

Swiss chemist Albert Hofmann first experienced its remarkable effects during a self-experiment with Lysergic Acid Diethylamide in 1943 at Sandoz Laboratory in Basel. It changed his life deeply, as it also has the lives of millions of people all around the world. His bicycle ride during this first LSD trip became legendary.

Authors Hagenbach and Werthmüller, close friends of Hofmann, take us on a journey through the 20th century from his mystical childhood experiences with nature, to his chemistry studies with Nobel Prize winner Paul Karrer in Zurich, through his discoveries of both LSD and psilocybin at Sandoz in Basel, to his adventurous expeditions, to his many years of retirement devoted to philosophy of nature and a rich social life. The authors reveal the eventful history of LSD, which became the subject of numerous clinical studies opening the way for innovative forms of therapy. It fuelled the youth movement of the sixties, influenced developments in computer technology and science, and helped spawn a new science of consciousness. Albert Hofmann was voted "greatest living genius" in 2007 by the *Daily Telegraph*. He lived an active life until the age of 102.

## About the Authors

Dieter Hagenbach was born 1943 in Basel, Switzerland. He studied architecture and the arts at the Academy of Fine Arts, Düsseldorf, Germany. In 1975 he founded Sphinx publishing house, with works by Joseph Campbell, H.R. Giger, George Gurdjieff, Jean Houston, Timothy Leary, John Lilly, Terence McKenna, Alan Watts, Robert Anton Wilson, among others. From 1977–1986 he was editor of *Sphinx* magazine and the German language edition of the *Brain/Mind Bulletin*.

Dieter Hagenbach met Albert Hofmann in the mid-1970s and remained his friend until his death. In 1986 he published Albert Hofmann's book *Einsichten Ausblicke (Insight Outlook)*. From 1990–2005 Hagenbach acted as a literary agent. In 1993 he launched the Gaia Media Foundation. He was initiator and program manager of the international symposium "LSD – Problem Child and Wonder Drug" in Basel, 2006, on the occasion of Albert Hofmann's 100th birthday, and was in charge of the program for the 2008 "World Psychedelic Forum" in Basel. Since 2002 Dieter Hagenbach has been the editor of the Gaia Media Foundation website and the monthly electronic *GoodNewsLetter*.

Lucius Werthmüller was born 1958 in Basel, Switzerland. He is a consciousness researcher and parapsychologist. Since 1991 he has

been president of the Basel Psi Association with over 1,200 members, the largest organization in the field of the paranormal and the spiritual in Switzerland, and is editor of the *Psi-Info* magazine. In 2000 he was awarded the "Swiss Foundation for Parapsychology" prize. For eight years Lucius was project manager of the "Basel Psi-Days," a congress with the reputation as the most important public congress on "border areas" of science worldwide. Since 1992 he has run an antique bookshop specializing in parapsychology and spirituality.

Lucius is a founding board member of the Gaia Media Foundation. He was project manager of the international symposium "LSD – Problem Child and Wonder Drug" in 2006 on the occasion of the 100th birthday of Albert Hofmann in Basel, and of the "World Psychedelic Forum" held in 2008. Lucius met Albert Hofmann, who was a good friend of his parents, as a child and remained close to him until the end of his life. Lucius has three adult sons and lives with his partner, Sabin, in Basel.