



URBAN ORISHAS

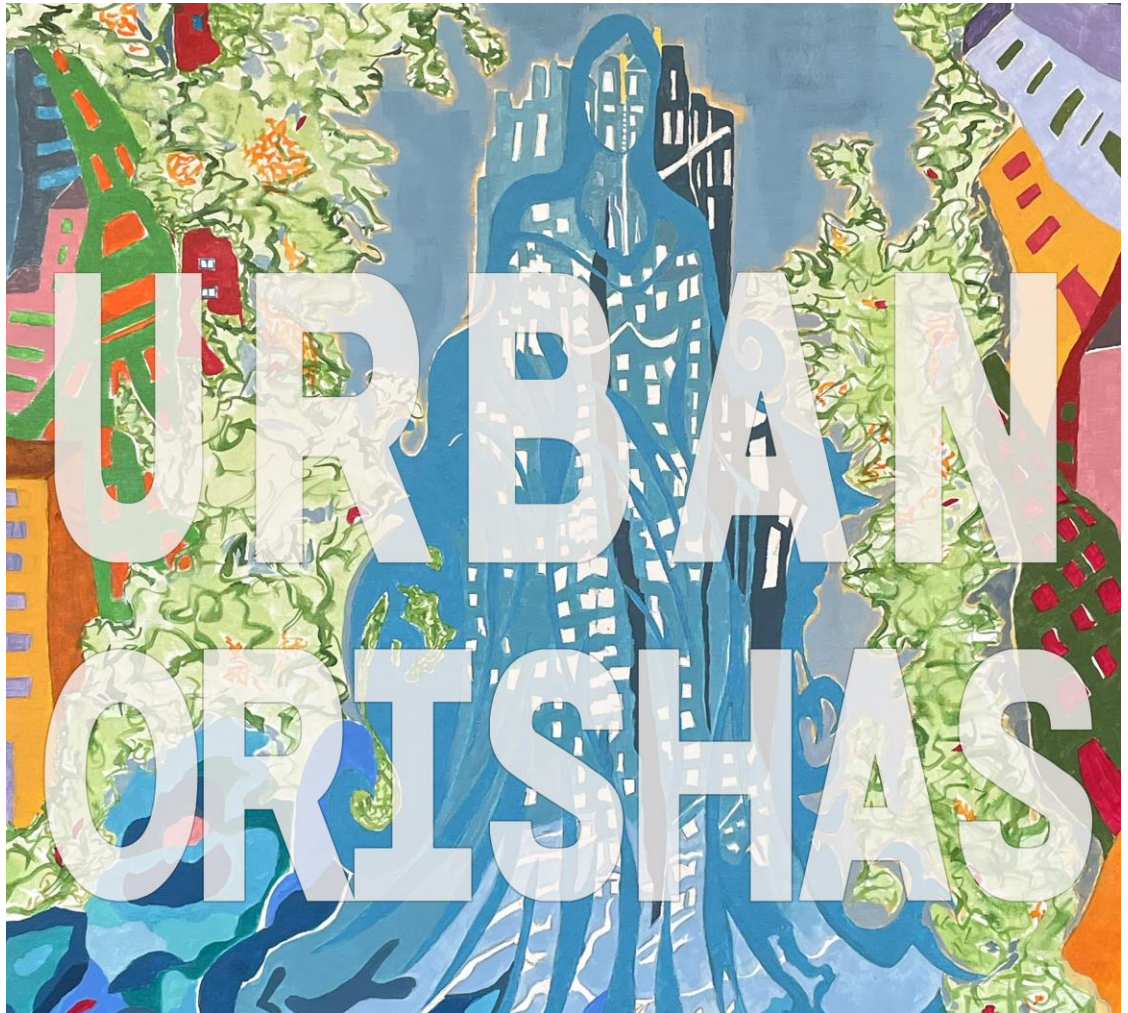
The City and Nature

Monday,
April 17, 2023

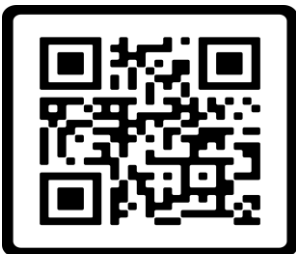
6:30 PM

7th Floor

Doors open at
6pm



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**Brazilian cultural event exploring
Urban Orishas of New York City
with Luz Castañeda**

This program is subject to change and cancellation.

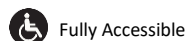


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This special Brazilian cultural event will feature storytelling by a Brazilian artist, scientist, and spiritual medium from Templo Guaracy de Umbanda, Luz Castañeda.

Urban Orishas is an artistic and cultural research that identifies Orishas based on the elements of Fire, Earth, Water, and Air in urban centers. Orishas are deeply rooted in the Yoruba and Umbanda mythologies and lore.

Luz Castañeda will introduce some of Orishas' myths that guided her art and their qualities as forces of nature. For instance, Ogun is both the guardian of the world in the myths and the continuous movement of all natural phenomena.

Luzia Castañeda is a self-taught artist, a biologist, Ph.D. in Genetics, educator, and researcher in the sacred language of nature. Her research and artwork are a combination of her artistic soul and her scientific mind with the free spirit intertwining the two. The enchantment of nature, whether through science or through spiritual traditions based on nature, has been the source of inspiration for her creations.

When Luz arrived in New York in 2014, she began photographing the city to recognize her new home. Equipped with her knowledge of Afro-Brazilian traditions, especially Umbanda, Luz found in the streets and architecture of Manhattan such forces of nature: the city revealed its Orishas! In 2019, her series *Rebirth* was awarded by Queens Council on the Art. Her series *Urban Orishas* was shown on thousands of ArtOnLink digital displays all over NYC in 2021.

www.luzcastaneda.com

The evening will also include a documentary *Urban Orishas* (dir. Alex Minkin, 10 min, 2022) that peeks into mysterious world of Umbanda ceremonies and allows us to observe Castañeda's creative process. Critics called the documentary "the Orisha tour of NYC".

www.ticunbrasil.com/urbanorishas



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