



# The Ahau Chronicles



Volume 42

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Subscribers: 456



4 Ahau



3 Pop

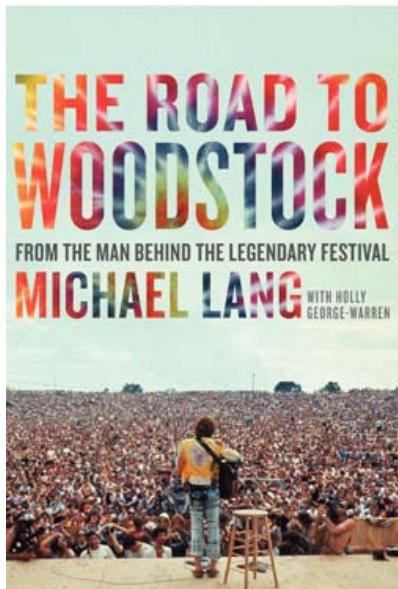


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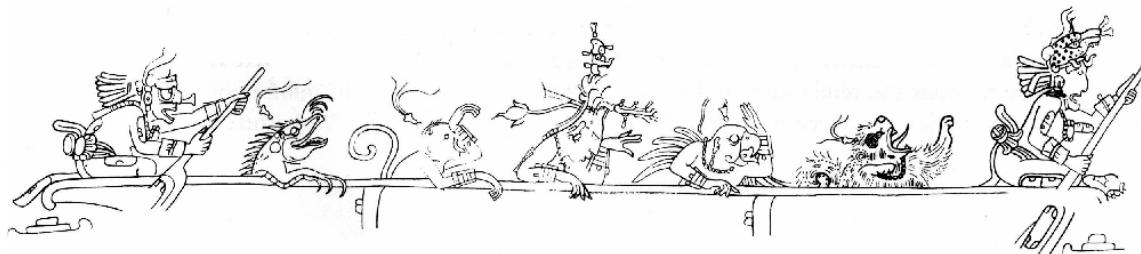
The Spirit of Woodstock

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As I began to envision “**MAYAPOLOOZA: The Crusoe 2012 Eclipse Festival**” my instinct told me to research past events to see what this festival could be. Of course, the Woodstock Festival in 1969 was the ultimate model. Considered by many as the defining pop culture moment of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Woodstock showcased three days of music by the biggest bands of the day while a half million youth frolicked in the alfalfa pastures of Max Yasgur’s farm.



When researching I prefer the original source over derivative interpretations so I picked up the book “*The Road to Woodstock*” written by Michael Lang, the promoter of the festival and the genius behind its execution. Hearing first-hand his story of the days and months before the festival and the aftermath as a nation came to grips with a historic sea-change of consciousness made for captivating reading. If you have seen the famous Woodstock movie, to read Michael’s book gives a whole new level of understanding of this iconic concert. Many expect the climax of 2012 to be a similar or perhaps larger shifting of consciousness so the phenomenon of Woodstock provides a precedent. Let’s hope peace and love prevail.

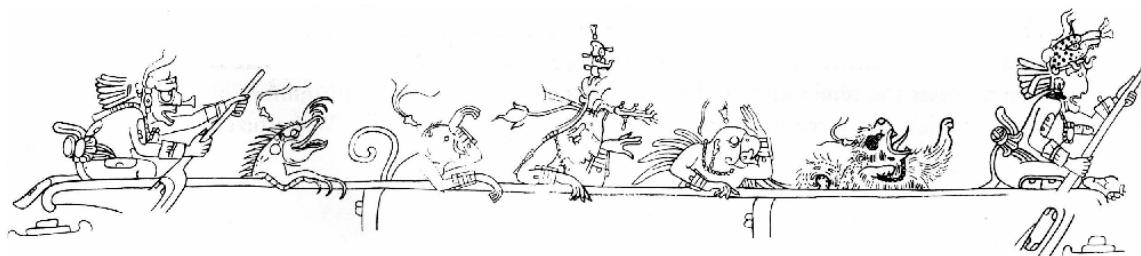


The Woodstock venue consisted of open rolling fields just west of Monticello, New York. Recently I began an archeology project east of Monticello. Within the study area is an abandoned colony of holiday cottages, some 15 buildings surrounding an overgrown pool. Wandering through the cottages was somewhat eerie since the last vacationers had simply packed up their clothes and stashed the deck furniture, likely expecting to be back the following summer. It's a moment frozen in time, the last newspapers dating to 2008 but with the echoes of decades of sun and fun for generations past. Stapled casually to the front of a wooden closet door was an original poster from the Woodstock Festival.



The iconography was unmistakable. I had just read in detail about the creation of the “dove on guitar” poster and the reason why the event was billed as an “Aquarian Exposition.” This was something in Michael’s book which struck me as appropriate for **MAYAPOLOOZA** since we are at the end of the Age of Pisces and the beginning of the Age of Aquarius (discussed in Vols. 23 & 24 of this newsletter). I stared in amazement at this relic of Woodstock and reveled in its understated elegance, its naïve innocence of the greatness it foreshadowed. Now more than 40 years old, the poster lists some of the biggest names in music including Joan Baez, Arlo Guthrie, Creedence Clearwater, Grateful Dead, Janis Joplin, Santana, The Who, and Jimmy Hendrix.

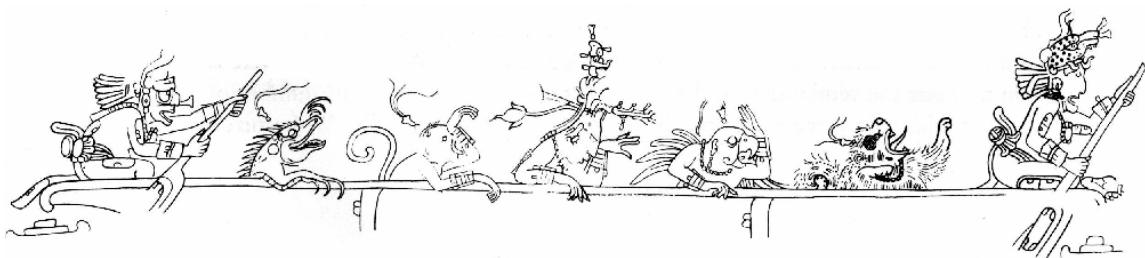
For all that Woodstock would become, the original intentions were advertised in the small print. An Art Show was promised: “Paintings and sculptures on trees, on grass, surrounded by the Hudson Valley, will be displayed.” A Crafts Bazaar was organized where: “You’ll see imaginative leather, ceramic, bead and silver creations, as well as Zodiac Charts, camp clothes, and worn out shoes.” As for Food: “There will be cokes and hotdogs and dozens of curious food and fruit combinations to experiment with.” With “hundreds of acres to roam on” you could “walk around for three days without seeing a skyscraper or a traffic light.” The Music was planned to “run for 12 continuous hours, except for a few short breaks to allow the performers to catch their breaths.” The cost for all three days was a mere \$18, before the concert was overrun and became free.



The property of my archeology investigation surrounds on three sides the Old Thompsonville Cemetery just beyond the city limits of Monticello. Buried there is Max Yasgur himself. I recently paid a visit to his grave and was amused to see a small mirrored disco ball that someone had left. This would seem anathema to a farming man who, despite finding fame late in life through his good deeds, nevertheless was buried at his father's feet in the family plot. Less than 4 years after the musicians left the stage at Woodstock Max had a heart attack and died. The legendary festival ensures that his name lives on.



As I daydream about what our MAYAPOLOOZA Eclipse Festival could be I am inspired by the enduring legacy of Woodstock and the idea that a gathering of happy people can change the world. To dance beneath the Milky Way stars on the grassy slopes of a volcano while the eclipsed sun sets into the ocean within view of a majestic ancient monument intended to witness the party. What wonders are within our reach? Our joyous exultations will be a fitting swan song for the end of the Mayan Great Cycle.



# Lollapalooza

31 de Marzo  
Chile 2012



LOLLAPALOOZA Chile took place March 31-April 1. Looks like they had fun!

