

Mwai. October 1996 | Clovis de Arienza

“It is a Mwai mask of communion with the spirits – explains Ralf...

... it belongs to Kanguigara’s people, in Aguas Negras lake, in Sepik river.

(...) Each mask has its meaning; they’re not decorations...”

Papua New Guinea, on the banks of the Sepik river. In a wild and primitive environment among mangroves, woods and water filled with water-lilies and lichens, Juan’s travel takes place. He’s a Spanish man, an adventurer “seeking freedom for his past from the future”. The up-the-river journey is the premise to “travel to be aware”. This little Juan’s expedition represents a way to discover and get to know a very different land and culture, more than being a personal and formative exercise. The protagonist will be challenged by an exotic place, a scorching heat, indigenous people with fascinating spiritual beliefs and curious hobbies, but also their fears and unawareness. The reader will feel to be going along the river with Juan among masks, decors, traditions and ancient languages... there is only the river, its banks, the woods around it and its fulfilling mysteries.

Clovis de Arienza was born in 1953 and, after receiving a Prussian education, he has dedicated a great part of his life to travels, writing, and to reduce the abstract art to its minimum. This is his first literary work and the result of one adventure of his. To be continued...

“The world I used to know doesn’t exist anymore”

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