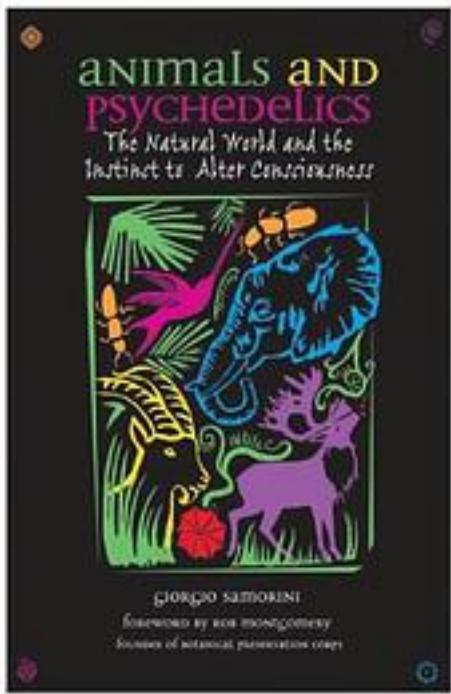


Animals and Psychedelics



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From caffeine-dependent goats to nectar addicted ants the animal kingdom offers amazing examples of wild animals and insects seeking out and consuming the psychoactive substances in their environments. Author Giorgio Samorini explores this little-known phenomenon and suggests that far from being confined to humans the desire to experience altered states of consciousness is a natural drive shared by all living beings and that animals engage in these behaviours deliberately. Rejecting the Western cultural assumption that using drugs is a negative action or the result of an illness Samorini opens our eyes to the possibility that beings who consume psychedelics - whether humans or animals - contribute to the evolution of their species

by creating entirely new patterns of behaviour that eventually will be adopted by other members of that species. The author's fascinating accounts of mushroom-loving reindeer intoxicated birds and drunken elephants ensure that readers will never view the animal world in quite the same way again. * Throws out behaviourist theories that claim animals have no consciousness. * Offers a completely new understanding of the role psychedelics play in the development of consciousness in all species. * Reveals drug use to be a natural instinct.

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