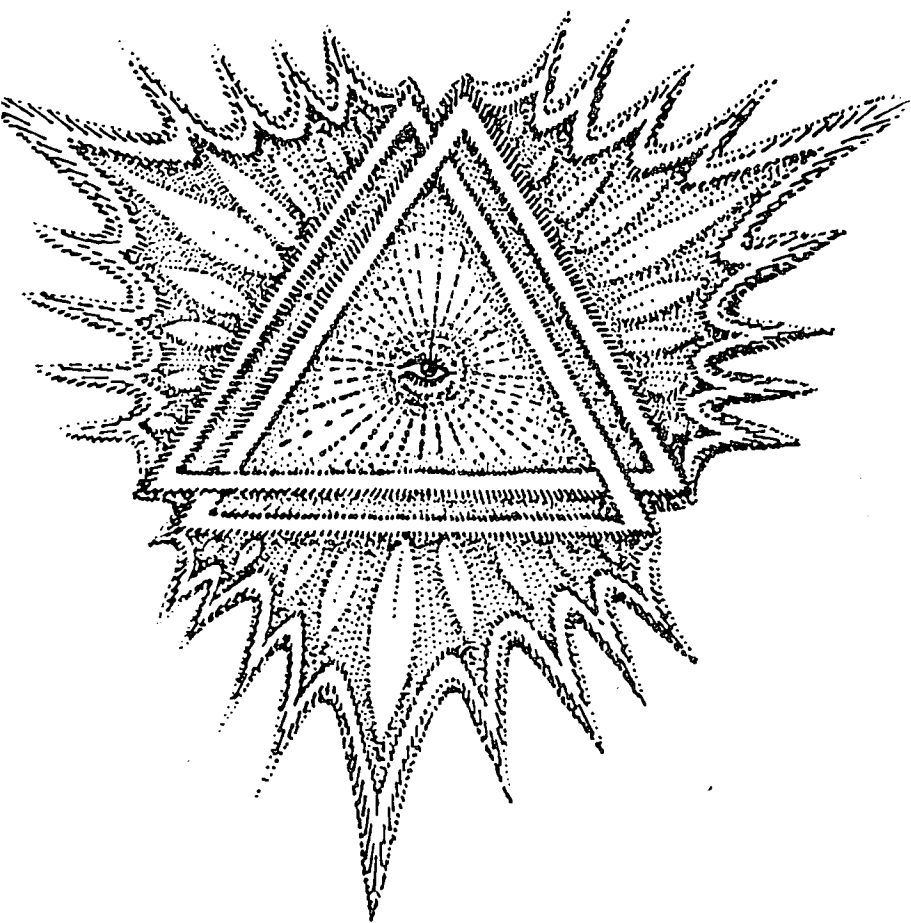


PSYCHOZOIC PRESS

summer 1984

no. 8



Information & Communication
change Paper on Psychedelics

The Psychozoic Press

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NULLA RES SPIRITUALIS DESCENDIT SINE INDUMENTO

The science of MANTRA involves the belief that the shape, style and sound of certain words can influence events and call forth deep archetypal and spiritual forces. A hidden knowledge of timing is involved; as planting a seed out of season will bear little fruit. The formula reproduced here has turned up in places as far apart as Pompeii, Hadrians' Wall in Northern England and on Coptic papyri discovered in Egypt. In Asia Minor it was identified on a bronze charm dating back to the 4th or 5th Century AD, in Austria on a 16th Century coin and in France



on a Bible pendant in The Abbey of St. Germain de Pres. The formula has been translated in a variety of loose ways. SATOR seems to mean "a sower" or "to sow seeds"; AREPO may come from arepo (I creep to) and refers to a plow; TENET means "a belief"; OPERA means "a service, or work", and ROTAS refers to circles or a wheel. From this I might roughly translate this sentence as "Through this work, beliefs may be parted so that creative ideas can be planted".

-----Thomas iglle, 1984

LINEA VIRIDIS GYRAT UNIVERSA AMEN

Today, with so much communications technology available to us, why is disinformation about psychedelics so common? Lamentably, the average man on the street, most of the news media and the established scientific community still find themselves victims of this perplexing quandrum. The media - out of beat with the pulsing psychedelic black-market - stand unable to grasp and label anything substantial or sellable about hallucinogens. Studying psychedelics from across the table, modern science sits absorbed but unable to capture and control the spiritual lens that is necessary for unlocking the potentials and latent deeper meanings surrounding these elixers. In this light, the following is excerpted from Swamihi Satyananda's Tantra of Kundalini Yoga published by the Bihar School of Yoga, Monghyr, India 1973.

'The fourth method of awakening according to yoga is through herbs. In Sanskrit the word is AUSHADHI but it should not mean drugs. Through herbs either the partial or the fuller awakening can be brought about. Either the

awakening of IDA or PINGALA or awakening of SUSHUMNA which means the entire total awakening can be brought about. That is known as AUSHADHI but it is also said that the herbs which should be used to awaken this potentiality, or this life in man should be understood or should be got only through the GURU, not without the GURU. Because there are certain herbs that awaken IDA and there are others that can awaken PINGALA only; and there are others that can even suppress both of these functions so that you can go to the mental asylum very quickly! So the question of AUSHADHI or the herbal awakening is very risky, quick but unreliable method. It should only be got from one who is a very reliable person and who knows the science very well'.

--- 'Wu' Albus

DOUBLE-SPACED QUESTION REMARKS:
A BRIEF CHAT WITH ELVIN D. SMITH

by Didymos

When I 1st ordered a copy of the Psychozoic Press it was to supplement my growing library on the subjects of altered-states and psychedelics. I really didn't know just what to expect..... I figured anyone creating a forum for this controversial & often illegal subject must be nuts for calling attention to themself. The times are just too strange and the ordeals for free-thinking just too harsh these days.

I'm pretty careful about these things. I believe that psychedelics could become the next pornography unless sincere, honest & intelligent folks set the truth & the facts about this subject for everyone to see.

The Psychozoic Press passed this test hands down. In fact, it took my scrutiny and critical faculties & turned them into support & contribution.... I guess I'm not alone. In the past few months, Ken Kesey, Stan Krippner, Tim Leary, Peter Stafford, Terence McKenna and others have also taken

the time to compliment the Psychozoic Press. Something's going on here and its going in the right direction.

I decided to talk to the creator & get some kind of perspective on the purpose and reasons that give this unusual communique its' appeal.

Also, rather than it just being 'a communication exchange', I wanted the author Elvin Smith to take part in a communication sharing. Put your ear to the ground and listen.....

Q: Obviously you have had some spiritual experiences and quickenings with psychedelics. Would you comment on the usefulness & drawbacks you've discovered from this controversial spiritual path?

ELVIN: Well, sure! You know, I've tried to talk to people about the ideas I've come up with in regards to the psychedelic experience. It usually ends up with them saying: 'Elvin, what the hell are you talking about?! My 1st use of psychedelics were grand .. I started using them every week-end, etc. and things seemed to be cruising along beautifully!

After a few years I realized that I couldn't maintain that level of use without being more productive about what was coming down in my mind. This is one drawback to the psychedelic spiritual path. There is so much in even a single psychedelic session. After it's finished, a person has to take inventory about just what it is that he got out of the whole thing. Otherwise, it's just sort of a 'cerebral masturbation! You should come back with something that people can relate to.... I've learned this over the space of a few years, so I try to pass it on.

The advantage of this spiritual path is that it helped me integrate questions that I had about my relationship to society.

AFTER, A PERSON HAS TO TAKE INVENTORY.
OTHERWISE, IT'S CEREBRAL MASTURBATION!

In grade-school I used to have to practise air-raid & atomic bomb drills. These things affect kids' perspectives as they grow. Vague fears and a sense of impermanence enlarge with you.

Psychedelics gave me a way to deal with this. The way, of course, is just to forget it! In light of the psychedelic experience, things like this are just trivial! There are more important things. It's like watching your fingernails grow or waiting for an earthquake....you just can't spend the time.

Q: Do you have a wife & kids? Do you think that one can support the average middle-American lifestyle & still maintain a developed psychedelic perspective?

ELVIN: Well sure, I've got a wife & 2 kids. I have a good job that I like a lot. I work with lumber & often the beauty of these different woods spark my creative, psychedelic side. I can use all this and make useful things for my home & family. Sometimes working the Psychozoic Press does encroach on my personal family life, but I've got my priorities in order.....Without my job I just couldn't run the Psychozoic Press or maintain my household. Working '9 to 5', as you say, the PP and occasional psychedelia are all more mutually beneficial than impositions to me.

Q: Although well written & intelligent, most of the articles in the PP are donations or barter. Since, for a lot of other things you have to spend \$ to make things go, how does the PP make ends meet \$-wise?

ELVIN: It doesn't, that's what it amounts to! The difference in costs are financed from my own savings...which are getting pretty depleted. If I could get it to the point of covering production costs, materials, etc. I could keep it going just out of my own interests! Right now, I'd be happy just to break even. I'm looking forward to that in the future.

Q: Aren't you afraid of getting harassed or arrested or indirectly involving your readers in this type of quandrum?

ELVIN: Well no, not really. I tend to play my hand very low-key, for one thing. The only people who are interested in what I'm doing are people who would be interested whether they were reading my works or not. I take ordinary precautions with my own consumption. I've never been in the dealing market - well, I have a little bit but it's never been for the money.

Q: I noticed that with issue #6 you placed a small notice about readers not asking for info connected with buying & selling illegal substances. Has the Psychozoic Press been pestered by out-of-luck drug customers much?

ELVIN: The other day I got a rambling letter from somebody about all this. His writing sounded grandiose & after about 4 pages he ended up saying: 'Now I know you guys have mushrooms over there.... why don't you just send some mushrooms or some acid or something'? I wrote him a note back & said 'welllll, I never keep more than I can use for myself, and I'm not in the dealing business. I've had a few requests on that. If somebody asks me to send him 6 hits of acid for \$20 I tell him to go fly a kite! Sometimes people offer a barter or other services in exchange for this or that. It's a pain in the butt & I don't want to get into it. I don't mind so much getting requests for materials that are legal, even though I'm not in that business either.

I THINK PEOPLE PUT TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON
THE SUBSTANCE INSTEAD OF THE EXPERIENCE

I think that people put too much emphasis on the substance itself instead of the experience. I guess all these problems will grow with the circulation of the Psychozoic Press.

Q: In a more spiritual vein, what is the advantage of seeking out groups like the Native American or Peyote Way churches that you spoke of in issue #6? Don't you agree that the really important, substantial results that come from using psychedelics are independent of who, what, when and where & more dependent on Gods' grace, quantum physics effects & DNA?

ELVIN: ! Sure..sure! I'm not endorsing any particular church or organization. I think that it's very valuable to train yourself in independence. What I'm actually doing here is information gathering. The 'spirit-walk' idea that the Peyote Way was using corresponded to ideas that I had already been into. This is going off into some isolated place and taking your trips. You know, there are things that lay in the back of your mind; your spirit's background and your particular DNA that create your 'set'. This 'set' has lots to do

with how you have your psychedelic experience. Nevertheless, you shouldn't place yourself on a pinnacle above everything around you..... you shouldn't become so aloof. Empathy is another strong experience that comes out of the psychedelic reaction. We're all into exploring this strange new land together. I don't think we should neglect other peoples' reports. However, you have to keep the eye of scrutiny. We could go on & on here....

Q: Where is the Psychozoic Press headed? What do you envision as its' general purpose and eventual direction? It's obviously long past the point of being just a personal diary or experiment?

ELVIN: Well, my idea was to get some accurate information out about psychedelics. Some things that you read in traditional media magazines & newspapers... it's just ridiculous garbage..! There's publications that are way off, and as far as I'm concerned High Times is one of them now. I didn't read it for several years because it got too radical & ridiculous. We have a responsibility to separate wild-eyed, exotic tripping from accurate information and get it to people in a way that they can relate to.

Otherwise, it just doesn't mean anything. I look forward to the unfolding ages.... a time when man becomes consciously aware of his own spirit. That's where the word psychozoic comes from - the age of mind/spirit. One reason that there is such religious and political strife today is because the underlying fabric of the social structure isn't changing as fast as the communicative process. Psychedelics stabilized these 2 things in my life, and for some that is their use. I don't mean to imply that they should be used generally, however.

THE UNDERLYING FABRIC OF THE SOCIAL
STRUCTURE ISN'T CHANGING AS FAST AS
THE COMMUNICATIVE PROCESS.,,

As for the direction that the Psychozoic Press will be going; your guess is as good as mine.

Q: You know, I believe that a lot of the early pioneer psychedelic researchers could benefit from contributing to a forum like the Psychozoic Press. Testing each others' real feelings

about the subjects discussed in your magazine would seem to me to be a lot of fun & introduce everyone to some solid, intriguing ideas. How can we help the Psychozoic Press pull it off?

ELVIN: Well, the idea behind the PP is a communicative exchange forum. The more info we get, the more successful it will be. I don't think that we should emphasize the established researchers any more than the obscure 'little-man' here. Both need to be integrated in the PP in a way that everyone can make use of. I've had 15 years experience with psychedelics myself. I've gone on some wild trips and also some dead-end ones too. All this had been boiling in my mind like some corralled wild horse. I said to myself: 'it's your own fault if you don't do something about it'. So I wanted to get the PP going on an experimental track and get the message that 'nobody knows everything but everybody knows something' out to people. Maybe we can all do it together.... This idea has let me & the PP's readers have a meaningful dialogue with a lot of interesting people.

Q: Besides just having some fun & stretching some philosophical muscles, what

might be the result of a few serious, intelligent looks at psychedelics through your Press? As far as psychedelic know-how, are we going or getting anywhere? Is all this important in the long run, Elvin?

ELVIN: Well, one result that will be coming out is that the general public will be looking at psychedelics. Not just through my work but through other routes. This should unload a lot of mis-information that's been going around. The LSD/chromosome scare was a good example of this that inhibited a lot of research. The Manson scare is another example. There is going to be quite a 'new-wave' of chemicals coming in the next few years; things like MDMA, etc. A lot of these substances can be modified in their effects just by changing 1 or 2 of their molecular radical groups. There's going to be a lot of work for everybody, a lot of information sharing. I think that we should do what we can.

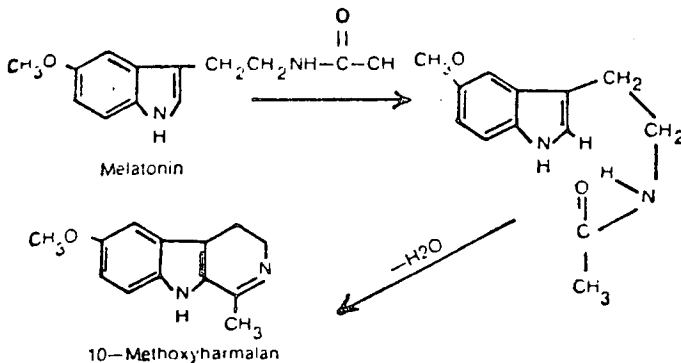
Q: What don't you like about the Psychozoic Press? What one question would

would you like to ask of me before we conclude things for here & now?

ELVIN: Well, one thing that I don't like is, again, doing all the trivial production details that make the PP go. I'd like to go on and develop other ideas and creative work. Questions to ask you or the readers....? Well, with your experience with various psychological states and aberrations, perhaps you have some suggestions as to what routes psychedelic experimentation and/or exploration should pursue? I'm hoping to start some initial research on harmala alkaloids and DMT this Summer. Since these materials would be a first time experience for me, perhaps you have some suggestions....?

Q: Yes, I do. Both of your questions can bear fruit by research into the pineal gland secretion melatonin. Melatonin can be cyclized into a 3 - ringed compound called 10-methoxyharmalan which is potently hallucinogenic (melatonin itself is not hallucinogenic). Melatonin is an indolic derivative of the neurotransmitter serotonin which is produced normally by your body.

To get you off on the right start, I would suggest that you contact Dr. Philip Lansky at the University of Pennsylvania. He's lectured extensively on the neurochemistry & physiology of consciousness. Also contact Dr. Erik Floor through M.I.T. or Harvard Medical School. His specialty is research into brain peptides, neurochemistry, psychophysiology and genetics which he has pursued at Harvard University. Below is a map to orient you, Elvin, should you need to make use of it.



Conversion of melatonin to 10-methoxyharmalan.



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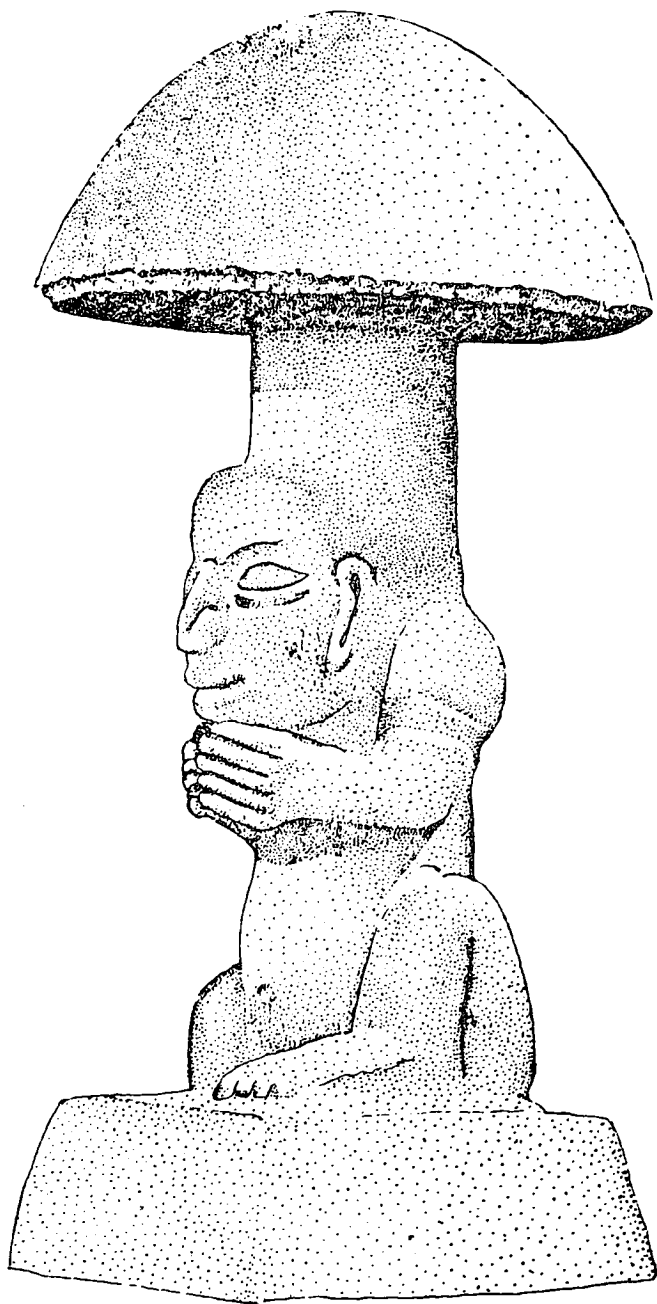
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The Sacred Mushroom
and
Freedom of Religion

When an ancient spiritual practice is maintained for many centuries, such has been the case with species of the Psilocybe mushroom, one cannot help but wonder if there may be some measure of validity to it. That the antiquity of the Sacred Mushroom cults have been academically proven is well known to large numbers of people even vaguely knowledgeable on the subject. Those who have searched the literature more thoroughly are familiar with a continuum of historical significance of the mushroom throughout the numerous ancient tribes of Mexico. I will not elaborate on the fair volume of well known data published by Wasson, Hiem, Hofmann, and others.

Let's assume for a moment that the mushrooms have no "real spiritual significance," (allowing for individual interpretation of that phrase!). How then have the spiritual practices survived to this day? The persecutions of the practice of mushroom spirituality after the Spanish conquest have been well documented through the ancient Spanish writings of Hernandez, Sahagun, and various priests, doctors, and cultural historians of that era.

In face of these difficulties, even in spite of them, the mushroom ceremony, in one form or another, survived. I can only conclude that the aforementioned assumption is false. I cannot believe



Mushroom stone of the Garcia Collection,
circa 300 A.D.

that a spiritual practice which has been maintained for close to two millenia, (possibly longer) has not caused some stirring of the inner strings of the very soul of those who engaged in such practices. The punitive legislation against the users of mushrooms today is trivial compared to those wrought by the Spanish Conquest.

The longevity of the mushroom cult by itself means little, but its survival under persecution, adaptability to evolving social constraints, and the highly personal nature of the experience leave no doubt that the magic mushroom does have a significance which drives a man to fight for what he believes right. That which a man believes is truly right, he believes it to be greater than himself. Thus what he believes is transcended to his descendants, to his friends and those about him. And if he truly is right, that chain of belief will be unbroken, generation after generation. The "Spirit of the Mushroom" which has survived the centuries not only lives today, but is growing like a healthy baby:

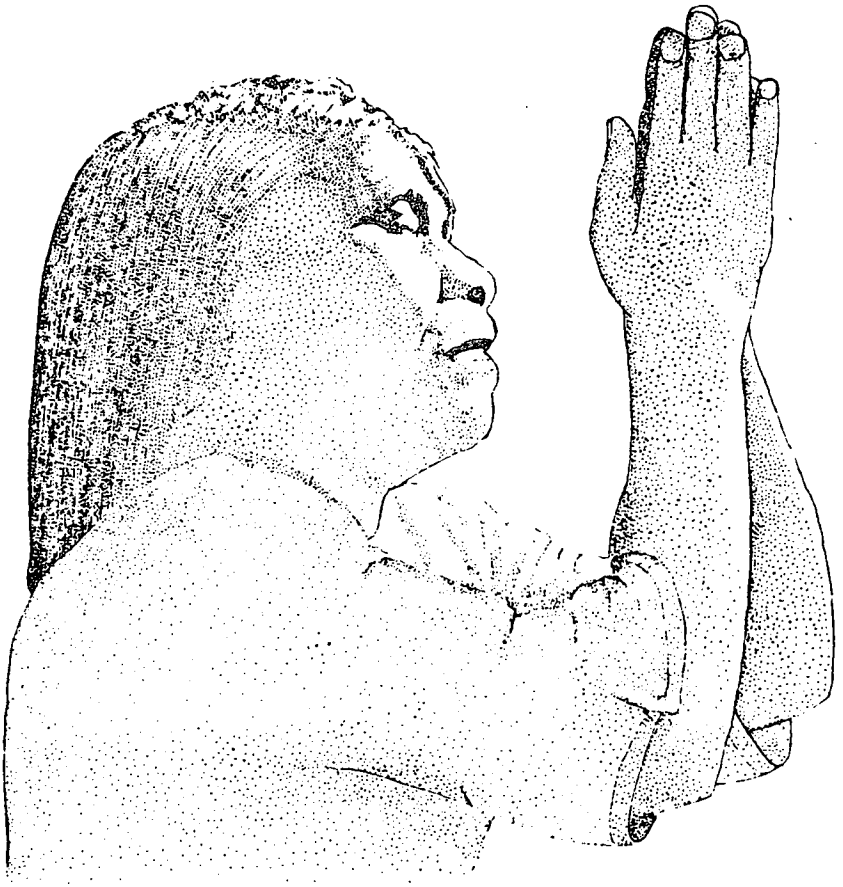
And the last link in the chain is the Mushroom Spirit as it is manifested in the consciousness of truth seekers today. Now, it is my responsibility to carry on this tradition. (I do not speak of tradition as a reference to a specific ritual, for there are rituals and modifications of rituals which have been made over the centuries.) The tradition I speak of is the tradition of seeking the ever-accelerating consciousness, the Higher Way, the Ultimate One in which I

am a part; for the sake of linguistic convenience, God. To carry on this tradition is indeed, much more than a responsibility, it is a privilege.

Maria Sabina, who in 1955 guided Wasson and Richardson through the first mushroom ceremony in which white men were allowed to participate, chose a crucial turning point for her religion. I cannot but feel a great respect and awe for the woman who had taken this courageous step. It was necessary for her to overcome the centuries of fearing oppression of the past, as well as the potential misunderstanding which would inevitably take place in the future. It was her courageous step, a step of faith, that brought forth the mushroom religion into the light of the world.

Although the Sacred Mushroom is again under oppression by the holders of law and power, I am a mite optimistic about the eventual recognition of the true nature of the experience. I am fortunate too, to be living in a time and place where the political powers, even if they oppose me, allow the freedom of expression to say what I believe and think. I have no qualms with those who choose not to believe as I believe, but when something speaks up to tell me I must not believe, it is time for me to exercise my freedom of expression all the more clearly.

To prosecute the possession of Sacred Mushrooms, is, in effect, to prosecute the belief in them. How can we justify allowing the law to persecute a religious practice established through cen-

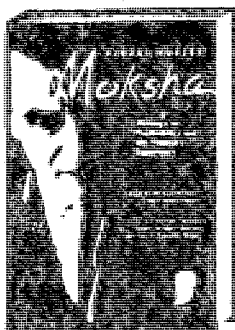


Maria Sabina, 1955

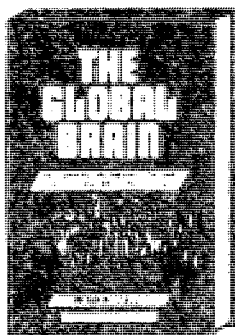
turies? To interpret the law to its fullest extent, we would have to conclude that its purpose is to bring extinction to the belief in the Sacred Mushroom. The current attempt to eradicate the mushroom cult will probably not be much more effective than the Spanish attempts four hundred years ago.

If the mushroom religion is driven underground again, it will again emerge at a distant time and place from within the heart of a true believer such as was Maria Sabina. On the other hand, if our judicial system can take that courageous step to uphold the right of individuals to harmlessly worship the Truth in which they believe, it will become a landmark of justice remembered for centuries to come. And the ancient mushroom stones of the Mayans will resound a clear resonance with the "Freedom of Religion" cornerstone of democratic government.

((Drawings on pages 21 and 24 reproduced from photographs in The Wondrous Mushroom by R. G. Wasson, 1980. Reproduced by permission of McGraw-Hill Co., publisher.))



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Poor Dot's Fiddle-Faddle
or
Getting the Most Sense
for Your Money

by Dot Saure

As an investigator of psycho-spiritual altered-states, I occasionally come across modern English translations of important foreign texts. One thing that I always do when I find an interesting quote, fact or description is to try to check the pedigree of the translation.

You know, in the Authorized Version of the New Testament the English word 'master' is used to translate 6 separate Greek words. The single word 'but' is used to represent 12 different Greek words; 'for' 18 Greek words & the word 'in' 9 Greek words!

The gist of all this is that translations are sometimes not handled as carefully as they might be. A mis-represented ancient or current work might accidentally confuse an otherwise innocent and well-meaning researcher.

Now don't get me wrong. I don't speak any foreign languages and I'm still

learning English! To make matters worse, I have absolutely no background in linguistic translation.

However, I believe that sometimes it pays to be wary and to be really serious about what you are doing even if you are acting with limited knowledge.

To emphasize this, the following quote is taken from a Harvard Botanical Museum Leaflet Vol. 20, #6. The author is Gordon Wasson and the paper is entitled: Notes on the Present State of Ololuhqui & Other Hallucinogens of Mexico:

"Others cite a number of similar words in Nahuatl that invoke splendour or illumination. May these words not be secondary, having been born of the splendour of the visions that Peyotl gives? For reasons that seem to have sprung from popular confusion, the English speaking population of the Southwest came to call the dried peyotl 'mescal-buttons'. Lewin, Mitchel & Ellis, by thier use of this term, fixed this grievous misnomer in the English language. Later, when the active agent

came to be isolated, the chemists called the alkaloid 'mescaline', thus compounding the mistake. 'Mescal' comes from the Spanish of Mexico mezcal, derived in its turn from Nahuatl mexcalli, the name of the agave/century - plant from which pulque is made, which when distilled yields mezcal. Mezcal has nothing to do with 'mescal-buttons' or 'mescaline'. This confusion is the lexicographers' nightmare, as can be seen in many English language dictionaries where erroneous citations are given under the respective meaning of the word".

Before we go on, let me make a short point about our modern usage of English. Many of the words that we commonly use in day-to-day English conversations have a colloquial or street meaning that often strays from the proper, standard definitions that we learned in grade-school.

A good example would be the word 'hussy'. Now, if you should call a respectable woman by this title you might get a quick slap as your just reward! If the poor girl had only looks to her nearest dictionary.... 'hussy' means a thrifty house wife, and nothing more.

English is also riddled throughout with unusual phrases which, if taken literally, would seem improper or confused. One common example is 'a bed of roses'. Another is 'to burn a candle at both ends'. Beyond the metaphoric, non-sensical surface of these phrases exist a more functional, common but arbitrary meaning that has been developed and is used by local communities and other specialized groups of people.

Anyhow, I believe that playful slang like this has existed in many different guises in almost all languages. Unfortunately, this is the type of thing that modern translators just can't seem to grasp or pin down very well. Slang expressions blossom, mature and change in time with current local life-styles. They are kept alive more through the common, spoken word than the formal, written.

So you see; I might just say: 'The poor hussy, it's been no bed of roses for her' and then go and have a New-Guinea tribesman translate this into his own tongue. In the process the whole original idea might get derailed and turned into something different than what I intended.

There is also another barrier which might often keep the serious researcher at odds with his subject.

This is 'psycho-babble'- lofty, often inaccessible jargon that modern psychiatry wraps around itself when it describes its methods & conclusions. Contrary to its' aim of more accurate information, psychiatry often diffuses its' own meanings by the use of this private language. This also forces the non-initiated researcher to skirt solid understanding instead of grabbing hold with a firm grip in the area of mind/drug research.

It is psychiatry, however, that has printed the major portion of literature on psychedelics and related topics. It is into psychiatry that any researcher must eventually grope to appreciate the range of in-print ideas about hallucinogens.

To bring this all down to Earth, let me give you an example of what I'm trying to get across here.

PSYCHIATRY OFTEN DIFFUSES ITS' OWN MEANINGS BY USING THIS PRIVATE LANGUAGE.....

When LSD, Personality & Experience author Harriet Barr quotes Rapaport we have this: 'Attention cathexis were considered economically as hypercathexis in a heirarchy of varying degrees of neutralization'.

I believe she is trying to talk about a persons' attention, or lack of, while in various states of mind. It's never made clear in common English, however.

Anyhow this kind of small talk can be spotted in a lot of medical & psychiatric research papers. Were 5 English professors to precisely define the above sentence the results would probably be both funny/ha-ha & funny/weird times 5.

Not every book on psychedelia suffers from 'psycho-babble'. In fact, there are a number of very well written, down-to-Earth works that I might recommend.

Just the same, if your freedom or commitment to an asylum depended on a New-Guinea tribesmans' translation of the above quote - and similar courtroom dramas do occur - you might think twice, or at least once more, about all this..,

Admittedly, I am stretching a situation and a point here, but just how much...?

Imagine talking about mind-expansion & psychedelics and including the normal speaking slang and the many commonly misunderstood words of English in your narrative. Now let the same tribesman translate all this for his great, great grandchildren to preserve. This type of impasse, or one quite similar, is what we might have to contend with when trying to understand the sparse, old-world literature on psychoactives and the Shamanic uses of hallucinogens.

It's hard enough talking to each other about these controversial subjects; trying to find common denominators & make some broader sense out of the very individual, subjective psychedelic experience.

Fixing clear, factual and intelligent information for future researchers of mind-expansion and psychedelics would seem to me to be an important concern.

For many, psychedelics have legally or illegally played a major religious role - quickening modern man's obscured spirit and soothing his often tangled emotions.

The ecstatic states of grace and the

higher, God-given visions and hallucinations are meant to be received solemnly in a sacramental way. If psychedelics are used properly in this wise way, the Lord's blessings, direction and will shall lead the worthy to mighty illuminations and eventual salvation.

Preserving the actual facts, the important substantial ideas and setting the truths about these psychedelic sacraments for all of us to see is one of my life goals.

Learning how our English language works; or can work - its' structure, contexts, sequences & patterns, pitfalls, history, abilities & potentials, etc. - is an important first step when dealing with the subject of mind-expansion and psychedelics.

I believe that precise, matter-of-fact English that will hold up over the long haul will guarantee less confusion for your offspring - and in a more domestic light - more sense for your money...!

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TERENCE MCKENNA INTERVIEW

(part 4)

McKenna: In an effort to utter what the thing is, and seeing that English is hopeless, you are abandoned to your deeper intuition, and out of that comes the glossolalia which then is actually able to 'lock' that modality and affect it or 'dance' with it; you wouldn't say 'control' it, but you can then enter the flow and go through these changes with it.

I think that the great failing of psychedelic reportage and research is that the content of the experience is not stressed. They say "you have vivid hallucinations". But what the hell is a "vivid hallucination"?

I think people should be questioned very, very carefully. This is the interesting part. What it does to your heartbeat and whether your sweat increases and all that may be interesting to pharmacologists, but how many of us are pharmacologists? Most of us live in the real world and what we want to know is what did it say to you about the real world and the nature of reality and how we should behave in the situation in which we find ourselves. That's what is most "obviously" important, and

(McKenna)

everybody's relationship to psychedelics is like that. They are into it for what it does for them; how it makes them understand being. But then when we rise to the level of scientific and psychological and clinical descriptions, all we hear about is heartbeat and whether the pupils are dilated, whether the reflexes were impaired.

Press: Is the psychedelic experience, then, going to be of paramount importance in the evolution of consciousness, or would these experiences be more appropriately regarded as accessory conveniences rather than essential elements? Just how important is the psychedelic experience?

McKenna: I think it's absolutely central. As I mentioned earlier, I think it not only causes us to become human beings, to emerge out of the primate substratum, but it is also driving us to move beyond being human beings. Speaking specifically of psilocybin, DMT, and ayahuasco, these are the hallucinogens which most closely resemble neurotransmitters. LSD does not occur in mammalian metabolism, it only occurs in morning-glories and ergot. Mescaline occurs in cacti, ketamine occurs in no organic situation. But DMT occurs endogenously in the brains of all mammals,

(McKenna)

including man. The B - carbolines occur endogenously in the brain of man. In fact, as you ascend the primate phylogeny, more and more occurs so that man has the greatest concentration. N, N-dimethyl-tryptamine is very closely related to serotonin, which is 5-hydroxy-tryptamine and is the major neurotransmitter that's driving the brain.

So I think it's possible to produce a state of mind roughly analogous to ayahuasca intoxication. All that is required is a one gene mutation.

So I think it's possible even to suggest that to produce a state of mind roughly analogous to ayahuasca intoxication, all that's required is a one gene mutation in the human genome. So my hint on what these tryptamine hallucinogens are is that they are literally anticipating future states of human evolution. This is the way the human mind is going to evolve. This is why, I think, there is such a persistent report that psilocybin hallucinations are science-fiction like and seem to present these, you know, super-glossy, machine-like, highly polished surfaces that you can see

into; I think that's an anticipation of cultural modalities. That's why, like science-fiction is an anticipation of the future, so is psilocybin. These things all come together. We are moving into those kinds of chemical brain states that will allow this kind of synesthesia - visible glossolalia that I talked about. It could be a voluntary activity of normal metabolism.

Press: It seems odd, then, that the eastern mystics haven't recognized this. Most of them are saying if there is any kind of drug involved, it's not a valid experience.

McKenna: Well, this is a special gripe of mine. I'm not impressed with priest craft. I think heirarchical religions are anti-progressive. This is why I have such respect for shamanism. What it chiefly is, is very idiosyncratic. What shamanism is, is experimental psychology carried out by people who are not like us. It is not a religion in the sense of a set of dogmas, it's more like a set of maps that are given to you and then you travel where you will.

I don't think that the yogic states approximate the tryptamine intoxication. In fact, part of what I'm trying to do with my career is point people to this and say look at this; this has been overlooked.

Psilocybin, which is the most often contacted of these tryptamine hallucinogens, has in the literature and the legal codes and all that, been treated as though it were like LSD. People say "LSD, Mescaline, psilocybin, etc." But psilocybin is totally different from anything else. It has a phenomenology that we need to look at very, very carefully. It raises all kinds of questions in areas where we have never before been able to do anything. It allows you the repeated phenomena of 'contacting an alien intelligence'. We can do this with psilocybin in the laboratory with naive subjects. So that's big news for experimental psychology. Even if the talking to aliens in the head is only a psychosis, it's still big news, that here is a compound that will repeatedly trigger it in a situation where you can study it.....

(Continued Next Issue)



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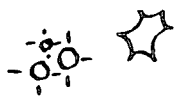
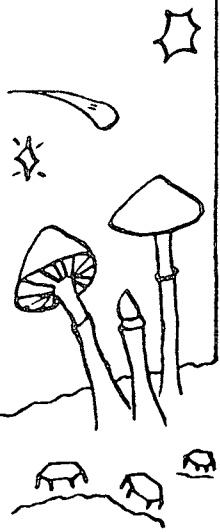
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Some Notes on Brain Chemistry,
Information Processing and the
Psychedelic Experience

by Thomas Lyttle

Throughout history, people who have experimented with mysticism, been labeled psychotic, genius or have ingested any of the stronger, major psychedelics seem to have at least one thing in common. This is a temporary, across-the-board reshuffling of the delicate natural chemistries contained within their own brains.

Often, people's experiences and behaviours in these areas overlap, interface or parallel each other. This has created quite a bit of confusion in the media and among even the most serious medical and religious researchers. Is LSD an artificial psychosis? How close is genius to insanity; and are either inheritable? Are mystical incidents dependent on a part of the brain? The consequences of this vagueness has resulted in plenty of accidents; for example a dangerous madman seen as a divinity, a harmless acid-tripper ending up in an asylum for getting too public or some

true holy saint being dismissed as a lunatic¹.

These areas are much like the classic shell game where things on the surface look much, too much alike.

Personally, I don't believe that the average spiritual seeker could tell the differences between some forms of insanity and higher spiritual states of grace. I'd also wager that the same would be true for the average psychiatrist and anthropologist. One reason that mystics, geniuses, psychotics and psychedelics do display such unusual behaviour is because they are occasionally freed from the normal chemical processes of the brain².

-
- 1) The Family by Ed Sanders just begins to scratch this uncomfortable surface. On the other ironic hand many 'madmen' have ended up as 'last-laugh' geniuses - see Galileo, Van-Gogh and Wilhelm Reich for examples.
 - 2) For a good neurochemistry/ mysticism theory read; Neurochemistry and the Awakening of Kundalini in J. Whites' Kundalini, Evolution and Enlightenment. This deals with the pineal gland secretion melatonin and its'

Again, let me repeat; for the average person it is often impossible to tell these four types of people apart because these four groups often think, feel and act in very similar ways.

One common denominator always precludes the various high, altered states these four types go into and out of. This is a chemical change in the top part of the brain stem called the substantia nigra³.

Through the center of this area run important nerve cells called midbrain raphe cells. The raphe cells help regulate various parts of the brain and interconnect with the body's 86 main nerves. These nerves, in turn, connect to different body parts. One of

2)(cont.) formation in the body into hallucinogenic 10-methoxyharmaline. On the chemistry of psychosis read: Neurotransmitter Receptors in the Brain by S. Snyder and J. Bennett, Ann. Review Physiol. 38:153, 1976. On the chemistry of genius and intelligence see: The Brain Changers: Scientists and the New Mind Control by Maya Pines, Signet 1973.

these parts is called the limbic system. This system controls personality, emotion, arousal and attention, rapid-eye movement and other unconscious, repetitive habits. The nerves of the substantia nigra also connect to the 12 pair of major brain nerves and through them to all the major glands⁴.

2) (cont.) The classic work on neurochemistry and psychedelics would be: LSD: A Total Study by Siva Sankar, PJD Pub. 1975.

3) While most of the brain cells are white or grey colored, the substantia nigra is very dark do to the pigmentation of dopamine, which is concentrated here.

4) For the price of a cheap scotch I was once told that by stimulating these 12 pair of nerves with various secret exercises one could slow aging, be immune to pain, increase IQ and have the strength of 10. After 3 more scotches my friend was mumbling about the 12 houses of astrology, contacting higher intelligence and genetic memory. I never could figure out whether my buddy was a mystic, genius, psychotic or psychedelic... Whichever of these he was, by God, he sure was a drunk one!

The way that the brain sends information to other body parts is with electric impulses. This is done by a secretion of various electrically conductive chemicals called neurotransmitters. The neurotransmitters act as temporary junctions between the nerve cells all over your body. In this way long chains of neural pathways can be built and then dissolved once the electronic message is completed.

The neurotransmitters are named dopamine, noradrenaline (also called norepinephrine), adrenaline, choline and serotonin. They exist wherever nerves exist. Some can speed nerve impulses up to 200 mph while others might restrict or slow the same impulses down to 2 mph. In combination the neurotransmitters achieve a balanced regulation of the whole communication process between nerves⁵.

When the neurotransmitters are altered due to mystical practises, the onset of psychosis or psychedelic drugs the result

5) This is a very simple explanation for a very complicated subject. Two good friends to have would be Tabers Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary by F. Davis Pub. 1978 and Grays Anatomy by Henry Gray, Running Press 1974.

is a 're-wiring' of the bodies' electrical system. The most obvious results of this are great changes in a persons behaviour, self-image and sometimes even his physical appearance, to a degree.

Another very interesting side-effect of neurotransmitter imbalance is religious vision and hallucination. While both have very different meanings thier effect on a persons' psycho-spiritual nature and world view are quite similar. Various studies have shown that by cross - referencing the content of illusion, hallucination and mystical vision a few common denominators seem to hold fast. These common denominators relate directly to the brain and the way that it organizes information with the aid of the neurotransmitters⁶.

-
- 6) Many quite interesting parallels could be drawn from reading Mescal and The Mechanism of Hallucination both by H. Kluver, Univ. of Chicago Press 1966. The massive Nature of Schizophrenia by Wynne, Cromwell and Matthyse, J. Wiley and Sons 1978 is also valuable. The Grofs' Beyond Death Thames & Hudson 1980 also ties a lot of this together with a cross-cultural perspective.

For instance, the form of the tunnel or alley appears constantly in mystical and near-death phenomena, psychosis and psychedelic hallucination. The overwhelming 'white-light' experience is also undergone by these different types of people as well as epileptics. Let us consider the spiral. In psychosis this manifests as circumlocutive speech. In psychedelia it is commonly visually perceived rotating in glowing 3-D colour. In mysticism it also has its place - see Gustav Dore with his 19th century painting 'Visions of Paradise' which shows thousands of spiralling angels ascending into heaven.

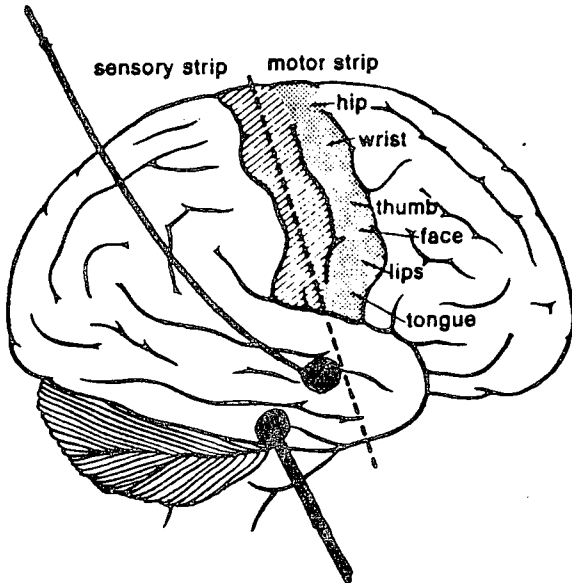
Another common feature is strong, repetitive feelings of 'deja-vu'. Deja-vu, or the feeling of having lived through something several times is again due to neurotransmitter misfiring⁷.

Now let's go to the other hand and to the external senses. When a normal person uses his five senses, the incoming information is translated into an elect-

7) Deja-vu experiences have been created under laboratory conditions by stimulating certain regions of the infero-lateral frontal brain lobes. See: Physical Control of the Mind by Jose Delgado, Harper & Row 1969

ric code. This code is sent through any of the bodies' 86 major nerves and is passed on to the brain. Once in the brain these coded charges are unscrambled and reorganized in various ways. From this process, the messages behind the codes emerge. Again, if the neurotransmitters which carry these coded electric impulses are altered, the abnormal results could range from pure trembling terror to convulsive ecstasy.

PINEAL GLAND



SUBSTANTIA NIGRA

Sounds can take on colour and texture may ellicit tastes and smells. All the physical information can become jumbled, rearranged, stretched out of context or crowded into the brain all at once. Everything becomes arbitrary and extreme to the Nth degree. What was formally linear thought now becomes a mozaic or collage.

Mystics are those that care to purposefully experiment with the neurotransmitters. Those that passively find themselves at the mercy of these imbalanced chemicals are labeled psychotic. The psychedelic voyager is somewhere in between all this - a temporary 'peeping Tom' who gets an introduction into alchemy without having to take on any of the spiritual consequences or responsibilities.

MYSTICS ARE THOSE WHO CARE TO PURPOSEFULLY
EXPERIMENT WITH THE NEUROTRANSMITTERS...

Up until now we've talked a little bit about the documented physical facts of the body and what can happen to our perceptions under abnormal conditions,

What I'd like to speak about now are my own personal feelings and ideas concern-

ning these controversial areas⁸.

I believe that in fact a whole lot of what mystical or altered consciousness is can be reduced to abnormal conditions in our nervous systems. However, for me there is that which remains.....

Into this remaining area might fall my mystical and drug-induced experiences of spontaneous group telepathy, group hallucination and synchronicity. I've witnessed seemingly solid, speaking holographic apparitions and had what I think was direct DNA communication. Also, the ability to trigger the latent DNA images contained in plants, animals and even inorganic matter has, at one time or another, passed through me. This left me with the unusual ability to grasp deep essences and potentials latent within

8) Lest I be accused of clever conjecture I'd like to state that while under lock and key I've been labeled psychotic several times by psychiatrists using a standard test called the MMPI (Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory). I've also spent several years delving in & out of various secret societies & occult yoga schools. Some I've named in different articles. As for psychedelics, I've sampled just about every major black-market and pharmaceutical hallucinogen that I could obtain.

these different objects. I know that this sounds at least like lunacy to most folks so I try to keep my mouth shut most of the time⁹.

I guess that my goal here is to develop and reveal a model of reality that will include not only neurotransmitter effects but other, higher spiritual truths.

Another unusual thing that I've tripped into and out of several times is watching what I can only call floating magnetic fields. These fields have a real disturbing effect on people or places where they touch down.

9) Hebrew cabalists have probably grasped, in a mathematical way, similar ideas. Revealing that certain numbers naturally correspond to certain ideas or words, they have developed the millenia old science of gematria. The ancient ZOHAR is the classic source. A.E. Waite's The Secret Doctrine of Israel and MacGregor Mather's The Kabbalah Unveiled are both easily accessible and worthwhile books. The cabala, like certain schools of mathematics, involves a long period of initiation & one-on-one training between teacher

These energy fields de-polarize muscles, stall cars, burn grass and cause temporary power brown-outs.

One time a buddy and I were at a local beach having a high time at night. We both had eaten about 500 mcg. of LSD and were pretty stoned but walking. All of a sudden we both stopped and looked at

....ALL OF OUR BODY HAIRS WERE STANDING STRAIGHT UP.....

each other because all of our body hairs were standing straight up! Next came several powerful 360° explosions of white light 2-3 feet out from us which totally

....NEXT CAME SEVERAL POWERFUL 360° EXPLOSIONS OF WHITE LIGHT....

surrounded our field of vision. The sha-

9)(cont.) and pupil. The real secret keys that grant illumination, grace & occult powers are in this way kept hidden from the profane who might abuse such knowledge. One possible abuser was Sigmund Freud according to Sigmund Freud & the Jewish Mystical Tradition by D. Bakan; VanNostrum 1958

dows that fell from our bodies were also 360° - like the light source came from all directions at once so the shadows that fell into the sand also went in every direction at once. Each shadow was a different shade of the colour spectrum and this, along with some other equally intense effects were more than either of us had bargained for.

The next night the Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press carried the report that numerous U.F.O. sightings had been reported around the same time and in the same vicinity as our strange experience at Vanderbilt Beach. Things like this are very, very perplexing.....

The Gulf beaches and waters are, at certain times of the year, saturated with phosphorous deposits which at night sparkle star-like from crashing waves. Maybe this static energy was somehow condensed and localized....? Beats the hell out of me¹⁰.

10) The thought provoking works of Robert Anton Wilson include many similar bizarre episodes and original ideas. See among others: Cosmic

Anyhow, these types of things have no relationship to neurotransmitter imbalance so far as I can tell. When wild things like this happen - and they do in mystical schools and psychedelic jam sessions - the neurochemical ideas that we talked about seem weak and incomplete in many ways.

As that clever shaman Ken Kesey said to all of us long ago: 'FURTHER!'

I find that, at least for myself, many of the questions raised by this article far exceed my grasp and ability to even answer with an intelligent guess.....? Many of these ideas and areas have long remained hazy question-marks & on the periphery of mans' scientific accumen for as long as history has been recorded.

I feel that now, more than ever before, we need to draw some conclusions about

10)(cont.) Trigger, Pocket Books 1977. The psychedelic hippie / evangelist Stephen Gaskin also relates many tripped-out theories and reactions while playing with different inebriants and hallucinogens. It's all in Amazing Dope Tales & Haight St. Flashbacks.

these often mystifying physical and spiritual happenings. The more evolved, intelligent and spiritually developed among us must try to answer these questions. They must come forth to help shape and co-create a future reality that will not only guarantee evolution and freedom for all of us, but destroy forever the opposites - illusion, confusion and dominion. Let us pray....

'Knowing the full-truth moral ABC that unites all mankind free and not teaching all, is treason'.

Dr. Emmanuel H.
Bronner
Soapmaker, Master
Chemist & Essene
Rabbi (from his
140 gm. all-one
jojoba peppermint
soap label, 1984)

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A Few Practical Guidelines for the Small-Scale Mushroom Cultivator

by Ronald Koffman

The art of mushroom growing is the art of attempting to reproduce nature within a controlled series of stages of environments all preferably indoors. During the process one goes through an assortment of many, many sometimes tedious & time consuming jobs

This necessitates a certain amount of coordination being present. Jobs must always be timed properly, which is especially important for the small grower who tends to have only himself or 1 other party part-time for help. The hard fact that only 1 person can work on any 1 job during any 1 time frame demands that the grower be very careful to do only those jobs first which should be done first, & so on... Keep your priorities in mind at all times, otherwise cultures will grow old for instance and then a duplication of work will have to then re-occur.

Cleanliness is one of the main things to keep in mind at all times. The cleaner 1 is the better of course, but there is a point 1 reaches in which the principle of diminishing returns kicks in, and the x-tra work is simply not worth it. In this regard always try to remember that as long as you can maintain the 'immediately concerned with space' in as clean of state as is necessary it really doesn't matter, theoretically, what the surrounding environment is like.

However, I still always try to keep the surrounding environment relatively clean, as there will always be some degree of transference of infection. This is especially true of the 'glove-box' and growing-room areas. The 'glove-box' area must be kept much cleaner than the growing room area. One safeguard that I utilize within my hand-built glove - box of wood, glass & glue - as well as within my growing room - is a common ionizer. I also have an older model ozone generator which is larger and sets next to the glove box on the table where I work.

Another precaution one must take is not to become overly involved or imitate the instructional manuals currently on the market dealing with mushroom cultivation. One must always attempt to be innovative & economical in one's movements and only use the manuals as general guides. This is all that the guides are meant to be anyway. There are none on the market which describe the 'deep' practical details of small scale cultivation (this is a future goal of mine). These manuals have a tendency to 'explain away' the hardest parts of cultivation with a mere sentence or so.

ONE PRECAUTION TO TAKE IS NOT TO BECOME OVERLY INVOLVED WITH INSTRUCTIONAL MANUALS

An example is humidification techniques, which is one of the most important but difficult requirements that one has to deal with in mushroom cultivation. To the small grower with limited resources, this can represent a major obstacle. If one relies solely on the information available in the manuals regarding humidification he won't get many mushrooms. The manuals tend to only supply the reader with generally known, repetative type infor,& seem to be lacing new, vital & specific 'how to' types if information.

The small grower must also always be careful when it comes to purchasing any equipment, supplies, etc. He must endeavor to investigate all products beforehand as closely as possible. This is an area in which much \$ can be wasted & one should never be in too big a hurry to buy anything until he or she feels an under standing with it thoroughly. You might not, for instance, be ready for a certain item until another 6 months (& not know it yet). There might be a much better product available for a cheaper price right around the corner in the next catalogue. A good example would be the fact that there are certain humidifiers out on the market which are worthless except for perhaps putting out a very small fire. These are sold by supposedly reputable sources.

Also, unless the small grower has a great deal of time & \$ in which to hire construction firms, he will be forced to perform many different types of construction - electrical, masonry, carpentry, etc... This will 1st require naturally having the proper tools at the work site. I myself have an extensive assortment of tools, including a table saw. Together with these manual skills, one should also be familiar with the fundamentals of mycological/ environment design systems (how a growing room is going to be laid out exactly). In this regard, I am currently working on new designs & building one at my private facilities here in Binghamton, NY.

It definitely entails a great deal of work for a single party working alone. To cultivate certain species of wild mushrooms, income and resources. Perhaps this is why certain species are in such short supply. They are not like growing tomatoes or lettuce in terms of simplicity. At the same time, the real simplicity & purity of the process will astound you when you finally do grasp it.

There has traditionally been a gap between the grower & the mycologist. This gap needs to be bridged by a 'new-age' type of grower, one who isn't afraid to spend \$100.00 for a book & then read it or to learn new

manual skills. At the same time he must become dedicated enough to stick with it and continually be attempting to develop more efficient techniques of mushroom cultivation.

To this end I welcome any correspondences to my research headquarters here in Binghamton, New York.

Mr. Ronald Koffman can be reached through either of these mycological services:

*Myco Research
PO Box 1211
Binghamton NY 13902*

**Third Wave Enterprises
Botanical Research**

**PO Box 51 Westview Station
Binghamton New York 13905**

BOOKSHELF REVIEWS

Development of the Psychedelic Individual by John Curtis Gowan; Privately printed 1974.

Recently, in a note to the Psychozoic Press, Timothy Leary commented about interesting cycles that our culture displays. Educational psychology professor John Gowan believes that people go through similar, personal cycles of creativity, spiritual awareness and free growth that he calls psychedelia.

In his privately printed book, professor John Gowan connects the dots of childhood development, creativity and mysticism, dream theory, parapsychology, hypnosis & mind-expanding drugs. As well, he outlines these subjects all taken to their extremes—obsession, schizophrenia and divine illumination.

The overlying pattern obtained from this dot-to-dot exercise reveals the unique scholarly summation of research into modern mind-expansion & state-of-the-art human potential experiments.

At first glance, the books table of contents seems psychologically over

weight. Chapters like: The Existence & Significance of Dysplasia, The Erickson Paiget, Gowan Theory of Periodic Development Stages and Measurement Instruments Including the Personal Orientation Inventory, etc. sends the psychologically uninitiated or the casual browser on his way in a confused huff.

I personally dislike human -potential authors who use and develop this type of 'psycho-babble'. However, this book was written and aimed not at the general public but for special students of a 1974 workshop entitled: The 20th Annual Creative Problem Solving Institute.

Both this workshop and professor Gowens approach points not at the experiential 'how' of creativity & mind-expansion, as much as scientific 'what' and 'why'. There are a lot of good books written about these subjects. Development of the Psychedelic Individual is a good example of the scientific, laboratory need to mount and preserve psychedelia like a pretty butterfly specimen.

Unlike professor Gowan, my personal research into mind-expansion & psychedelics has led me just around the edge

of science into the mysterious, uncommon and undefinable. Radiance, essence, direct-experience and God's grace are my graphs and data sheets.

I do, however, recognize the need for the scientific traits of consistency and 'objectivity', so long as they are tempered against common sense and some good strong coffee.

This is, more than anything else, a book of statistics about creativity and mind-expansion. In this sense, it's useful as a resource for writer and researcher but lacks the drama and boldness that would propel it into a major work.

Gowens' 40 page appendix and bibliography seems impressive and I admit that there's more there than I could digest. However, I think that many of the titles Gowan lists contain within themselves a lot of cross-referencing & redundancy of topic.

After all is said, read and done I did choose to buy this book. My honest critical appraisal of John Gowan's work is good. If you can wade around the graphs, statistics and laboratory flotsom there is a lot of cross-disciplined, trans-cultural ideas that anyone interested in

the potentials and experiments of brain/mind research and mystical phenomena might find useful.

Although this work is dated by ten years the price is right at \$4.00. You never know where important bits of information might come from. This book is jam-packed with data; some of it is flotsom, some not. You only need one right idea to cause a spark within yourself. I found one within this book.

Perhaps with luck, you shall find one also.....

-- *Dot Saure*

Principia Discordia by Malaclypse the Younger; Loompanics 1979 (?)

This lively little tome is a working manual for the creation of neurological anarchy. On the surface of it all the clown/author Malaclypse goes with the reader from page to page leading them into and out of Zen-like practical jokes. These jokes are dormant until fueled by the observations of the reader. By combining the Principia Discordia's booby-trapped linguistics with the reader's attention, Malaclypse shows

just how your brain physically forms conclusions and how it collects, organizes, edits and even creates some healthy chunks of 'normal reality'.

By feeding the right (or the wrong) data into our computer-like brains, it's possible to cause a wide range of altered states of perception and physical raptures.

Now the contents of this book have to do with Eris, the Greek Goddess of confusion and her worship by an ancient secret-society called the Discordians.

However, the books functional aspects - hidden just below the surface - are immersed in information theory and psycho-linguistics. Malaclypse could have used the phone book in the same way and achieved the same result. It's not the contents but the package - the way that the information is structured - that enlightenes us.

Learning how much of reality may be constructed in our own nervous systems can not only be illuminating but downright dangerous!

Malaclypse forces the reader into free-thinking, spiritual anarchy. Before he knows what concepts slapped him into Buddha-nature, the reader is shaken free and allowed to return to normal. The whole thing is powered by your individual attention and watching the process is a gas!

Malaclypse isn't the only sleight-of-mind artist around these days. Unfortunately for us his competitors don't share his ethics & spiritual sense of purpose and comraderie.

THE WHOLE THING IS POWERED BY YOUR
INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION

As Ken Kesey once said: 'We are operating on many levels here'.

Put back \$4.50 and check out the Principia Discordia some time while it's still in print.

*'Do not reject these teachings
as false because I am crazy.
The reason that I am crazy
is because they are true'.*

- Malaclypse the Younger

Psychedelic-40 by Louis Charbonneau;
Bantam Books 1965.

I believe that names reveal promise. I picked this title up for posterity in a used basement-bookstore I once cared to frequent. It's Syracuse, near the library at the University, and it's 6 years ago..... a long 6 years ago, in fact. In that shift of my life I owned more than my share of leisure time. If I used a lot of it to study, travel and read my ass off, it was nobodies loss.

My instincts in used bookstores bordered on the uncanny, let me tell you. Between Ithaca, Geneva and Rochester I was amassing a huge used library very fast. Hey, I could usually scan maybe 300 book spines in 45-60 seconds and always caught all the news that fit me right when I needed it the most! The price was always right, so long as you didn't mind the chicken-scratch and bit notations from the books' first four or five owners....

Jeez...one day I would be sopping up some Erik Erickson with some used E. Wallace Budge and then I'm having so much coverless Kerouac for dessert. The next day I might swallow some Hesse and Vonnegut whole and unpeeled, then use DeSade for a laxative.

It was a time of chaos, mutation and wildflashes of intuition. It was swell.

What the hell; I had just turned 23 & had my own import business. I was free to come and go; and brother, I sure did come and go! I wanted to be loose and ready when the stars went in position.

Let me tell you, I was half-nuts inside those days and spiritually going for broke. All my marbles were on the main line, as they say, almost all the time.

I didn't know any other way out. I did know that the way in was the way out; but I had already gone too far out psycho-spiritually to drop the momentum that fate and synchronicity laid out for me.

My directions were more determined by the sideways glance of a stranger or the next TV commercial than anything else. I listened to everything for the clues.... & one day all this craziness paid off!

It was this book..... entitled: Psy-

chedelic-40.... and I don't know, at the time it made me think to myself a bit.

Listen:

'One other thing Rand knew: The watcher behind the wall was neither Sensative nor Special. Such minds could erect barriers to balk invasion, but even in so doing they revealed thier nature to another Sensative mind. The ordinary mind might be a vague set of impulses, a chaotic pot-pourri of thoughts and emotions and their symbolic disguises, but it could not raise a shield at will that blocked off any attempt to intrude...'

I've re-read this book for this review. I've got to admit that I myself have had some pretty strange experiences with hallucinogens..... I mean, who hasn't? It's just par for that course.

The sixties brought out a lot of amazing psychedelic potions and elixers

to the average, 9 to 5 man on the street. These potions let loose some wild, wild abilities and talents. Things like the description in the PSI-40 quote are real to a lot of people. Some believe that there are special people who, with thier minds, can influence thoughts, raise and lower spiritual states in others or make someone laugh hard for 60 minutes, if they should so choose such a cruelty.

The PSI-40 drug that this sci-fi story revolves aound could be very real and kept hidden by the CIA after completing thier MK-ULTRA mind/drug research. At least several already existing drugs that could be a composite for PSI-40 can be had in the black-marketplace now,

Wu! Don't get me going about these wierd things or I might start to remember that back in Syracuse, I was eating pyramid acid 3 times a week! I was Buddha on the burning ghat in those days. I had to force the hidden, neurological trump that my higher-self clutched tightly to its' bosom. The pineal/trump, brother!

Anyhow, to get back to this book, it's a 1993 war between the bad-guy 'psychics and the good-guy psychics. A drug called PSI-40 is used legally in America as a recreational drug. In some folks

however, it opens the yogic third eye, bypassing the usual spiritual predicates.

So these bad-guys are taking over - watching and shaping John Q. and Jane Doe's inner thoughts, impressions and feelings with thier powerful telepathic wills. The bad-guys keep suspicious down with this drug 'PSI-40' which is marvelously pleasurable and diverts everyones' attention. It's used regularly by almost everybody in America.

You know, a friend on acid read this book & wondered if such things might be true? I told him that carrying that train of thought to its' extreme would make anyone develop a solid sense of humour! Right now I forget which of us was joking.....

Olde sci-fi like this can be fun. This quality alone makes Psychedelic-40 deserving if its' special rank in my personal library. I guess we all need a shot of whimsy now & again. This short book contained more enough for my humble needs. Psychedelic-40 is an on-off switch, oh Prince.... but don't get caught staring at the light....

- 'Wu' Albus

VOICES OF THE HAIGHT--ASHBURY,
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Cassette Three: An excited man, high on peyote talks about it. Slick sings "White Rabbit" at a be-in; Natasha's acid trip when she got busted and the Oracle bailed her out--more.

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A PETITION FOR PEYOTE PRAYERS

From the Corpus Cristi Caller, March 28 1984, an article by Bill Walraven entitled, "Rain Would be a Religious Experience for Peyote Dealers," emphasized how drought in South Texas has seriously depleted the availability of Peyote growing on range lands of dealers who legally supply it to Indians during Spring Religious rites. Some ranchers have had to close their lands to would-be seekers.

Additional heavy frost damage over the past Winter has compounded the scarcity of the sacred plant. If you have access to Peyote, use it sparingly and spiritually. Pray for the restoration of this divine plant to its previous abundance in South Texas and Mexico, so that the Light of Spiritual Communion with its Creator may never fade.

Dr. Leary Goes Soft(ware)

Former Harvard faculty member and well known sixties figure Timothy Leary has announced the beginning of a collaboration with Xor (Minneapolis, MN). Says Leary, "The project will result in a software product for personal computers as well as a book," which will be in the form of a high-tech novel. The software will be designed to relate closely to the story. "I plan to call it The Brain Game, since the point of the project will be intelligence increase in an entertaining format."

Having recently acquired a PC, Leary hopes that his software will allow the purchaser to enter into "a symbiotic relationship between a person and a computer"--an altered state in which more

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RAINBOW!

13th Annual

Rainbow Family Gathering of the Tribes

July 1-7, 1984

A Peace and Healing Festival in the
Cathedral of Nature.

Dear Folks,

Thought you ought to include word of the up coming California gathering of the tribes in the backwoods wilderness of Mt. Shasta's shadow. Tell friends to write for more information or just tell people to head South through Chico and keep their ears open. Because of the politics involved there is usually a choice of several sites up for debate with the Forest Service and local county mounties, but come the end of June a site has always been found and claimed as holy ground. Come share sacrament, come dance till dawn, come prepared for camping in the country, come ready to turn on!!!!

Remember to mention this is a free event.
No sales please...

For more information, contact:

RAINBOW FAMILY TRIBAL COUNCIL
P.O. Box 2156
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by Robert Anton Wilson

LSD: My Problem Child by Hoffman

The Heart of the Master by Khan

Each-issues of Blotter

De Vermis Mysteriis by Ludwig Prinn

Publications from the Psychedelic Research Center, Cambridge, Mass.

Hallucinogenic Drugs & Their Psychotherapeutic Use by H.K. Lewis

Copy of an article entitled: A Ketserine Trip; Anesthesiology no. 39
by Robert E. Johnstone.

Unaussprechlichen Kulten by Von Junck

We also offer a wide range of search and photocopy pertaining to mind-expansion & have access to unusually extensive materials. Let's barter.



Write C/O The PP



CHANGES

EVOLUTIONARY CASSETTES

1A) TERENCE MCKENNA, one of the most innovative thinkers of our time, in a conversation with myself, and Nina Graboi.

2A) THE SILVER ELVES are a beautiful family of elves in human form. They sing and talk of love, wonder, and magic to help awaken the elfin in us all.

3A) RESHAD FIELD, up-to-date Sufi master, teacher, and author of many books, bubbles with enthusiasm and information. "It is knowledge that grounds Love."

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95060

Leary (cont'd from p. 77)

and more computer users are finding themselves these days.

((From Tradetalk for the IBM Personal Computer, Jan., 1984.))

Mail Forwarding Service

Several people have expressed interest in contacting other readers of PP. However, I have a policy of not giving out addresses or mailing lists for obvious reasons. On the other hand, we shouldn't cultivate such an attitude of paranoia that serious psychedelists cannot communicate among themselves.

If you want to contact someone, write to them c/o Psychozoic Press, 2121 Braley, Coos Bay, OR 97420, and I'll forward the mail to them. (No large packages, please--cassette tapes OK.) Recipients of such mail may wish to respond in like manner, or release their own address and correspond directly. If something does not look right or seems like a set-up as the DEA has been known to do through High Times ads, don't answer.

You can get your experiences, impressions, ideas, or information published in the Psychozoic Press. Inquire for details.

THE MAILBOX

Hi Elvin,

When suspending LSD in anhydrous ethanol you should store the liquid LSD in a Kodak or similar photographic film cannister. Also, there are available x-ray proof types that prevent exposure to higher forms of radiation (e.g., solar flares, cosmic rays, background radiation) which might also effect LSD half-life. Also, when dipping, place the point upwards towards you and the flat part in the liquid so the drop will form around it.

Sincerly,
(XXXXXX)

((See related information on long-term storage of LSD in "The Mailbox," PP #6 and #7.))

High Now,

It's funny. I've had similar experiences with DMT and similar beta-carbolines as McKenna. However, I've also had identical experiences while playing around with Crowleyan magick, which, while quite dangerous, does definitely establish some sort of "contact" with an alien intelligence. Most people have romantic ideas about this but few are ready and with this sort of yoga, many end up quite dead, insane, or worse real fast. This is no bullshit, Elvin.

I wanted to mention to you to be careful if you do any personal research into MAO inhibitors. You know, the MAO inhibitors

do a lot more than what you touched on in your article. While it is possible to extend certain psychic effects by manipulation of synaptic response, it's at the expense of other enzymes and chemicals that your body uses to break down poisons. If these chemicals are destroyed or suspended by MAO inhibitors, certain things will increase to toxic levels in your body, and you won't be able to eliminate them. This is a fact, and while I'm not trying to scare you, you might print something about all this in a future issue.

Best and Sincerly,
Tom Lyttle

Dear Psychozones,

I am looking for a source of ergot (rye grain parasite) for experimentation. Many legal, beneficial drugs can be made from ergot alkaloids, some psychedelic, others not. Hydergine, for inducing brain neuron regeneration, is an example. Is there someone out there who can supply me with just a bit so I can start a culture? Suppliers could be rewarded with products of my research, if they wish. Raw, unprocessed ergot is legal to possess, mail, and grow. Please write to me through Psychozoic Press.

Sincerly, Dr.
Dr. Neu Ro Chemist

Dear Mr. Smith,

I've enjoyed the first year's subscription to Psychozoic Press and am looking

forward to the second. You're doing a great service for people such as myself who have no way to find out what is happening in the psychedelic/entheogen underground.

Sincerely,
C.B. Gold

Dear Elvin,

I have been interested in psychedelics for about ten years now and you are quite right about people in general having a very negative attitude about them. I have tried, whenever possible, in a gentle and non-threatening way to show them that many of the things said about them were either untrue or blown way out of proportion. I try to show them how psychedelics have been used to help people in the past and how the present laws are preventing people who could be helped by receiving them, even by a doctor.

But others can't understand how any drug that gets you "high" could possibly help anyone, and just refuse to accept this idea. I must say this "attack" has caused me quite a lot of frustration and I have come close to getting mad at these people. But yelling at people just makes them more set in their views and I really consider it important to get these people to see that psychedelics can help people, so I try not to do this.

I would be interested in hearing how other people handle this thought.

Best Regards,
R.M.

Dear Psychozoic Press,

I have been using psychedelics as part of my spiritual practice for over twenty years. I should like very much to contact others who use them for this purpose. I have always had a lot of difficulty finding people to trip with the respect psychoactive substances as a sacrament, rather than treating them as party drugs. I am especially interested in finding people who conduct or participate in rituals involving the sacramental use of psychedelics. I am especially interested in women's rituals involving psychedelics.

Sincerely,
E.B.

Dear Elvin,

A psychedelic Renaissance is what this ailing world needs and I hope to be a part of it.

As to the New American Church, there isn't much I can tell you now. We exist by fiat currently, and have chosen not to formally organize before '85, as doing so would seem a knee jerk reaction to Orwell's prophecy.

Technology, after all, is evolving, and there are only a few possible futures for the material being of the human race a pan-option police state or a kind of

Disney renaissance. But I am getting ahead of myself.

Yours in Illumination,
B.R., Director of the New American Church

Dear Elvin,

As usual, #7 was most interesting. I especially liked the drawing on p. 50. Also Del Williamson's account of the 2-CB experience was extremely interesting. I can well understand Shulgin's concern that it not become a commercial enterprise, but I'm sure that you are aware by now this month's issue of High Times has ads offering it for sale. One hopes this doesn't provoke a repressive reaction by the government. In any case, keep up the fine work you're doing.

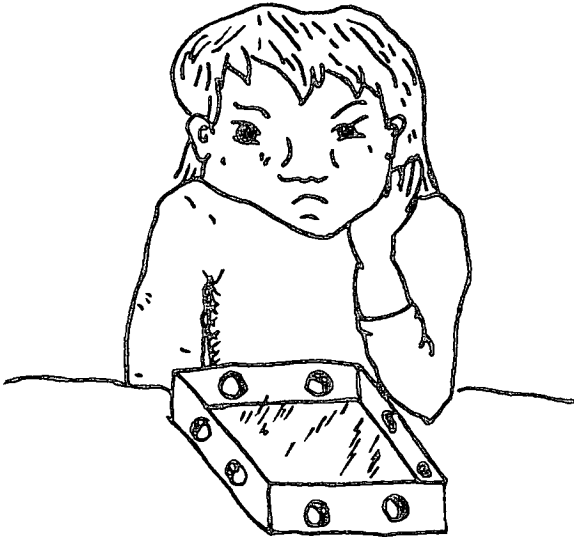
Harmony,
R.M.

Elvin,

An ongoing publication providing a forum for discussion is a necessity in any field of endeavor and it would seem you're doing it. Good work! No doubt that from your little acorn a mighty journal will grow. I shall be recommending the Psychozoic Press to our clients.

Sincerely,
Mycotech Biological Laboratories

SHROOMERS, ATTENTION!



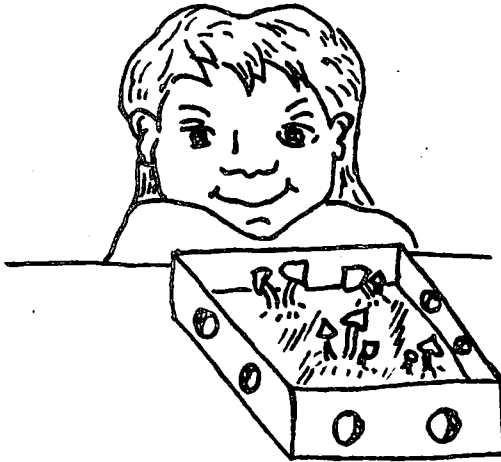
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Dear Friends,

We're pleased to meet you.

Enclosed are some copies of our newsletter Mystic Vibes. We seem to be doing the same work. Are you interested in sharing resources?

In Faith,
R. Snider, Missioner

"We are dedicated to the development of a religious vehicle for the optimal cultural integration of the psychedelic experience."

"We are mystics in the traditional sense: We seek within for the direct personal experience of the Divine."

"Cannabis is an herb, not a drug. Mescaline, caffeine, nicotine, THC, BHA, BHT, are drugs: Peyote, coffee, tobacco, and mushrooms are herbs."

How many people are imprisoned in the U.S. right now, for the non-violent exercise of psychedelic religion?"

((Excerpts from Mystic Vibes))

FLASH BACKS

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

TIMOTHY LEARY



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