the United States**, he carries the spirituality and culture of his people to the world, building bridges between traditions and modern societies.

The depth of his knowledge grows each day through his discipline, humility, and devotion to the spiritual path. The way he conducts the **Uní (Ayahuasca) ceremonies** inspires profound respect, even among the elders, affirming him as a voice of tradition, vision, and strength for the **Yawanawá Nation**.



WAKIA UN MANEE

Wakia Un Manee is a Klamath/Modoc Native American from North America, a medicine man, Sun Dancer, and conductor of Vision Quest and Inipi (sweat lodge) ceremonies. Raised among the Lakota and Ojibway, his path has been deeply shaped by the traditions and culture of these peoples.





He holds degrees in **Psychology and Political Science**, and also studied **Theology**, integrating academic knowledge with Indigenous wisdom. Beyond his spiritual leadership, Wakia has founded and developed **NGOs and charitable organizations** in various communities, dedicated to service and collective wellbeing.

As an **activist**, he has stood on the frontlines defending **Native rights** as well as **environmental and ecological causes**, bringing his strength and voice to global movements. His life's work is focused on **empowering people** to recognize and understand their own capacities, awakening strength, awareness, and clarity to transform their lives.



DAIARA HORI FIGUEROA SAMPAIO, DUHIGÔ, TUKANO

SPECIAL GUESTS



Daiara Hori Figueroa Sampaio, Duhigô, Tukano (traditional name **Duhigô**), is an Indigenous **artist, educator, and communicator from the Tukano – Yé'pá Mahsã people**. She holds a Master's degree in **Human Rights**, is a **researcher on the right to memory**, and is recognized for her works of great visual and political impact.

She painted the largest urban mural ever created by an Indigenous woman in the world and has received awards such as the **PIPA Prize** and the **Prince Claus Award** from the Netherlands. Her path between the village and the city is marked by her firm role as a guardian of culture and by an artistic language that reveals the beauty and strength of another possible world.

Patricia Ellen is a leader in economic development and systemic approaches to innovation, social impact, and sustainability, with an extensive career across both the public and private sectors. She served as **Secretary of Economic Development, Science, and Technology for the State of São Paulo** (2019–2022), where she coordinated sustainable development policies, digital inclusion initiatives, and the pandemic response to Covid-19, bringing together science, technology, and public management to save lives. She has also worked as a partner at **McKinsey & Company** and as an executive in the private sector, always focusing on strategies for transformation and human development.

Currently, Patricia is **President of Systemiq in Brazil, founder of Aya Earth Partners**, and President of its Institute, bringing together more than **100 private, public, and social organizations and leaders around ecological transformation**. Her work promotes regenerative economic models, nature-based solutions, and decarbonization strategies. Recognized as a **Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum**, Patricia's mission is to integrate ancestral wisdom, spirituality, and positive impact, inspiring organizations and individuals to co-create a more just, sustainable, and conscious future.





TAINÁ SANTOS



Tainá Santos is a **singer, songwriter, and percussionist** born in Embu das Artes, São Paulo. Raised in the spiritual traditions of the terreiro, from the age of seven she learned to listen to and play the drums as ancestral voices. Today, in addition to her artistic career, she is an entrepreneur and founder of **the Elevador Creative Studio**, where she manages her own musical journey.

Her music is rooted in **Afro-Brazilian spirituality**, flowing through the body and affirming the dignity of Black cultures. Blending traditional rhythms with contemporary sounds, **her art builds bridges between past, present, and future**, echoing ancestral memories while opening paths of renewal and cultural resistance.

Gui Alves is a world-class Brazilian multi-instrumentalist, scientific researcher at UFRJ, integrative music therapist, and joyful educator. A dedicated practitioner of **Ayurveda and Yoga**, he has traveled to more than 12 countries offering concerts, retreats, and innovative workshops that use music as a platform for human connection, well-being, and self-discovery.

Creator of **Circular Music Workshops**, where playful musical games, Brazilian rhythms, body percussion, and mindfulness become tools for creativity and collective expression, and **Integrative Breathwork & Sound Journeys**, blending music therapy, yoga, and neuroscience to explore the healing potential of breathing, sound, and emotion, Gui designs **multidisciplinary programs** that unite art, science, and spirituality — offering transformative experiences in Brazil and across the globe.

www.pazciencia.com.br



NOVA ESPERANÇA VILLAGE

Nova Esperança Village, on the Gregório River in Acre, is the largest community of the Yawanawá Nation, home to about 300 people. Today it is led by **Chief Isku Kua Yawanawá**, and remains deeply connected to the legacy of great spiritual masters of his lineage. Among them is **Grandpa Yawa, an elder and medicine man**, a guardian of traditional wisdom, highly respected for his dedication to prayers, sacred songs, and the medicines of the forest. His presence is remembered as a living inspiration for the entire community, embodying a direct link to the memory and strength of the ancestors.





Nova Esperança is also home to the **Iskuvakehu – Yawanawá School of Language and Culture**, created to transmit to new generations the spiritual knowledge, language, and stories of the people. Children and youth learn from elders and traditional masters in a process of continuity that keeps **Yawanawá identity alive**. In this way, **Nova Esperança is more than just a village** – it is a space of cultural resistance, learning, and spirituality, guided by the strength of its leaders and elders, such as **Grandfather Yawa**.



THE RETREAT

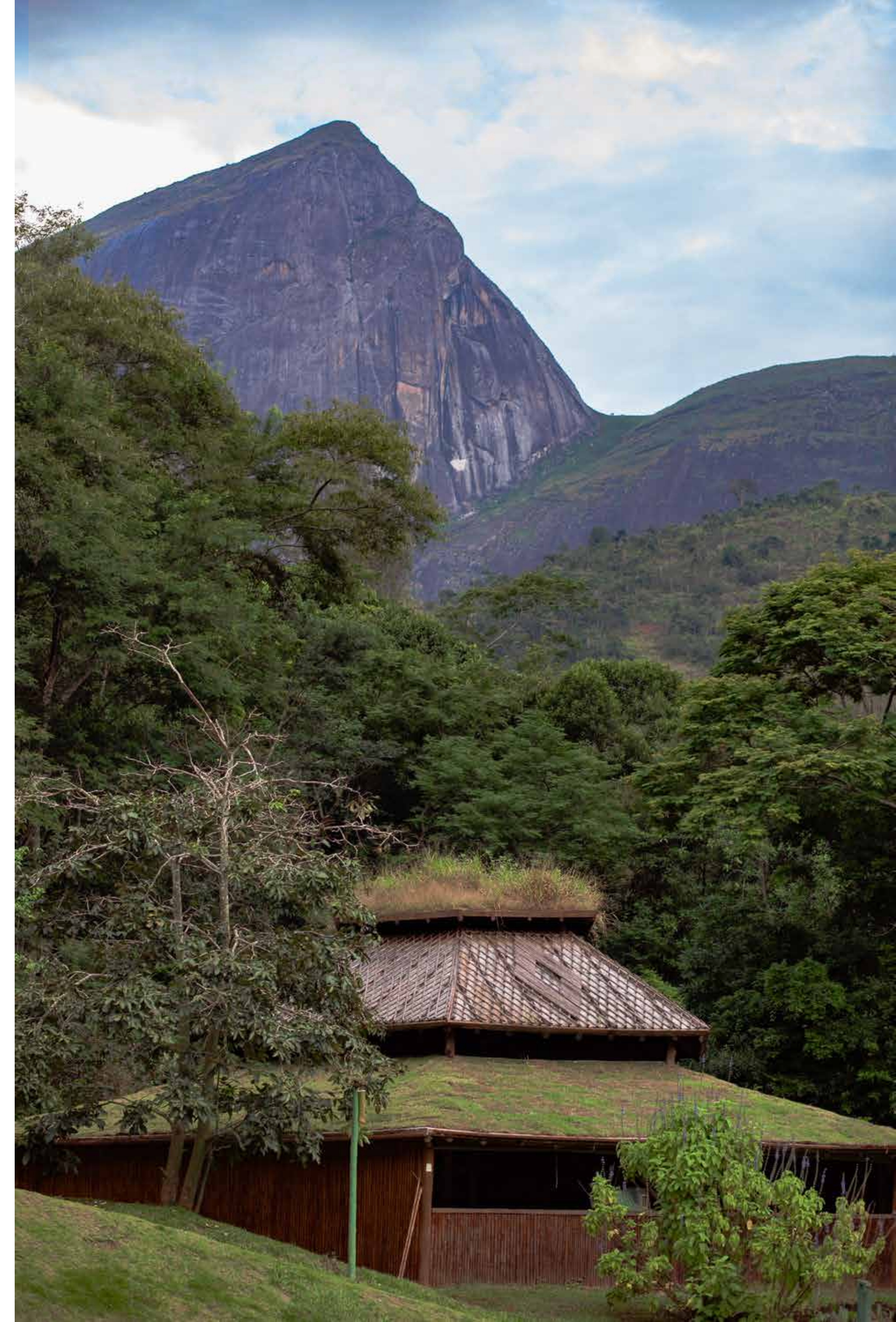
The retreats guided by the Yawanawá offer a profound immersion into the culture and spirituality of their people. Each retreat includes **three Uni (Ayahuasca) ceremonies**, along with traditional activities such as **sacred kenes face painting, song circles, storytelling, hapé and sananga rituals, teachings on Yawanawá spirituality**, and an **Inipi – sweat lodge**, in the Lakota tradition.

The program expands into **musical experiences** that move both body and spirit, connecting the sacred forest with the creative force of contemporary expression. **Guest artists join the Yawanawá in circles of music, chant, and percussion, weaving sonic bridges that celebrate ancestry and open pathways of dialogue** between different cultures.

A large group of people, diverse in age and ethnicity, are standing in a circle in a lush, green forest. They are all holding hands, with their arms raised in a gesture of unity or celebration. The background features a dense forest of tall trees, and in the distance, a large, rugged mountain peak rises against a hazy sky. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of late afternoon or early morning. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image, with the first part in bold and underlined.

In this special COP30 edition, the encounter takes on an even deeper meaning: the forest and its spiritual guardians meet with seekers, leaders, and visionaries from around the world to envision possible futures. Amidst the natural beauty of the Itaipava mountains, the Akasha Retreat Center becomes a space of exchange between tradition and innovation, spirituality and sustainability — an invitation to dream new pathways for humanity together.

Each retreat is **limited to a group of up to 45 participants**, ensuring care, attention, and depth throughout the experience. Nestled in the mountains of Itaipava, the **Akasha Retreat Center** offers a perfect balance of nature and comfort: **eco-built bungalows designed with charm and warmth, healthy meals prepared with fresh, local ingredients**, along with a traditional herbal sauna and a **crystal-clear natural pool**. A space created to nourish body, mind, and spirit in harmony with the forest.





THE YAWANAWA - find more info on the Yawanawa here:

READ MORE

WEEK RETREAT PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 21 – FRIDAY

- Group meeting in Rio de Janeiro. Transfer from Rio to the mountains of Itaipava – Akasha Retreat Center (1:30-2:00 hour drive).
- Afternoon: Introduction to the retreat and Lakota teachings on the Indigenous perspective of spiritual experiences.
- Evening: Purification in the Inipi – sweat lodge – in the Lakota tradition.

NOVEMBER 22 – SATURDAY

- Morning: Face painting.
- Afternoon: Integration circle.
- Evening: 1st Uni (Ayahuasca) ceremony, with Hapé and Sananga.

NOVEMBER 23 – SUNDAY

- Afternoon: Workshop with Daiara Tukano.
- Evening: Musical presentation with Gui Alves and João Harres.

NOVEMBER 24 – MONDAY

- Morning: Spiritual and cultural activities with the Yawanawá.
- Afternoon: 2nd Uni (Ayahuasca) ceremony, with Hapé and Sananga.

NOVEMBER 25 – TUESDAY

- Morning: Visit and care of the Forest-Garden (Agroforestry).
- Afternoon: Lakota Teachings.

NOVEMBER 26 – WEDNESDAY

- Morning: Workshop with Patricia Ellen.
- Afternoon: Spiritual and cultural activities with the Yawanawá.
- Evening: 3rd Uni (Ayahuasca) ceremony, with Hapé and Sananga.

NOVEMBER 27 – THURSDAY

- Afternoon: Integration circle.
- Evening: Musical show and celebration with Tainá Santos.

NOVEMBER 28 – FRIDAY

- Afternoon: Collective transport from Akasha Retreat Center back to Rio de Janeiro for those returning.

** The program is subject to change.*

In addition to the ceremonies the retreat will also include:

Spiritual teachings, traditional activities, hapé (tobacco snuff, storytelling circles, face and body paintings, herbal sauna, daily breakfast, lunch and dinner.

RETREAT INCLUDES:

- Interview and integration with Uni Retreats specialized psychologists;
- Land transportation from Rio de Janeiro to Aldeia Akasha in Itaipava;
- 7 nights accommodation in shared rooms at the Akasha Retreat Center (up to 3 people per room);
- 3 daily meals at Aldeia Akasha;
- Participation in all medicine ceremonies and sweat lodges.
- English/Portuguese Translators;
- Collective ground transportation from the Akasha Retreat Center back to Rio de Janeiro.

SERVICES AVAILABLE AT AN ADDITIONAL COST:

- Individual sessions with Indigenous leaders;
- Post-retreat follow-up consultation with specialized psychologists;
- Private transfer from Rio de Janeiro (GIG airport) to the Retreat Center
- Laundry service during your stay
- Massage and body therapies with experienced therapist
- Private accommodation upgrade (single or double room option)

REGISTRATION

Click the link to sign up:

JOIN US

AKASHA RETREAT CENTER ITAIPAVA - RIO DE JANEIRO

In the mountains of **Itaipava**, less than 2 hours away from Rio de Janeiro's international airport, **Akasha Retreat Center** is the perfect environment for deep healing immersions with indigenous leaders and plant medicines. The spaces especially built for our spiritual retreats integrate beautifully with its lush vegetation, rivers, natural pools and waterfalls.

All facilities on the land follow principles of bioconstruction, for sustainability and integration with nature, and **sacred geometry**, to potentialize energetic flow. Our bungalows offer the comfort of an Eco-Resort, and the space also includes an herbal steam sauna with natural organic herbs from Akasha's own garden.

COMMON AREAS INCLUDE:

Kupixawa (Ceremonial Center) - Geodesic dome - Waterfalls -
Natural pools - Herbal sauna - dining hall - Bungalows

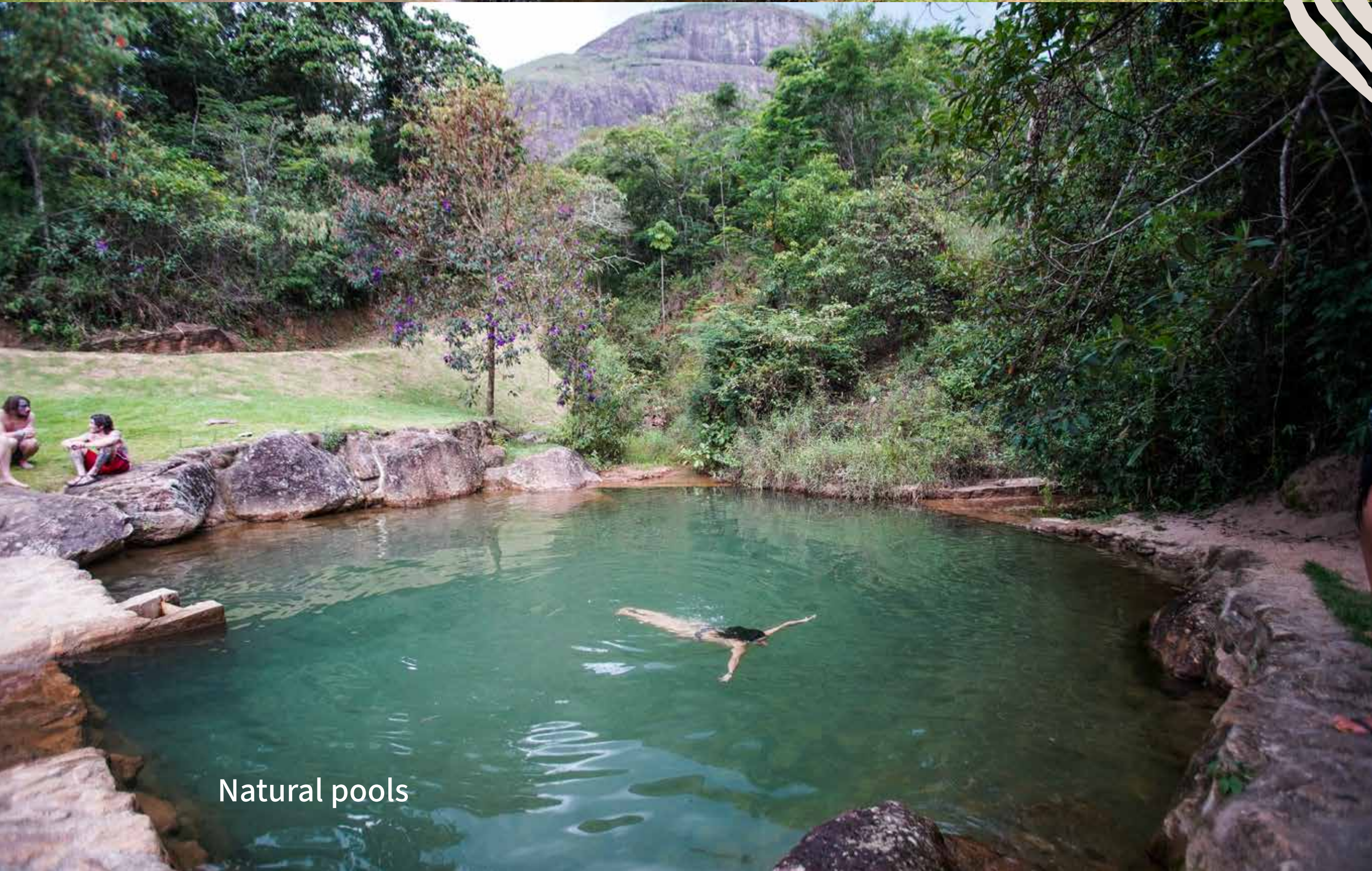




Kupixawa (Ceremonial Center)



Waterfalls



Natural pools



Kupixawa (Ceremonial Center)



Bungalows

ABOUT US

The Uni Retreats team is comprised of founding members of the **Huni Kuin Guardians**, a pioneer group in Brazil with **over 18 years of experience** in organizing indigenous-led ayahuasca ceremonies outside the Amazon, and a history of important projects in the villages and around the world.

www.portaltxai.org

www.igf.org.br



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