

The Use of Entheogens in Masonic and Other Ritual Ceremonies

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There are many hidden facts and mysteries in Freemasonry. These are not “secrets” per se, just overlooked stories from history. Such facts include the use of entheogens in Masonic degrees, as documented in the mid-1700s.

An “entheogen” is defined as

“a chemical substance, typically of plant origin, that is ingested to produce a non-ordinary state of consciousness for religious or spiritual purposes.”

I have found 5 classes of these that have been researched in various references: Ergot, LSD, Psychedelic mushrooms, Fly agaric mushrooms, and DMT. A good review of the use and effects of these various entheogens can be found in the book “Alchemically Stoned - The Psychedelic Secret of Freemasonry” [1].

Ergot is a parasite that can be found growing on grain. It has been identified chemically as almost exactly the same as LSD. DMT is found in ayahuasca and in the root of the acacia tree. Each of these 5 entheogens are found in different areas of the world, and in different climate conditions. Therefore, the use of any of these will be documented in that part of the world where they have traditionally been found. I am writing several papers that summarize the use of these entheogens.

The use of DMT is interesting in that the human body automatically produces an inhibitor to block the effects of DMT when ingested. In order to remove that automatic inhibitor, an additional monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MOI) must also be ingested to allow the body to experience the full effects of the DMT.

It is not a secret that the root of the acacia tree contains DMT. Eating or drinking a powder made from the dried root will result in a mild euphoric effect. A much more intense effect can be achieved by smoking the root or a powder made from the root. However, the addition of a particular MOI will allow a much more significant effect! What could those MOIs be? When were they found? Would secret societies be created to discover and guard such secrets?

The use of some kind of entheogen in a formal “Masonic Degree” is documented in the book “The Masonic Magician – The Life and Death of Count Cagliostro and His Egyptian Rite” [2, 3] This Egyptian Rite was created by Cagliostro (1743-1795) and was proposed and marketed to be part of Masonry within the Scottish Rite as it existed at

that time (as established in 1733). It contained three degrees, and in the second degree, the candidate was given to drink “primal matter.” This would allow him to receive “Direct experience as well as direct knowledge!” The purpose was for the candidate to experience god and overcome death. This gave the candidate actual and experiential proof of life-after death: gnostic! Not just the intellectual “thinking about”!

The actual rituals of the Egyptian Rites have been documented, and as yet – no one knows or has published what the exact composition of that “primal matter” was! Given that this degree was created and circulated in Germany, it is assumed that they used the powered root of the acacia tree mixed with a proper and possibly secret MOI.

Also, during the Second Egyptian Rite Degree- the Worshipful Master states:

“There has never been, nor will there ever be any man enjoying and possessing this primal matter except those who have been admitted to our society.”

“This is it: the acacia is the primal matter and the rough ashlar is the mercurial part. When this rough ashlar or mercurial part has been thoroughly purified, it becomes cubical; it is then, with this primal matter or this dagger in your hand, that you must assassinate this Master – this rough ashlar which has become cubical; or this Father and this Mother of all the metals.”

It is also documented that Cagliostro was given the formula of this primal matter directly from Count Saint Germain! [4] If so, this would indicate that the drug had been previously researched, refined, and carefully used with no ill or lasting effects on the candidate. It is not a far-fetched idea to think that over many years, various experiments were tried to see what plants or substances would be an effective MOI.

If a particular MOI was found that was truly effective, then a secret society would probably have been formed to keep that secret and to promote their own research. It is an interesting idea that the use of dried rose petals as a MOI could have resulted in the formation of the Society of the Rose and Cross. After all, Count St. Germaine is reported to have been instrumental in the formation of that society.

A more detailed paper is being written that summarizes the history of and the actual rituals that were used by Count Cagliostro in his Egyptian Rite [5].

References

1. Alchemically Stoned - The Psychedelic Secret of Freemasonry, by P. D. Newman, 192 pp (2017).

2. The Masonic Magician – The Life and Death of Count Cagliostro and His Egyptian Rite, by Philippa Faulks and Robert L.D. Cooper, 318 pp (2008).
3. Cracking the Freemasons Code: The Truth About Solomon's Key and the Brotherhood, Robert L.D. Cooper, 240 pp (2007).
4. The Most Holy Trinosophia of Le Comte De St -Germain - with 24 additional illustrations, omitted from the original 1933 edition (Aziloth Books), 108 pp (2016).
5. "Alchemy in the Secret Basis of Freemasonry and the Use of Entheogens – Part 1 Acacia Tree Root", GSC SRICF Paper in Progress, Patrick G. Bailey.