

PERSON, PLACE, & THING:
BEYOND THE NOUN OF LEADERSHIP



2020-2022

SEMINAR 4

Self-Paced Module

Questions of Passage



William C. Friday
Fellowship FOR HUMAN
RELATIONS

Prophets matter.

The Friday Fellowship tackles the complex ways in which humans make and authorize meaning. Fellows are invited to listen for prophetic voices in likely and unlikely places. Importantly, we also listen for them in things like rocks, incense, and drums. Intentionally troubling the sacred-secular divide, Fellows will learn to hear and trust their own prophetic voice as they listen to and learn from those who are already preaching their gospel truths.

Questions of Passage – *Which thresholds might you/me/we cross?*

The 2009 documentary Waterdrums: An Ancestral Encounter traces a Venezuelan drumming practice to its African roots. Charting one woman's remembering, researching, and reclaiming of a practice that crossed the Middle Passage, this documentary follows two others included in the 2020-2022 fellowship design thus far. In addition to honoring the gifts of this drumming practice and the histories it embodies, what can you trace across these documentary offerings?

What is it about strangers and the way cameras make them feel?

And what about kingdoms sacred – yours, mine, ours, theirs?

What is the value of creation? Is the creative process worth it?

And what kind of values stack up against other meanings made from the commodification of both poverty and possibility?

What happens when the object is a messenger that begs this question: "When did your forgetting start?"

On their own, each documentary shares stories capable of reshaping the relationship between words and worlds.

What kind of problems – individual, interrelated or otherwise – do these documentaries trace?

And how does their representation and engagement make you feel?

Need some inspiration or dialogue partners?

Consider pairing up with fellows (or friends or family members) for a virtual screening sometime before 5 pm. Dr. Marcus Harvey will offer a talkback session on Seminar Four themes and materials on Friday evening.

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