Excerpt:

In the Summer of 2008 thanks to a Faculty Development Grant from Otis College of Art and Design, I was able to begin research on the African roots of Mexican culture. My working hypothesis was very straightforward: since the African culture in Mexico has been ignored by the "official" culture (with some notable exceptions), my research will focus on the folk traces that could be found between the two major colonial ports of the Viceroyalty of the New Spain: Acapulco on the west and Veracruz in the east. Since slave labor was likely to be used to move cargo, these two ports and the cities along the route that united them must contain examples of African retentions, continuities, and transformations. This is a report on the first part of this journey of discovery.

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Liberal Arts and Sciences

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