



from

**Beautiful Painted Arrow  
Seeds of Peace newsletter  
Issue 5 December 2016**

***Sun Moon Dance – Johannesburg, South Africa, 2016***

**recalled by Andrew Macdonald**

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2016, Elba and Fritz Duminy hosted the first Sun Moon Dance on their land and adjacent to their Peace Chamber, Wind Walker, at Simunye, Ngothando, Midrand, Gauteng, South Africa.



Giving birth is a daunting but wonderful experience and this could be applied to this Dance in South Africa. Not only covering new territory for Joseph's Dances, but also new leaders, new dancers, new dogs and many new experiences. The real challenge was the chief organizer Fritz's health, despite his very serious internal illness at the time of the Dance, and having suffered considerable back problems previously over many months running up to the Dance, which included surgery, he battled on, made everybody welcome and looked after the many details that such an event requires. It seemed that the Dance reflected his suffering, trying to absorb it and relieve him in some way, as many of the Dancers faced tremendous challenges to overcome the discomfort of their bodies, as clearly Fritz was doing. With such a backdrop this Dance, with its extra ordinary mixture of cultures, races, colors and beliefs, shone like a star in South Africa; an example of what can be achieved though sacrifice and dedication, as has been taught to us all by Beautiful Painted Arrow.



The weather was hot and dry but cool at night, all beneficial for the Dancers and Crew. The pattern, led by Sammye-Jo Harvey from the US, followed the traditional path of the Sun Moon Dance. Sammye-Jo was amply supported by co-chief Nick Hurn from England and the dedicated Moon Mothers. The Brazilian drummers were very well supported by two South African's representatives who added greatly to the overall energy of the Dance. Elba also managed to give her energy and love to the Dance, despite Fritz's problems.

*(Above: Sammye Jo - Chief (right) and Felicity (left) one of the Moon Mothers)*

The African flavor of the Dance was apparent and enriched with the direct support of the head of their Zulu Sangoma lineage, Gogo Nomzimani. Gogo means Grandmother.

Rutendo (*picture on right*) from the same path was one of the drummers. It was such a privilege to have them both at the Dance, as well as other supporters both local and international.

Next year when Fritz is fully recovered it is hoped that the community in South Africa, as well as representatives from other Sound Chambers all over the world, will be able to attend and support this magnificent effort.

