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The pre-Hispanic Mixtec people of Mexico recorded political and religious history, including the biographies and genealogies of their rulers, in pictograms on hand-painted, screen-fold manuscripts known as codices. Functioning rather like movie production storyboards, the codices served as outlines of oral traditions to stimulate the memories of bards who knew the complete narratives, which were sung, danced, and performed at elite functions. Centuries later we have limited access to those original performances, and all that remains for our codex interpretation is what is painted on the pages—perhaps five to ten percent of their memory-encoded information.

Continuing the pioneering interpretation he began in *Lord Eight Wind of Suchixtlan and the Heroes of Ancient Oaxaca*, Robert Lloyd Williams offers an authoritative guide to the entire contents of the codex in *The Complete Codex Zouche-Nuttall*. Although the reverse document (pages 42-84) has been described in previous literature, the obverse document (pages 1-41) has not been, and it has remained elusive as to narrative. *The Complete Codex Zouche-Nuttall* elucidates the three sections of the codex, defines them as to function and content, and provides interpretive and descriptive essays about the Native American history the codex recorded prior to the arrival of Europeans in Mexico and the New World generally. With a full-color reproduction of the entire Codex Zouche-Nuttall and Williams's expert guidance in unlocking its narrative strategies and structures, *The Complete Codex Zouche-Nuttall* opens an essential window into the Mixtec social and political cosmos.

- See more at: <http://utpress.utexas.edu/index.php/books/wilcod#sthash.NyMCPbnN.dpuf>