

~~A Taste of Haiti~~

On November 26, 2019, the Embassy of the Republic of Haiti to the Republic of China (Taiwan) represented by H.E. Rachel Coupaud co-hosted with the Welcome to Taipei International Club (WTIC) a “Tastes of Haiti” luncheon at the Shangri-La Hotel in Taipei.

The Ambassador was honored to present to the 80 members of the WTIC a glimpse of Haiti’s rich and complex culture which is expressed through its food, its music and its art.

The luncheon and the cooking demonstration were animated by Chef Jean Sambour, a well known Haitian chef; Jean was born in the south of France in 1987; he lived in Monaco and in South America, before returning to his beloved Haiti. He did his Hospitality and Culinary studies in Montreux, Switzerland and was then trained in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, which eventually led him to the opening of his acclaimed restaurant Le Vert d’Or in Kenscoff, Haiti.

Chef Sambour demonstrated the famous “Melting Cod Sphere “ at the luncheon and explained to the audience Haiti’s food origins which is mostly “Creole”: a magical blend of African origins, Spanish influences mixed with indigenous ingredients from the mountains and sea of the island, all of it perfected by a distinct French sophistication.

The event was also animated by different musical and dancing performances by Haitian students living in Taiwan; a couple of members of the audience were brave enough to get on stage and learn a couple of moves.

Together with the dishes, music and dance, the participants were able to taste and enjoy cocktails made of “Choublake Liquor” and Haitian rum. They were also given the opportunity to try Haitian “Carnaval” masks and costumes, took pictures in a reproduction of the typical Haitian transportation vehicle called “Tap Taps”, brightly colored vehicles decorated with ornaments and completely covered with Haitian proverbs and drawings representing everyday life situations.

As a souvenir of the luncheon, each participant was offered a bag of Haitian Coffee “Rebo” and a coffee cup painted by the Haitian artist “Hernza”.

The Embassy is honored to have been given the opportunity to present the Haitian culture to such an amazing group of guests from the Welcome to Taipei International Club (WTIC).

The Embassy wishes to express its appreciation to the Hotel Sangri la, to Chef Sambaour, to the Haitian students and specially to all those who, by presence, their enthusiasm and their active participation, made this event a moment of sharing filled with laughter, music, dancing and sharing.

By Embassy of Haiti