

Shaman of Oberstdorf

Chonrad Stoeckhlin

and the Phantoms of the Night



Wolfgang Behringer
Translated by H. C. Erik Midelfort

Shaman Of Oberstdorf

Owen Davies



Shaman Of Oberstdorf:

Shaman of Oberstdorf Wolfgang Behringer, 1998 Shaman of Oberstdorf tells the fascinating story of a sixteenth century mountain village caught in a panic of its own making Four hundred years ago the Bavarian alpine town of Oberstdorf surrounded by the towering peaks of the Vorarlberg was awash in legends and rumors of prophets and healers of spirits and specters of witches and soothsayers The book focuses on the life of a horse wrangler named Chonrad Stoeckhlin 1549 1587 whose extraordinary visions of the afterlife and enthusiastic practice of the occult eventually led to his death and to the death of a number of village women for crimes of witchcraft Wolfgang Behringer is one of the premier historians of German witchcraft not only because of his mastery of the subject at the regional level but because he also writes movingly forcefully and with an eye for the telling anecdote Amazon.ca The Witches' Ointment Thomas Hatsis, 2015-08-17 An exploration of the historical origins of the witches ointment and medieval hallucinogenic drug practices based on the earliest sources Details how early modern theologians demonized psychedelic folk magic into witches ointments Shares dozens of psychoactive formulas and recipes gleaned from rare manuscripts from university collections all over the world as well as the practices and magical incantations necessary for their preparation Examines the practices of medieval witches like Matteuccia di Francisco who used hallucinogenic drugs in her love potions and herbal preparations In the medieval period preparations with hallucinogenic herbs were part of the practice of veneficium or poison magic This collection of magical arts used poisons herbs and rituals to bewitch heal prophesy infect and murder In the form of psyche magical ointments poison magic could trigger powerful hallucinations and surrealistic dreams that enabled direct experience of the Divine Smeared on the skin these entheogenic ointments were said to enable witches to commune with various local goddesses bastardized by the Church as trips to the Sabbat clandestine meetings with Satan to learn magic and participate in demonic orgies Examining trial records and the pharmacopoeia of witches alchemists folk healers and heretics of the 15th century Thomas Hatsis details how a range of ideas from folk drugs to ecclesiastical fears over medicine women merged to form the classical witch stereotype and what history has called the witches ointment He shares dozens of psychoactive formulas and recipes gleaned from rare manuscripts from university collections from all over the world as well as the practices and magical incantations necessary for their preparation He explores the connections between witches ointments and spells for shape shifting spirit travel and bewitching magic He examines the practices of some Renaissance magicians who inhaled powerful drugs to communicate with spirits and of Italian folk witches such as Matteuccia di Francisco who used hallucinogenic drugs in her love potions and herbal preparations and Finicella who used drug ointments to imagine herself transformed into a cat Exploring the untold history of the witches ointment and medieval hallucinogen use Hatsis reveals how the Church transformed folk drug practices specifically entheogenic ones into satanic experiences *Shamanism* Andrei A. Znamenski, 2004-03-11 Mircea Eliade described shamanism as the primal religion of humanity the archaic technique of

ecstasy The books of best selling author Carlos Castaneda made it part of popular culture Since the 1960s shamanism has continued to attract the attention of scholars artists writers and the general public The most intriguing aspect of this religion is the ability of shamans to enter into contact with spirits on behalf of their communities The first eighteenth century explorers of Siberia dubbed shamanism a blatant fraud Later academic observers stamped it as neurotic delusion In the 1960s shamans were recast as wounded healers who sacrifice their lives for the spiritual well being of their communities Many current writers and scholars treat shamanism as ancient wisdom that has much to teach us about true spirituality This anthology tells the story of shamanism in Eurasia North and South America Africa and Australia It brings together for the first time fifty six articles and book excerpts by anthropologists psychologists religious scholars and historians illustrating the variety of views on this subject

The Witch Ronald Hutton, 2017-08-01 This magisterial account explores the fear of witchcraft across the globe from the ancient world to the notorious witch trials of early modern Europe The Guardian UK The witch came to prominence and often a painful death in early modern Europe yet her origins are much more geographically diverse and historically deep In The Witch historian Ronald Hutton sets the European witch trials in the widest and deepest possible perspective and traces the major historiographical developments of witchcraft Hutton a renowned expert on ancient medieval and modern paganism and witchcraft beliefs combines Anglo American and continental scholarly approaches to examine attitudes on witchcraft and the treatment of suspected witches across the world including in Africa the Middle East South Asia Australia and the Americas and from ancient pagan times to current interpretations His fresh anthropological and ethnographical approach focuses on cultural inheritance and change while considering shamanism folk religion the range of witch trials and how the fear of witchcraft might be eradicated A panoptic penetrating book Malcolm Gaskill London Review of Books

Popular Magic: Cunning-folk in English History Owen Davies, 2007-06-01 Cunning folk were local practitioners of magic providing small scale but valued service to the community They were far more representative of magical practice than the arcane delvings of astrologers and necromancers Mostly unsensational in their approach cunning folk helped people with everyday problems how to find lost objects how to escape from bad luck or a suspected spell and how to attract a lover or keep the love of a husband or wife While cunning folk sometimes fell foul of the authorities both church and state often turned a blind eye to their existence and practices distinguishing what they did from the rare and sensational cases of malvolent witchcraft In a world of uncertainty before insurance and modern science cunning folk played an important role that has previously been ignored

Altering Consciousness Etzel Cardeña, Michael J. Winkelman, 2011-05-18 This authoritative multidisciplinary overview of altered states of consciousness ASC shows how their study is necessary to gain a fundamental understanding of human culture history and biology Altered consciousness is one of humanity's most mystical and life altering aspects These remarkable changes in mental state have understandably been a topic of general interest and scientific inquiry across time Beyond simply satisfying our curiosity however studies focused upon altered consciousness can

also bring valuable insights into our experience biology and culture This unprecedented two volume set will intrigue anyone interested in psychology biology and neurology science history arts and the humanities and literature on consciousness from general readers to scholars and researchers An impressive collection of international contributors address altered states of consciousness from the perspectives of history evolution psychology culture literature human biology contemporary science and society seeking to illuminate the causes effects and meanings of altered consciousness The first volume provides an introduction and centers on the importance of altered states in history culture and the humanities while the second volume presents biological and psychological perspectives on altered consciousness and examines their potential for healing and pathology

The European Witch-Hunt Julian Goodare, 2016-05-12 The European Witch Hunt seeks to explain why thousands of people mostly lower class women were deliberately tortured and killed in the name of religion and morality during three centuries of intermittent witch hunting throughout Europe and North America Combining perspectives from history sociology psychology and other disciplines this book provides a comprehensive account of witch hunting in early modern Europe Julian Goodare sets out an original interpretation of witch hunting as an episode of ideologically driven persecution by the godly state in the era of the Reformation and Counter Reformation Full weight is also given to the context of village social relationships and there is a detailed analysis of gender issues Witch hunting was a legal operation and the courts rationale for interrogation under torture is explained Panicking local elites rather than central governments were at the forefront of witch hunting Further chapters explore folk beliefs about legendary witches and intellectuals beliefs about a secret conspiracy of witches in league with the Devil Witch hunting eventually declined when the ideological pressure to combat the Devil's allies slackened A final chapter sets witch hunting in the context of other episodes of modern persecution This book is the ideal resource for students exploring the history of witch hunting Its level of detail and use of social theory also make it important for scholars and researchers

Madness in the Family H. Yumi Kim, 2022 Madness in the Family traces the history of how family became crucial in the care of those considered mad as well as in creating gendered explanations of madness in turn of the twentieth century Japan As women and families navigated a shifting therapeutic landscape of madness they produced their own understandings and approaches to madness that like elsewhere in the world would take precedence over the claims of psychiatry the law and the state in everyday life

Between the Devil and the Host Michael Ostling, 2011-11-03 For the first time in English Michael Ostling tells the story of the imagined Polish witches showing how ordinary peasant women got caught in webs of suspicion and accusation finally confessing under torture to the most heinous of crimes

Witchcraft in Europe, 400-1700 Alan Charles Kors, Edward Peters, 2001 A thoroughly revised greatly expanded edition of the most important documentary history of European witchcraft ever published

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