

The Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Columbia College Chicago present

From Visionary Experience to Spiritual Life: Entheogenic Plants and Chemicals



Wednesday, November 2

6pm

Admission Free

Chicago Cultural Center

78 E. Washington St.

En-theo-gen [god within; god- or spirit-facilitating] a psychoactive sacramental; a plant or chemical substance taken to occasion primary religious experience.

Religious traditions, both East and West, have celebrated the direct mystical experience of the divine. Many people who have had such direct perception of spirit appear to lead lives of greater understanding, virtue, and joy as a result. From the time of the ancient civilizations to the present, entheogens have played a role in that spiritual quest. This lecture discusses what it is about these substances and practices that contain the possibility of bringing insights, grace, and joy to individuals and to their communities and explores some of the forces working against the realization of such a possibility.

Speakers include **Louis Silverstein**, Professor of Liberal Education, Columbia College Chicago; **Kathleen Gillogly**, Adjunct Faculty, Liberal Education, Columbia College Chicago; and **Tom Roberts**, Professor of Educational Psychology, Northern Illinois University.



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