

PLAN COLOMBIA, OIL AND THE WAR ON “NARCOTERROR”: LOCAL PERSPECTIVES AND ALTERNATIVE VISIONS FROM PUTUMAYO, COLOMBIA

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Baobab Lounge, Merrill College
University of California, Santa Cruz



Yu'çta Musse is an indigenous leader and interlocutor for the Nasa people of Colombia, in particular the indigenous reservation of Puerto Vega-Teteyé in the department of Putumayo and ACSOMAYO—The Peasant Association of Southwestern Putumayo. Putumayo is one of the region's most affected by U.S. funded Plan Colombia antinarcotics and antiterrorist policies and has been the target of intense aerial fumigation campaigns, militarization, guerrilla violence and paramilitarization, as well as the invasive practices of multinational oil companies and megaprojects that threaten the sovereignty, health, and sustainability of its human and non-human populations. Yu'çta joins us with the intention of sharing the realities of the indigenous and peasant communities living in southwestern Putumayo and the direct impacts that U.S. foreign policy and the multinational oil industry has had on the region since 2000. He will also share with us the alternative visions and projects that local communities are developing in defense of life, territory and the environment amidst the humanitarian crisis that Plan Colombia has and continues to generate.

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