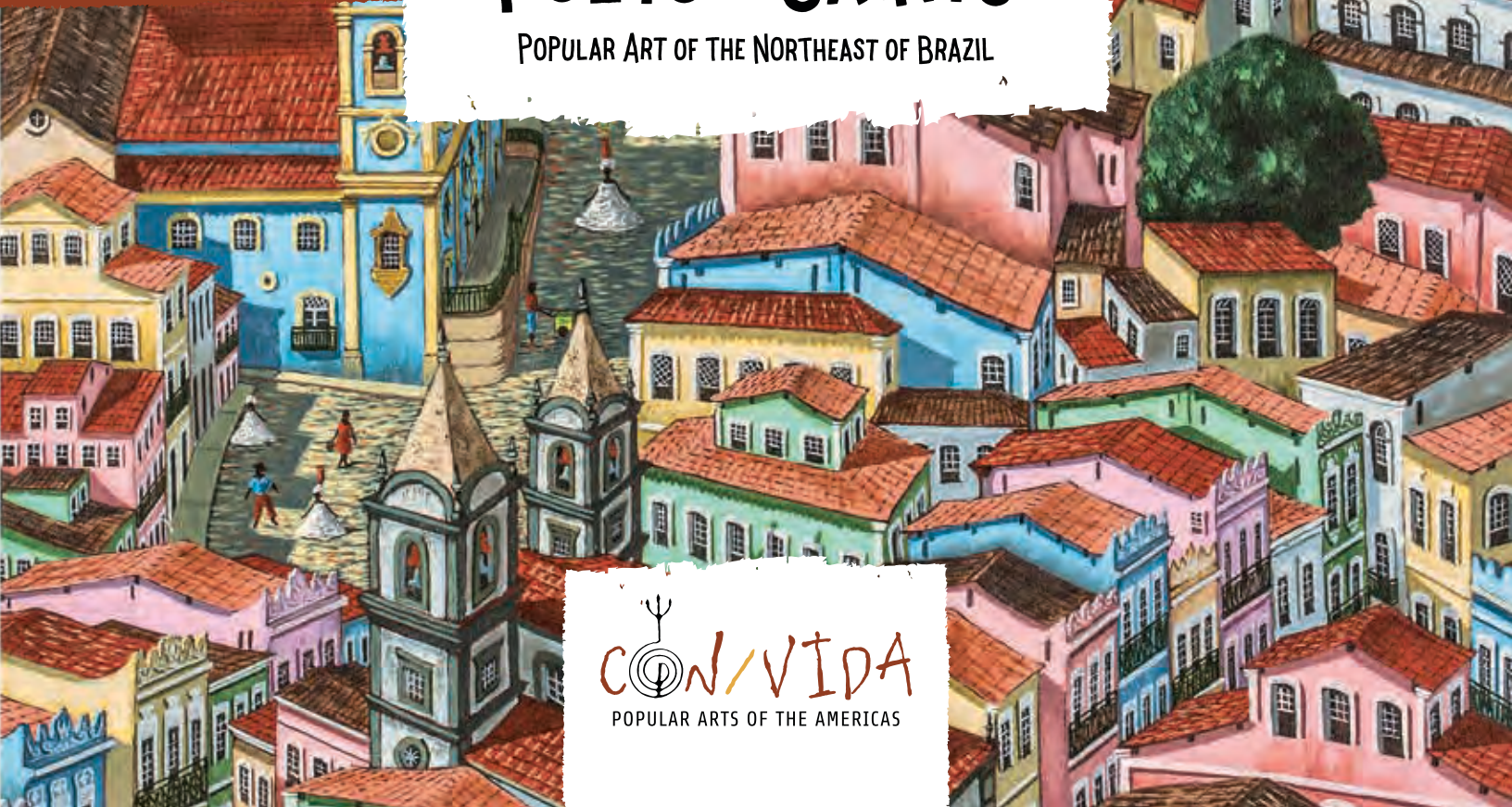


BANDITS & HEROES POETS & SAINTS

POPULAR ART OF THE NORTHEAST OF BRAZIL




CONVIDA
POPULAR ARTS OF THE AMERICAS



How many North Americans know that ten times more Africans were brought in bondage into Brazil than into the United States? How many know that the Northeast of Brazil has the largest population of African descent outside Africa? How many know how deeply the African heritage has influenced the culture of present day Brazil?

Using engaging photographs and works of popular art, this exhibition tells the story of the resilience and vitality of the modern day descendants of Africa whose ancient cultures blended with indigenous and colonial Portuguese traditions to form the vibrant and complex cultural mosaic of modern Brazil. Sculptures, paintings, prints,

religious objects, festival costumes, toys and booklets of poetry give access to the complex and vibrant culture of the Northeast of Brazil and introduce viewers to the festivals, heroes, and spiritual traditions that give shape and meaning to the daily lives of the *Nordestinos*, common people of Brazil's Northeast.

BANDITS & HEROES, POETS & SAINTS IS AN EXHIBITION IN THREE PARTS:



THE LAND & ITS PEOPLE presents colonial Brazil with its complicated history of sugar plantations and African slavery. It introduces the parched backlands of the sertão and the challenging life of the *vaqueiros* (cowboys), *retirantes* (migrant workers), and the heroes of the ordinary people of the Northeast.



EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH presents the rich African-Brazilian religion of Candomblé, exploring its historic African roots and its intersection with Roman Catholicism. Photographs, paintings and religious objects show colorful religious processions, festivals and pilgrimages of these two religious traditions.



POETRY, CELEBRATION & SONG features *literatura de cordel* (literature on a string) produced by singing poets who “sell” their songs in small chapbooks in markets and fairs. Poetry, prints and sculptures inspired by folk legends and current events signal the dynamic fusion of tradition and improvisation in the culture of the Northeast.

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EXHIBITION INFORMATION

ORIGINAL TOUR

Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints was organized by Con/Vida – Popular Arts of the Americas in partnership with the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, MI. The original show opened at the Charles H. Wright Museum in 2013 and traveled to the DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago, IL, and the Robert W. Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center, Atlanta, GA, during 2014 and 2015. Subsequently, *Bandits & Heroes* was selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities for a continuing tour to an additional 25 sites across the United States through the NEH on the Road program from September 2015 through August 2020.

NEH ON THE ROAD TOUR

Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints is touring the U.S. from September 2015 through August 2020. Summary information follows below. For more detailed information on the exhibition and availability, please visit nehontheroad.org.

SPACE REQUIREMENTS

The NEH on the Road version of *Bandits & Heroes* requires 1400 square feet of exhibition space. The show includes free-standing display units, art objects and artifacts, photographs, audio/visual and interactive elements, and wall-mounted banners and graphics. The show travels in 21 crates (some of which double as exhibition units) and one tub with instructions and supplementary materials. Total shipping weight is 6,570 pounds.

REGISTRATION / PREPARATION

Installation and registration instructions accompany the exhibition. On-site support is free to first-time hosting venues on a limited basis.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

The exhibition is accompanied by materials that provide historical and cultural context.

- ★ *Exhibition catalogues – a complimentary copy accompanies the exhibition; additional copies available at cost*
- ★ *Website with expanded information*
- ★ *Press packets*
- ★ *Educational materials*

SECURITY

- ★ *Limited security required*
- ★ *Climate controlled environment*

SHIPPING AND FEES

The rental fee is \$1000 for seven weeks, plus \$1000 toward shipping. The exhibition is fully insured by NEH on the Road at no additional expense to hosting institutions, both while installed and during transit. Exhibiting institutions are eligible for an Educational and Public Programming grant of \$1000 to support programming.

BOOKING INFORMATION

The 2015-2020 national tour of the NEH on the Road exhibition, *Bandits & Heroes*, is coordinated by the Mid-America Arts Alliance. For up-to-date scheduling availability and booking information, please contact MoreArt@maaa.org or (800) 473-3872.





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CONTACT

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