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Humanities Guåhan Presents:

Reimagining Guåhan with Meta: A Homecoming Tour
Poetry • Workshops • Readings • Performance
July 10-14, 2023

Hagåtña, Guam—Humanities Guåhan is proud to present the upcoming event *Reimagining Guåhan with Meta: A Homecoming Tour*. The weeklong tour featuring renowned Filipino rapper, poet, speaker, and educator Meta Sarmiento is set to run from July 10 through to July 14. The tour will include a series of dynamic writing and poetry workshops, a community conversation event at the Hyatt Regency Guam on Tuesday, July 11, and a public performance at the UOG Fine Arts Theatre on Thursday, July 13.

Born and raised in Guam and currently residing in Denver, CO, Meta has a unique connection to the island, with his work delving into profound themes such as cultural and political identity, climate change, masculinity, and love. He is well-versed as a facilitator and has worked with and taught over 20,000 students from culturally and socio-economically diverse backgrounds on a local and international scale. As a rapper, Meta has performed on stages in the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Indonesia and France, with lyrics exploring themes from friendships and grief to his past experiences.

A Homecoming Tour is an integral part of Humanities Guåhan's ongoing project, *Reimagining Guåhan: Social Justice through a Humanities Lens*, an initiative that aims to foster civic engagement within our island community through critical conversations with various ethnic and cultural groups, and in different languages. Through these conversations, participants are invited to partake in an inclusive and welcoming space

where they can critically think and discuss the values and choices that shape us as a community. These dialogues are often sparked by a discussion of an existing object or text—an essay, poem, chant, play, or film. We are particularly excited to feature Meta’s multimedia work to ignite discussions, inspire our community, and empower positive change.

Civic reflection conversations serve as an illuminating platform to address pivotal questions using the humanities as a powerful lens. Through the tour, we will explore crucial issues pertinent to our island, including migration and belonging, cultural resilience and identity, decolonization and self-determination, environmental sustainability in the face of climate change, LGBTQ experiences, and increased militarization. We hope to aid participants in expressing these themes through poetry, essays, chants, personal narratives, films, and other creative forms of expression.

Humanities Guåhan invites our community to join us on the *Reimagining Guåhan with Meta: A Homecoming Tour*, a transformative experience that celebrates self-reflection, storytelling, exploration and creating meaningful social change. Sign-up for tickets and view the tour schedule through the Eventbrite links below.

Eventbrite links:

An Evening with Meta

June 11 | 6PM

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/660814693537>

Homecoming - A Public Performance by Meta

June 13 | 7PM

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/660820480847>

The *Reimagining Guåhan with Meta: A Homecoming Tour* is made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, A More Perfect Union Initiative, with sponsorship from the Hyatt Regency Guam and Hertz Rental Car and a partnership with the University of Guam College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Fine Arts Theater, as well as with our other wonderful community partners.

About Humanities Guåhan:

Humanities Guåhan is a nonprofit organization that provides foundational support and educational programs for the people of Guam. The mission of Humanities Guåhan is to foster community of engagement and dialogue, inspire critical thinking, celebrate diversity and enrich the quality of life of island residents through the power of the

humanities. For more information, please visit www.humanitiesguahan.org or follow us on Instagram [@humanitiesguahan](https://www.instagram.com/humanitiesguahan) for updates.

Contact us:

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Further reading:

Tie Your Shoes Kid, Meta Sarmiento (Lulu Publishing, 2019)

Meta's website: <https://www.reachmeta.com/>

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