### An Orisha Over Me

Santeria In The Digital Age By William Scudere

#### Boveda

 A Boveda is an Afro-Caribbean Altar meant to honor a person's Ancestors or their Eggun.

 It is thought that a Boveda can be used to direct the energies of house spirits towards certain goals.

### Symbology of The Boveda

The center cup is a represents the divine energy and surrounding cups serve as offerings to the house spirits.

• The Candle's flame represents the divine spark.

The Water represents the water of life which flows through all things.



### What is Santeria?

Santeria is the Blanket name for numerous Afro-Cuban Religions.

- Lukumi is the worship of the Orisha and the Eggun.
- Santerismo is a European based sect interested in spiritism

# Why is this Community a closed community?

• Importance of initiation.

Stereotypes

History of Persecution

#### Research Methods

- Research through literature and digital media
- Watching internet forums
- Creating lines of communication with members of online Santeria Community through forums, private messages and email
- Applying knowledge learned from members of this online community to create the Boveda.

# Importance of Experiential Cultural Anthropology

Can allow limited access to closed communities

Allows for a working knowledge of theoretical concepts.

Helps open roads to understanding different cultures and different people.

## Sacred or Sacrilege

