

THE SPIRIT OF BASEL



Problem Child and Wonder Drug

International Symposium
on the Occasion of the 100th Birthday
of Albert Hofmann

January 13th – 15th 2006
Convention Center Basel, Switzerland

Lectures • Panels • Seminars • Workshops
Exhibitions • Multimedia • Concerts • Parties

www.LSD.info

On the occasion of the 100th Birthday of Dr. Albert Hofmann on January 11th 2006, the Gaia Media Foundation presents an International Symposium to the best known and most controversial discovery of this outstanding scientist.

LSD – Three letters changed the world. Since April 19th 1943, the day Swiss chemist Dr. Albert Hofmann discovered this psychoactive substance, millions of people all over the world have experienced a higher reality, with profound and psychological insights and spiritual renewal, created innovative social transformations, music, art, and fashion, were healed from addiction and depression, experienced enlightened insights into human consciousness.

Some 60 years after this momentous discovery experts will present an indepth review of all aspects of this unique phenomenon, informing and discussing history, experiences, implications, risks and potentials of this most potent of all psychoactive substances. LSD – A challenge in the past, now, and in the future.

Under the title "The Spirit of Basel" the Gaia Media Foundation promotes events to subjects and phenomena of human consciousness



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Schedule

Thursday, January 12th: The Spirit of Basel

A variety of activities with tours and more

International Symposium, Convention Center Basel, Switzerland

Friday, January 13th: From the Plants of the Gods to LSD

What is D-Lysergic Acid Diethylamide? • The Discovery of LSD-25 • The Witches of Salem: Ergot as Remedy and Devil's Poison • Methergine, Hydergine and Dihydergot: Medical Applications of Ergot Derivates • Teonanacatl: The Synthesis of Psilocybin by Albert Hofmann • Approaches: Hofmann's Friendship with Ernst Jünger • Appreciation of Albert Hofmann's Lifework • Writers and Drugs: From Charles Baudelaire to Aldous Huxley • LSD and the Eleusinian Mysteries • Plants of the Gods: Gordon Wasson and Richard E. Schultes • The Relatives of LSD: Ololiuqui and Ayahuasca • LSD-Research and Psychotherapy in the 50s • LSD behind the Iron Curtain: Stanislav Grof's Work in Prague • Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds: Psychedelic movement of the 60s • The Problem Child: LSD and the Mass Media • The Empire Strikes Back: The Demonizing of LSD and the Suppression of Research • From Grateful Dead to Jimi Hendrix: LSD and Counterculture • Joyous Cosmology: Alan Watts and Timothy Leary • Woodstock or Paris May '68? - A Cultural Comparison

Saturday, January 14th: The Ecstatic Adventure

The Effects of LSD: The Position of Today's Research • The Worldwide Application of LSD in Therapy • Special case Switzerland: LSD Research and Therapy • Psycholytic and Psychedelic Therapies • LSD in Design and Fashion • LSD in Art and Music • The History of Drug Policy • Mysticism and Psychosis: Common Grounds and Differentiation • The Necessity for Transcendence • The Right to Get High • Techniques of Altering Consciousness • The Significance of Set und Setting • LSD and Meditation • Neo-Shamanism • New Psychedelics and their Specific Effects • Tihkal und Pihkal: Research and Work of Alexander T. Shulgin • The Psychedelic Revival of the 90s: The Global Techno, Rave and Trance Rituals • From Religious Experience to Holistic Thinking

Sunday, January 15th: New Dimensions of Consciousness

The Meaning of the Psychedelic Experience • Psychedelic Medicine: Therapy and Treatment • No Drugs – No Future: Sketches of an Adequate Drug Policy • The New Rituals: LSD as a Sacred Substance • Freedom and Hedonism: The Future of Psychedelics • Psychedelics and a New Paradigm: Personal Responsibility and Self Reliance • The Future of Religion: Dogma or Transcendental Experience: • The Future of Human Consciousness • Future Society: "Brave New World" or "Island" • Visions and Initiatives • Insights and Outlooks: A Summary