

# INSIDE EDGE

## VISIONARY ARTISTS.

A group of San Francisco Bay Area artists began publishing *Visionary Art News* to promote dialogue among colleagues who favor art that "illuminates and inspires." A recent issue emphasized the emergence of visionary surrealism in the media, especially in advertising. "The visionary artists are the shamans of our contemporary society," said one contributor. Publisher is Illuminarium Gallery in San Anselmo, Calif. . . . Seattle artists Patrick Howe and Alex LaVilla organized a recent one-day gathering, "Transformation in the Arts: A New Spirit Emerging." Its purpose: "a creative context for artists who recognize the need for a broader purpose in which to orient their expression" . . . A recent Netherlands stamp honors the creative role. Its motif: "The true artist helps the world by revealing mystic truths."

**MDMA UPDATE.** The Food and Drug Administration has approved two animal studies of the recently banned substance, and Harvard has consented to follow-up human studies of MDMA by psychiatrist Lester Grinspoon pending FDA approval. Investigators in Denmark and Germany also have announced plans for human studies of the drug. A third and final federal hearing this fall will conclude the debate on whether the therapeutic ef-



fectiveness of MDMA (also known as XTC, Ecstasy and Adam) should place it in a lower-risk category than the interim Schedule I classification. Meanwhile, it continues to make news. KCBS radio in San Francisco editorialized about the drug's purported usefulness in therapy. The editorial said in conclusion: "MDMA is not one of the new designer drugs. It's not a psychedelic. Research indicates that its side effects and potential

for abuse are minimal. That doesn't mean MDMA is safe, but it does mean that the drug is worth a closer look. KCBS urges the Drug Enforcement Administration to allow researchers to continue that work." On the pop front, **Doonesbury cartoonist Garry Trudeau** satirized "Ecstasy scientists." Psychiatrists are being invited to Uncle Duke's dubious Caribbean medical school to continue their research "far from the long, hairy arm of the law." In another incident, a female character on the NBC soap opera *Another World* has developed a dependency on the substance. Producers say the situation will be resolved by Thanksgiving.

**LSD STUDY APPROVED.** The FDA and the University of Maryland have granted approval to psychiatrist Franco di Leo of the Maryland Psychiatric Research Institute to study the effects of LSD therapy in **anxious and depressed people**. Ten subjects will undergo a series of therapy sessions with 25 micrograms, 10 with 400.

**NEW HEROIN TREATMENT.** A U.S. patent has been granted to Howard Lotsos, a Staten Island researcher, for the use of **ibogaine**, an African psychedelic, to treat heroin addiction. Lotsos has a patent pending to use the plant for cocaine and amphetamine dependency.

**ACCELERATED LEARNING.** Professional educators and trainers are compiling an encyclopedia of **accelerated learning methods** to be published for use in schools worldwide. To contribute techniques write Renaissance Project, Box 332, Gaithersburg, Md. 20877.

**HUMOR.** The publishers of the Long Beach, Calif., paper "Uncle Jam" have created the International Humor Advisory Council to promote "the humor industry." They will publish a sourcebook in 1986 featuring interviews with professionals. Humor is no laughing matter to the pros, says "Uncle Jam." Information: Fragments West, 3908 East Fourth St., Long Beach 90814.

## Surveys offer clues to cynical attitude, learning motivation

Two new studies offer clues about cynicism in the workplace and the impact of materialistic values in high school.

A survey of 850 workers by Donald Kanter and Philip Mirvis of Boston University showed that one-third think their managers don't care. Younger workers, non-whites and those with less education are likelier to say that managers are incompetent and recognition hard to come by.

A Purdue University study of 487 Indiana high school students examined the effect of motives on school satisfaction.

Some students saw their education in terms of becoming constructive citizens; others thought in terms of future earnings and status. Those with a more materialistic point of view felt more alienated at school, tried to avoid work by "beating the system" and to succeed by outdoing their peers.

John Nicholls, who conducted the study, urged parents to foster a love of learning in their children rather than emphasizing grades and competing for college.

## Toddlers remember babyhood accurately

Very young children, contrary to popular belief, can accurately remember incidents in their early months of life.

A group of 2½-year-olds could recount events that had occurred a year earlier. The children did not make up the information, as adults have assumed, said psychologist Robyn Fivush.

The children were interviewed at that age because most are fluent by then. They were asked about recent events, then those that took place three, six, nine and 12 months earlier.

Fivush: Emory U., Atlanta 30322.

## Tools and Resources

**Networking Journal**, first issue of semiannual magazine from the Networking Institute of Jessica Lipnack and Jeffrey Stamps, \$10 single copy from Box 66, West Newton, Mass. 02165. . . . **Psychiatric Annals** (July) special issue on technical right/left brain research, single copy \$7 from SLACK, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, N.J. 08086. . . . **Broadside Editions**, a new series of booklets on science and philosophy, including work by Stanislav Grof, Arthur Young, Jacob Needleman, Ken Pelletier. From \$1.95 to \$5.95 from Robert Briggs Associates, Box 9, Mill Valley, Calif. 94942.

**Woman of Power**, new semiannual magazine on feminism, spirituality and politics. Second issue (Summer) covers visions of a feminist world. Single issue \$7 from Box 827, Cambridge, Mass. 02238. . . . **Just People**, a special edition of *Holyearth Journal* on citizen diplomacy from 6330 Eagle Harbor Dr., Winslow, Wash. 98110. . . . **Wellbeing**, an Australian magazine on "health in body, mind and spirit," \$27/year (six issues) from 1/187 A Ave. Road, Mosman, NSW, Australia 2088. . . . **Dream Index** offers monthly summaries of dream research, \$60/year from Dream Data, Box 10625, St. Paul 55110.



Brain/Mind Bulletin (USPS 124-350) is published every three weeks except the second week in November, with the third week in January and first week in February combined, by Interface Press, Box 42211, 4717 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90042. Telephone: (213) 223-2500. Subscriptions: \$35 per year (\$40 first-class mail) in North America, \$45 all other (airmail). Back issues \$1.50 each with self-addressed envelope.

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