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MAYAN SHAMAN VISITS BUTLER UNIVERSITY

INDIANAPOLIS – Martin Prechtel, Mayan Shaman and author, will speak at Butler University as part of the Visiting Writers Series on Thursday, March 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the Robertson Hall Johnson Room.

In *Secrets of the Talking Jaguar*, Prechtel tells true tales of a traditional Mayan community of Santiago Atitlan in Guatemala, "A clannish ... spiritual people ... who have always craftily guarded from outsiders all that they are and all that they know."

In a rare insider's view of Mayan spirituality and philosophy, Prechtel shows readers all that he knows of the 800-year-old culture, of which he was once a member. Raised on an Indian reservation in New Mexico, Prechtel later moved to Santiago Atitlan, where a powerful, ancient shaman adopted him as an apprentice. He married a Mayan woman and soon became village chief.

Now, back in the states, Prechtel works as a public speaker, artist, healer and writer, bringing to life for Americans the complexity and joy of contemporary Mayan village life. Prechtel lives in Santa Fe, N.M.

The Visiting Writers Series is an affiliate of the Academy of American Poets with support from the Vivian Delbrook Fund, NEH Ayres Fund, J. James Woods Distinguished Lecturers in the Sciences Fund, The Writers' Center of Indianapolis and the Butler University Bookstore. For more information, call 317/940-9861.