



CELEBRATING THE BIODIVERSITY OF MEXICO

Mexico harbors a wealth of ecosystems and species that make it one of the richest countries in the world in terms of biological diversity. This wealth of natural resources is one of the greatest and most beautiful treasures of Mexico, one that attracts thousands of tourists as well as many scientists.

During the month of May, the National Museum of Natural History in collaboration with the Cultural Institute of Mexico is pleased to present the following programs to highlight Mexico's biodiversity and to convey in particular, the beauty and importance of the biological resources found along its shores.

All events held at the National Museum of Natural History, Baird Auditorium. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 13th, 2:00 pm
The Art of Filming Mexico's Biodiversity
Lecture by Fabricio Feduchy

Fabricio Feduchy is an award-winning Mexican filmmaker who has produced, directed and filmed more than 50 nature documentaries in various countries including Mexico, Alaska, Peru, Chile and Argentina. Mr. Feduchy is internationally recognized for his exceptional work as a wildlife cinematographer. His documentaries on the biodiversity of Mexico capture the magnificent beauty of this country, educate the public about the wealth of natural resources it holds, and challenge all of us to play an active role in their conservation. During this lecture, Fabricio Feduchy will present clips of his best films and will talk about his experiences as a nature filmmaker. There will be a Q&A session after the lecture.



Sunday, May 14th, 2:00 pm
Film - Kuyima: Danza con Nubes (Kuyima: A Dance with Clouds)*
Directed by Fabricio Feduchy

This breathtaking documentary shows the marvelous environment of the Laguna Costera of San Ignacio in Baja California, Mexico. This area is an important refuge for the grey whale and for a great diversity of migratory birds such as ospreys and brants. The film also presents a jaw-dropping scenario of the Nature Reserve "El Vizcaíno."

A discussion with Mr. Feduchy about the production of the film will follow the screening.

* Spanish with English subtitles (1997, 50 min.)



Sunday, May 21st, 2:00 pm

Film - Travesías por el México Azul (Travels through Blue Mexico)*

Directed by Fabricio Feduchy



Through this documentary you will be able to admire the extraordinary biodiversity found in Mexican oceans by traveling to various coastal areas of Mexico, from Baja California in the north to the Peninsula of Yucatan in the south.

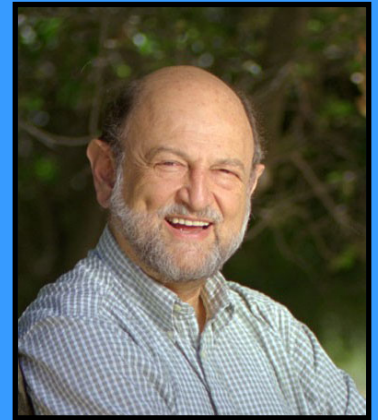
* Spanish with English subtitles (1998, 50 min.)

Friday, May 26th, 12:00 pm

The Biodiversity of Mexico

Plenary Lecture by Dr. José Sarukhán

Dr. José Sarukhán is the National Coordinator and one of the founders of CONABIO, Mexico's National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity, a governmental organization established in 1992 to promote, coordinate, support and carry out scientifically based activities aimed at improving our understanding of Mexico's biological diversity, as well as promoting its conservation and sustainable use. Dr. Sarukhán has spent more than thirty years as scientific and educational leader at the National University of Mexico (UNAM), serving as Director of the Institute for Biology, Dean of Sciences, and for 8 years, as President. He is internationally renowned for his pioneering work on plant demography, as well as his numerous publications on tropical ecology and biodiversity. He is a foreign member of the U.S. National Academies of Science and of the Royal Society.



Saturday, May 27th, 2:00 pm

Film - Cozumel: La Selva Submarina (Cozumel: The Submarine Forest)*

Directed by Fabricio Feduchy, presented by Dr. José Sarukhán

This documentary highlights the rich biodiversity of the coral reefs found in the Mexican Caribbean, which constitute the largest barrier reef in North America. The extraordinary biodiversity of this area is akin to that found in Tropical Rain Forests.

* Spanish with English subtitles (1998, 50 min.)

EVENTS CO-SPONSORED BY THE LATINO PROGRAM AND THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AND THE CULTURAL INSTITUTE OF MEXICO

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