

revenue-generating process helped Ott publish his book. It removed financial limitations for him, and it allowed him to maintain his political freedom in what he wanted to present and discuss.

Many self-publishing activities are heralding the coming Renaissance. Information-exchange journals, such as Elvin Smith's *The Psychozoic Press*, Tom Lyttle's *Psychedelic Monographs & Essays*, Jim DeKorne's *The Entheogen Review*, the folks in Germany who are publishing *Integration*, other publications, and of course the MAPS newsletter, need to be encouraged and supported. Books such as *Pharmacotheon*, Alexander Shulgin's early version of *The Controlled Substances Act*, Nicholas Saunders' *E For Ecstasy*, and many other books make great additions to a personal library for those interested in psychedelic literature.

A great deal of relevant and important information exists as personal experience, oral history and folklore of various social groups, collective consciousness of drug consumers, and unpublished individual and organized investigated work that must be saved and shared. There is a common theme in all of this cultural knowledge; it clearly portrays elements of healing and spiritual growth in humankind's evolution that have been influenced through the use of certain plants. There is as yet no single definitive source on the various plant substances that

are psychoactive in nature. *Pharmacotheon* joins Richard Schultes and Albert Hofmann's *The Botany and Chemistry of Hallucinogens* and Peter Stafford's *Psychedelics Encyclopedia* as another useful compendium of psychedelic information. Each has its strengths, but none of them give full coverage to the subject, because they never intended such a massive undertaking. Each work approaches this complex subject from its own perspective. Richard Schultes and Robert Raffauf's "Psychoactive Plants of the World" series (published by Yale University Press) is providing a number of monographs that are individually focused on the more famous plant species and categories of drugs. These works as a whole provide depth of perspective, while singular works like *Pharmacotheon* embody the importance of individual exploration.

It is important to possess a copy of *Pharmacotheon* and other works of psychedelic literature. Personal experiences need to be complemented with a library of drug literature, for it is distressing to go wanted for information. True contributors to the Psychedelic Renaissance must know the ideas and the literature that came before them in order to learn the lessons of history. That student of plant drug knowledge then can assist in bringing about changes in our conception and use of plants that produce entheogenic effects for the betterment of every society. •

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telluride mushroom festival, 1994

Jonathan Ott will be the featured speaker for the 14th Annual Telluride Mushroom Festival Aug. 25-28 this year. Ott is the author of the recently released *Pharmacotheon — Entheogenic Drugs, Their Plant Sources and History*, and is at work on a sequel, *Ayahuasca Analogues — Pangaeian Entheogens*. Regular faculty includes Dr. Andrew Weil, who recently founded the Center for Integrative Medicine in Tucson, noted mycologist Gary Lincoff, and Paul Stamets, president of *Fungi Perfecti* and the nation's leading cultivator of unusual fungi. Cost for the workshops and meals is \$185 per registrant (with an extra \$10 for a copy of the *Telluride Mushroom Field Guide*). Campsites and lodging are available through the Telluride Chamber Resort Association at 1-800-525-3455. A limited number of tickets for workshops are usually available at the door, and run \$10-\$12 per workshop (cash only, no checks).

To register, write Dr. Emanuel Salzman at *Fungophile, Inc.*, P.O. Box 480503, Denver, CO 80248-0503. For more information, call Art Goodtimes at 303-327-4767. •

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