

The Heard Guild Presents

# The Miracle of Mata Ortiz



Feb. 5-8, 2016



Join the Heard Guild on a journey to visit the high plateau of northern Chihuahua, Mexico on a tour to Mata Ortiz. Our focus of this tour is the amazing pottery produced by very talented artists in the region, highlighting the inspiration born out of the curiosity and diligence of artist, Juan Quezada.

Not far from Juan's home is a vast archeological complex known as Paquimé. From the 13-15th century, Paquimé played a key role in trade and cultural contacts between the Pueblo culture of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico and the more advanced civilizations of Mesoamerica.

Combing the hills as a boy, Juan frequently made discoveries of fantastic highly decorated, utilitarian Paquimé pottery. Juan's interest to recreate this fine earthenware, spurred the explosion of an artistic and economic phenomena in a very short time.

We'll spend two nights in the quaint village of Mata Ortiz and meet with many of the finest potters in the region. We'll meet Juan and his charming family with a special invitation to their home to hear Juan share his life's journey. You'll get a chance to test your decorating ability and see pots in various parts of the process, culminating with the exciting results of a live firing. We'll spend time with Spencer and Emi MacCallum. It was Spencer that "discovered" Juan's pots in a New Mexico curio store then journeyed to Mata Ortiz to find the young man. The rest....is now history.

In Paquime', we'll explore the vast ruins and world class interpretive museum which is the largest archaeological zone that represents the peoples and cultures of the Chihuahua Desert. Development took place in the years 700-1475 AD and reached its apogee in the 14th and 15th centuries. The extensive remains, only part of which have been excavated, are clear evidence of the vitality of a culture which was perfectly adapted to its physical and economic environment.



In addition, we'll meet and spend time with incredible young artists in their homes and workshops. Tour and lunch at the Hacienda San Diego, one of land and cattle baron, Luis Terrazas' vast rancherías. Enjoy the wonderful cuisine of northern Chihuahua... Highlighted with an amazing dinner at Belgian Chef Phillipe Gentge's, Malmedy Restaurant.

*It will be an amazing four day experience for us in a fascinating region of the world.*

**This is a fully inclusive tour   Limited Participation**  
**Call or email South of the Border Tours with any questions.**  
**520-760-4000   [southofthebordertours@msn.com](mailto:southofthebordertours@msn.com)**