

Optional 3 Day Natural Dyeing Workshop and Doll Sculpture Workshop



In this exclusive workshop, we will learn the ancient tradition of natural dyeing with Zapotec weaver and dyer, Demetrio. We will work with cochineal, indigo, Spanish moss, wild chamomile, pecan leaves, pomegranate, marigolds and anchiote. Using these materials, we can create colorful dyes to use making in our doll sculptures with amazing artist Rebecca Severide.



Demetrio Bautista Lazo grew up at his parents' knees weaving rugs using the popular aniline dyes of the 1960's and 1970's. But times have changed and so has the marketplace. While Demetrio looks forward with his innovative weaving designs, he is looking back generations for the rich hues and dyeing techniques of his ancestors. The results are rugs that seem to embrace both the future and the past. For Demetrio, the process of making a rug begins far above the village. It is here in the high meadowlands that he comes to gather the flowers and herbs that he uses to make many of the dyes for his *tapetes*.

"I am obsessed with dyes," Demetrio confides. "Every day I am working to create some special colors. I have some very interesting experiments that I am conducting using different kinds of minerals." We are very fortunate to be able to gain knowledge and expertise from Demetrio's passion for natural dyeing.

Saturday - Monday, January 20 - 22

In this exclusive workshop in Teotitlan, first we will learn the ancient tradition of natural dyeing with Master Zapotec weaver and dyer, Demetrio Bautista Lazo working with natural elements. These may include cochineal, indigo, Spanish moss, wild chamomille, pecan leaves, pomegranate, marigolds and anchiote. Using these materials, we can create many colorful dyed yarns to incorporate into our wonderful dolls over the next few days.



Historically, dolls and action figures are more than mere play objects. With Rebecca Severide, we will explore their power to tell memorial stories, bridge cultural viewpoints and create our own narratives. Using mixed media, including our hand-dyed yarn, fiber, beads, wire and clay, we will each create a one of a kind 3-D sculpture.



Tuesday, January 23 Exploring Oaxaca's Outstanding Handicrafts

On our way back to Oaxaca City we have a variety of treats in store on the way. This morning we visit a cochineal farm where we can observe how the cactus is cultivated with these fascinating beetles to create magnificent red dyes. From here we will visit **San Antonia Castillo Velasco** which is famous for its lovely embroidery. A stop at **San Martín Tilcajete** introduces us to *alebrijes*, the prime source for fanciful wooden creatures found the world over. **San Bartolo Coyotepec** is renowned for its black pottery (*barro negro*) which is sold throughout Mexico. In the evening we will return to Oaxaca City and Parador San Miguel, where we may enjoy a farewell dinner and overnight. (B)

Wed, January 24, Flights Home

This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your flights home. (No meals included)

Cost: \$695 as a 3 Day Extension for Zapotec Weaving Tour Participants

 \$995 as a 6 Day Stand Alone Tour (includes 2 nights in Oaxaca City and inclusions below)

Includes:

- 3 Day workshop
- All workshop materials
- 3 Night's Accommodation
- All meals in Teotitlan
- All transfers and tours