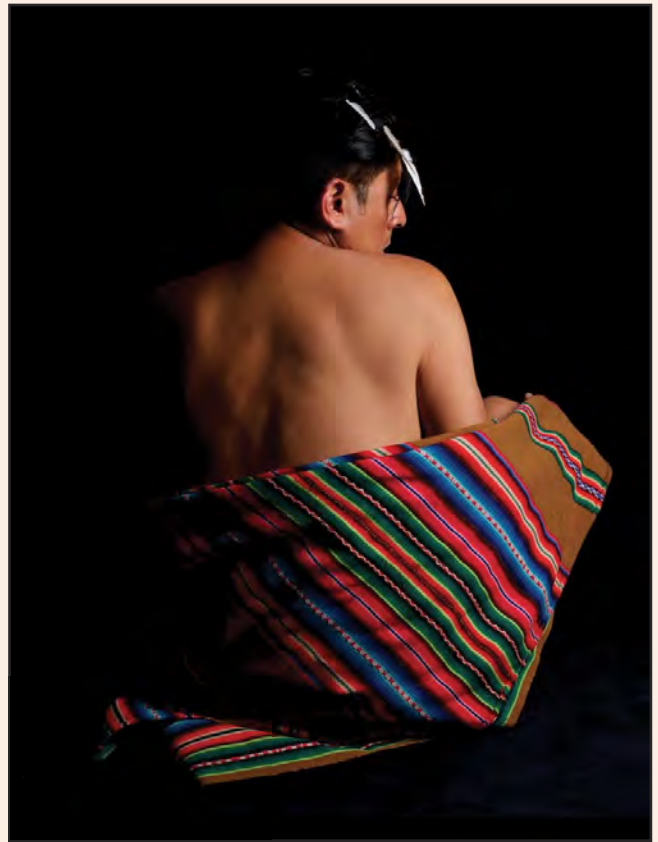




**Nganasan Shamanism in Northern Siberia : pages 6-15**



**Ritual Homosexuality in Inca Traditions : pages 26-33**

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**PUBLISHING POLICY:**

SACRED HOOP seeks to network those wanting to learn the spiritual teachings of indigenous peoples as a living path of knowledge. Our contents cover the integration of both old and new ways, and insights that contribute to a balanced and sustainable lifestyle in today's world.

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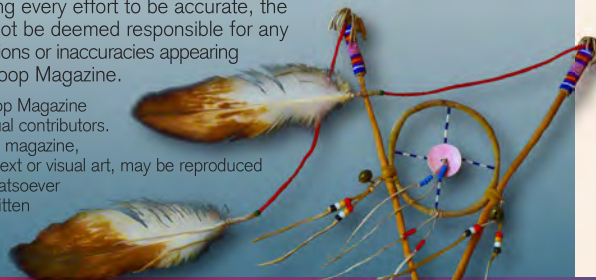
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### From the Editor



Welcome to this 122<sup>nd</sup> issue of the magazine. I hope you enjoy the read.

We have some articles from a wide range of cultures and traditions in this issue, including two I have wanted to include for many years, the Nganasan people from Northern Siberia, and the Mosuo people from Southwest China. Both of these cultures I hope to feature again at some point, although I've been waiting for thirty years to include them as it is, so I won't hold my breath too firmly.

Sacred Hoop generally has themes emerge in the articles, which I never plan - although occasionally 'nudge' when a theme is developing but seeking another article that fits in with it to amplify the theme. But this time I am struggling to see an obvious theme, except perhaps the theme of immense diversity.

We have articles about cultures in so many locations, from the mountains of Southern China, to the green hills of Ireland, to the tundra of the far north and the Andes mountains of South America. Diversity in other ways too, as we have a wonderful article about ritual gay sex in Inca traditions. Sacred traditions are many and varied.

And, reading what I've just written, perhaps that is the theme of the issue, diversity and coming together to celebrate it, as the penultimate article is about a council of elders from different traditions across the world, who recently met in Chile.

But then, that is what Faith Nolton and I aimed to do - over thirty years ago now - when we started Sacred Hoop Magazine, and, struggling for a name for it, hit upon the vision of Nicholas Black Elk, which you can read to the left of this editorial.. 'Children of one Mother and one Father, and I saw that it was holy'

Blessings to all Beings  
Nicholas Breeze Wood

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THE FOUNDING INSPIRATION FOR SACRED HOOP MAGAZINE IN 1993  
*"Then I was standing on the highest mountain of them all, and around and about me was the whole hoop of the world.. I was seeing in a sacred manner the shapes of all things in the spirit and the shapes of all shapes as they must live together like one being. And I saw that the Sacred Hoop of my people was one of many hoops that made one circle, wide as daylight and as starlight and in the centre grew one almighty flowering tree to shelter all the children of one Mother and one Father, and I saw that it was holy."*  
(From the vision of Nicholas Black Elk Lakota Holy Man: 1863 - 1950)