



DEAR FRIENDS,

This is an invitation to participate at our center in southern Brazil in one of our seminars during the period of June to mid August 2009. We have again this year an extraordinary program with recognized world authorities in various fields.

Our seminars last for two weeks and are open for small groups of up to fourteen people, including two and in one instance four guest speakers. The setting is very beautiful with a view over the ocean and hills partially covered by Atlantic coastal forest. We have in our garden many species of medicinal and sacred plants, fruit trees, and a kitchen garden where we grow part of the food we will be consuming. We serve healthy and delicious food, with no added salt, sugar, alcohol or red meat. Since the groups are so small, there is the possibility of great interaction between participants, who may come from many different countries, as our seminars are highly international, as well as the chance of one to one conversations with our guest speakers.

We have at Wasiwaska a small but interesting library of around 800 books and a large DVD collection. We also have fast broadband wireless Internet connection, which reaches the whole compound. There will be some excursions around the island of Santa Catarina, including trekking, and talks about the island and its ecosystems by a geographer.

Besides the lectures by our guest speakers, I will also give some lectures on ayahuasca, shamanism, the Amazon, visionary art and other topics. I will conduct five evening ceremonies in each seminar, preceded and followed by integrative circles.

The fee per person for every seminar is 2,200 Euros everything included: airport transfers, double room accommodation, all meals, laundry, lectures and activities, with the possibility of massage sessions (not included in the fee).

If you are interested to participate in any of our events, please fill out the attached application form and send it to me. I wish you a wonderful year 2009.

Best regards,

Luis Eduardo

luna@wasiwaska.org or leluna47@hotmail.com

SCHEDULE FOR 2009

JUNE 4-18.



Ayahuasca Pharmacology, Spirituality and Holotropic Breathwork

Invited speakers:

Dr. Jordi Ribas, *Pharmacologist*,
Karen Helle Grue, *Jungian Psychologist, and Holotropic Breathwork Facilitator*.

Lectures by Jordi Riba:

- * Chemistry and Pharmacology of Psychedelics.
- * Human Pharmacology of Ayahuasca.
- * Long-term Psychedelic Use and Cognitive Functioning.

Lectures by Karen Helle Grue:

- * Freedom, Repression and the Great Mother, seen through fairytales and dreams.
- * How the Psyche Creates a Deeper Understanding of Itself Through the Language of Symbols. The process of lifting the curse of the loss of deeper connection to inner and outer reality, seen through the fairytale East of the Sun and West of the Moon.

JUNE 27- JULY 10.



The Scientific Investigation of Psychointegrator Agents.

Invited speakers:

Dr. Davis Nichols, *Pharmacologist*
Dr. Dennis McKenna, *Ethnopharmacologist*.

Lectures by David Nichols:

- * A Basic Primer on The Chemistry of Psychedelics for Nonchemists
- * From 1938 To 2008, the 70 Year “Evolution” of Psychedelic Chemistry, with a Historical Timeline
- * The Contribution of Modern Molecular Pharmacology to Understanding Psychedelics: The Devil is in the Details.

Lectures by Dennis McKenna:

- * Basic Psychopharmacology: The Psychopharmacopoeia; Licit and illicit psychoactive drugs; their actions, applications, uses and mis-uses; psychoactive drugs from nature; synthetic psychoactive drugs.
- * Psychoactive drugs in neuroscience and consciousness research.



JULY 16-29.



AUGUST 5-18.



- * Drugs and spirituality; do drugs have a role in spiritual practices?; cross-cultural perspectives; drugs and spirituality in the modern world; psychedelics as medicine: therapeutic applications of psychedelics; medicines for the spirit.

Psychoactive Sacraments, Society and the Mind.

Invited speakers:

Dr. Ede Frecska, Psychopharmacologist and Neuroscientist.

Dr. Thomas Roberts, Educational Psychologist.

Lectures by Ede Frecska:

- * Expanded reality, and the Rules of Engagement in the Beyond.
- * The Origins of Creativity.
- * Synchronicities and Close Encounters of the Ancient Kind
- * The Dark Side of the Brain

Lectures by Thomas Roberts:

- * The Emerging Era of Experienced-based Religion
- * Multistate Mind Theory
- * Prospectus for Community Psychedelic Centers, Inc. — An Initial Public Stock Offering
- * Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, A Grofian Interpretation

Psychoactive Substances and Art Through History

Invited speakers:

Dr. Christian Ratsch, Anthropologist,

Dr. Claudia Mueller-Ebeling, Art Historian.

Dr. Manuel Torres, Art Historian and Archeologist,
Donna Torres, Artist.

Lectures by Christian Ratsch;

- * Ethnobotanical parallels between Central and South America
- * DMT and Nature
- * The World Heritage of Shamanism.

Lectures by Claudia Mueller-Ebeling:

- * Visionary Art



- * Types of Shamanism
- * Ayahuasca Paintings

Lectures by Manuel Torres:

- * "The Antiquity of Psychoactive Plant Use in the Americas"
- * Tiahuanaco Iconography, Landscape, and Sacred Plants: A Precolumbian Writing System?

Lecture and workshop by Donna Torres

- * Preserving indigenous plant traditions: botanical illustration in the Atacama Desert (see http://web.mac.com/donnatorres/donnatorres/SPA_illustration.html) and <http://web.mac.com/donnatorres/donnatorres/spa2008.html>)
- * Visualizing nature: capturing the human/plant connection in graphite and watercolor (workshop).

BIOGRAPHIES

KAREN HELLE GRUE



Karen Helle Grue (born 1949) is a Transpersonal Psychoterapist, MPPF. trained as Jungian Analyst, Body-therapy at Bodydynamic Institute, Shamanic Councilor at Scandinavian Center for Shamanic Studies, Certified from Grof Transpersonal Training, Meditation at Nordlyscentret, hypnosis working with the dimension of previous lives and between lives and Somatic Experience.

Karen has worked as therapist, lecturer and teacher within Transpersonal Therapy since 1986. Before that she worked with visual art and craft, mostly as a set designer, and participated in founding several alternative projects, communities and companies.

JORDI RIBA



Jordi Riba was born in 1968 in Barcelona. He obtained a degree in Pharmacy in 1993 and received his PhD in Pharmacology in 2003, at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, with a thesis on the human pharmacology of ayahuasca. Between 2004 and 2006 he did his post-doc in Germany where he trained in neuropsychological assessment and functional magnetic resonance imaging.

Since 2006 he is an Associate Researcher at the Drug Research Center of the Sant Pau Hospital in Barcelona, where he has conducted a series of clinical studies involving the administration of ayahuasca to experi-

enced psychedelic/entheogen users. These studies have assessed the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of ayahuasca, including alkaloid disposition, and electroencephalography and neuroimaging measures of acute ayahuasca effects. The results of these studies have been published in various scientific journals like Psychopharmacology, Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Journal of Psychoactive Drugs. He is currently conducting a neuropsychological study assessing the effects of long-term ayahuasca use.

DAVID NICHOLS



David E. Nichols is the Robert C. and Charlotte P. Anderson Distinguished Chair in Pharmacology at Purdue University. He received the first Provost's Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award in 2006, and was named the Irwin H. Page Lecturer in 2004 in recognition of his contributions to serotonin research.

Since he began his graduate studies in 1969, Dave has focused on how the structure of a molecule affects its biological activity. He has published a total of more than 280 scientific papers and has been invited to present seminars at numerous national and international meetings. One of his primary research areas has been the study of hallucinogens (psychedelics). His breadth of knowledge about the chemistry and pharmacology of these substances is probably unrivaled in the world, as reflected in a widely cited comprehensive scientific review of hallucinogens he wrote in 2004. He has studied all of the classes of psychedelics, including a variety of mescaline analogues, tryptamines, and LSD derivatives, and a number of compounds first made in his laboratory are listed in the Shulgin's first book PIHKAL. He published the first pharmacological studies of MDMA in 1982, showing that it released neuronal serotonin as a major component of its action, well before the rest of the world became aware of this material, and also coined the name "entactogens" for the class of MDMA-like substances.

He is also the founding President of the Heffter Research Institute. Dave is an outstanding teacher, and is able to bring complicated scientific concepts to a level that is understandable to the educated lay person.

DENNIS MCKENNA



Dennis McKenna has for the last twenty-five years pursued the interdisciplinary study of ethnopharmacology and psychointegrator plants. He received his doctorate in 1984 from the University of British Columbia. His doctoral research focussed on ethnopharmacological investigations of the botany, chemistry, and pharmacology of ayahuasca and oo-koo-he, two orally-active tryptamine-based hallucinogens used by indigenous peoples in the Northwest Amazon. He is a founding board member and Vice-President of the Heffter Research Institute, a non-profit scientific organization dedicated to the investigation of therapeutic applications for psychedelic plants and compounds.

Dr. McKenna was a primary organizer and key scientific collaborator for the Hoasca Project, an international biomedical study of Hoasca (Ayahuasca). He has conducted extensive ethnobotanical fieldwork in the Peruvian, Colombian, and Brazilian Amazon. He is author and co-author of over 35 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals. His publications have appeared in the *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*, *European Journal of Pharmacology*, *Brain Research*, *Journal of Neuroscience*, *Journal of Neurochemistry*, *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, *Economic Botany*, and elsewhere. He is co-author, with his brother Terence, of *The Invisible Landscape: Mind, Hallucinogens, and the I Ching* (1971).

EDE FRECSKA

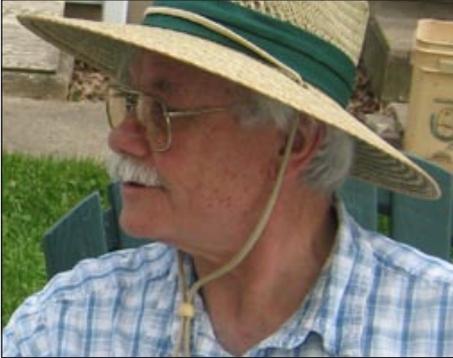


Ede Frecska is Chief of Department at the National Institute of Psychiatry and Neurology in Budapest, Hungary. He received his medical degree in 1977 from the Semmelweis University in Hungary. He then earned qualifications as certified psychologist from the Department of Psychology at Lorand Eotvos University in Budapest. Dr. Frecska completed his residency training in Psychiatry both in Hungary (1986) and in the United States (1992). He is a qualified psychopharmacologist (1987) of international merit with 15 years of clinical and research experience in the United States, where he reached the rank of Associate Professorship.

During his academic years, Dr. Frecska's studies were devoted to research on schizophrenia and affective illness. He published more than 50 scientific papers and book chapters on these topics. In his recent research he is engaged in studies on psychointegrator drugs and techniques, his theoretical work focuses on the interface between cognitive neuroscience and quantum brain dynamics. He is specifically interested in the mechanism of initiation ceremonies and healing rituals.

Dr. Frecska is a member of several professional organizations (APA, ECNP, CINP), and has received grants and awards from a variety of sources (NARSAD, NIAA).

THOMAS B. ROBERTS



Thomas B. Roberts (Ph.D. Stanford) investigates psychedelic mindbody states for the leads they provide for learning, cognition, intelligence, creativity, mental health, and abilities that reside in them: in *Psychedelic Horizons: Snow White, Immune System, Multistate Mind*, and *Enlarging Education* he presents multistate mind theory. He specializes in psychedelics' entheogenic (spiritual) uses: as in *Psychoactive Sacramentals: Essays on Entheogens and Religion* and the online archive *Religion and Psychoactive Sacraments* <http://www.csp.org/chrestomathy>. He co-edited *Psychedelic Medicine: New Evidence for Hallucinogenic Substances as Treatments*. He has taught *Foundations of Psychedelic Studies* at Northern Illinois University since 1981; this is the world's first catalog-listed psychedelics course at a university. He has lectured on psychedelics internationally, published many articles, chapters, and book reviews. He originated the celebration *Bicycle Day*. His website is: http://www.cedu.niu.edu/lepf/edpsych/faculty/roberts/index_roberts1.html

CHRISTIAN RÄTSCH



Dr. Christian Rätsch is a renowned anthropologist and ethnopharmacologist specialising in the shamanic uses of plants for spiritual and medicinal purposes. He studied Mesoamerican languages, cultures and anthropology at the University of Hamburg and spent time among the Lacandone Indians in Chiapas, Mexico, being the only European fluent in their language. He then completed his doctoral thesis on healing spells and incantations of the Lacandone-Maya at the University of Hamburg, Germany. He has conducted research in Thailand, Bali, the Seychelles, and an 18 year study on shamanism in Nepal with expeditions to Korea and the Peruvian and Columbian Amazon.

Before becoming a full-time author and internationally renowned lecturer, Rätsch worked as professor of anthropology at the University of Bremen. He is author of numerous articles and more than 40 books, including the renowned standard work *Encyclopedia of Psychoactive Plants*. A former member of the board of advisors of the European College for the Study of Consciousness (ECSC) and former president of the Association of Ethnomedicine, he lives in Hamburg, Germany. See www.Christian-Raetsch.de.

CLAUDIA MUELLER-EBELING



Claudia Mueller-Ebeling, Ph.D. (born 1956), studied history of art, cultural anthropology, German literature and indology in Freiburg, Hamburg (Germany), Paris (France) and Florence (Italy). Received her Ph.D. by a doctoral thesis on visionary art and French symbolist Odilon Redon. Her main focus of interest being visionary art, altered states of consciousness, shamanism and ethnobotany. Did fieldwork on the knowledge of healing plants in the Caribbean (Guadeloupe) and the Seychelles. As well as a longterm study (18 years) on Shamanism in Nepal combined with expeditions to Korea and the Peruvian Amazone. Worked as arthistorian in the Museum of Arts and Crafts in Hamburg, was chief-editor of DAO a magazin on far eastern philosophies and martial arts. Co-author, with Christian Raetsch and others, of "Witches Medicine" (published in German 1998), "Shamanism and Tantra in Nepal" and Lexicon on Aphrodisiacs (to be published in German in 2002). Is member of the board of advisors of the "European Colleague for the Study of Consciousness" (ECSC) and co-organizer of "Psychoactivity"-conferences on altered states of consciousness. Lives as freelance scientist and author in Hamburg, Germany. Her website is <http://www.claudia-mueller-ebeling.de/>.

CONSTANTINO MANUEL TORRES



Constantino Manuel Torres has conducted research on ancient cultures of the South Central Andes since 1982. His work has concentrated on the San Pedro de Atacama oasis, where hundreds of well-preserved archaeological burial sites facilitate a comprehensive understanding of this desert people. Most importantly, San Pedro de Atacama religion is connected to notions of landscape as body, to visionary experiences, and an ecstatic approach to the supernatural. Torres is also involved in the study of the art of Tiwanaku, the most important pre-Inca Central Andean civilization. His latest efforts attempt to unravel the structure of the Tiwanaku iconographic configuration.

On two occasions he has been an invited presenter to the prestigious Dumbarton Oaks Round Table, in Washington DC. He has participated in a symposium on the art of the South Central Andes at the Center for Advanced Studies in the Visual Arts of the National Gallery, Washington, DC. In 1999, Torres organized several symposia on the art and archaeology of the Andes for the International Congress of Americanists and for the Society for American Archaeology.

His books include *Anadenanthera: Visionary Plant of Ancient South America* (2006), a comprehensive and

detailed study of this sacred plant of well documented ritual use for at least 4000 years. He has published numerous articles on the ancient cultures of the Atacama and Bolivia in journals in Chile, the United States, and Europe. Torres has been the recipient of two Fulbright Fellowships for the study of the Precolumbian art of northern Chile.

Constantino Manuel Torres is professor of art history of at Florida International University, the State of Florida University, Miami. He teaches courses on Pre-columbian Art of the Andes, Art & Shamanism, Precolumbian Art of Mesoamerica, Gift Strategies for the Art-making Process, Art and Issues of Identity, among others. He is a member of the Institute of Andean Studies, Berkeley, California, and the Sociedad Chilena de Arqueología, Santiago, and adjunct professor for the graduate program in Anthropology and Archaeology, Universidad Católica del Norte, San Pedro de Atacama campus, Chile. He is also advisor for “Cultura y Drogas,” an interdisciplinary Masters at the Universidad de Caldas, Colombia.

DONNA TORRES



Donna Torres received undergraduate and graduate degrees in painting and drawing from the University of New Mexico and Florida International University. She trained in Botanical Illustration at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, under the direction of Priscilla Fawcett. Donna’s drawings, paintings and multimedia projects reflect her interest in shamanism and medicinal plants.

Her artworks have been exhibited widely in the US and abroad. She has taught art workshops in the US, Colombia, Nepal and Chile. She recently had 2 solo exhibitions, Distant Wanders, Close Enchantments at the Art Gallery at Government Center, Miami in 2008 and Glimpses and Wonders at the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Nature Center, Key Biscayne, in 2007. As a recipient of the American Society of Botanical Artists Artist Grant, she taught botanical illustration to the indigenous community of San Pedro de Atacama, Chile for the documentation of medicinal plants. Known archaeologically for their vast use of the visionary plant Anadenanthera, the descendants of this ancient culture are trying to preserve their elders knowledge of plants. The project continues in May 2009.

Donna teaches painting at Florida International University and botanical art at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden in Miami, Florida. For additional information, please visit the artist’s website at www.donnatorres.com.