

I am interested in entheogens, a sub-sect of psychedelics, and how they affect the brain. I am also interested in the potential positive medicinal uses of entheogens. Scientists have concluded that some psychedelics can be used to treat mental illness. Similar to how learning a new skill or playing an instrument changes the brain, psychedelics can alter the brain by creating new biologically stable brain connections. These collages are meant to represent this argument.

According to Timothy Leary, there are five levels of experience that directly correlate to dosage. Using newspaper and magazine clippings, I made five collages. I drew characters and colored them in Photoshop. Each collage is based off a level of experience. As an artist, I want this to create the effect of a hallucinogenic trip with bright colors and strange objects. I used the collage as a background for 2-D stop motion animation.

This animation depicts a mushroom walking through different worlds. There is no plot; I hope the viewer will develop their own storyline. I looped the video; each time it replays, it quadruples. By the end of the video, the perceived message has been changed. This video plays on an endless loop while people walk by so each viewer gets a different experience watching it.

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