

The 2000 Bronze Delusional (Erratic) Boulder in the category of individuals awarded to Stanislav Grof, M.D.

The Committee for Awarding Delusional Boulders of the Sisyphos Club of skeptics announces that the 2000 Bronze Delusional Boulder in the category of individuals goes to Stanislav Grof, M.D.

This award is given for melding the shamanic techniques of hyperventilation into the so called Holotropic Breathwork, which can cause a chemical storm in the brain and evoke in the obnubilated individual extraordinary sensations and experiences.

Psychiatrist Stanislav Grof was born in Prague in 1931 and since 1967 he lives in the United States. He originally experimented with non-ordinary states using LSD; when the risky nature of this drug became obvious and further experimentation was forbidden, he developed the technique of hyperventilation. Theoretically it should be cheap, because air is free, but this cannot be said about the "courses" that this guru offers to his disciples. These can fortunately recover from their financial losses at the expense of future breathers, who can use air only under the guidance of these anointed initiates after paying them a fat fee. Dr.Grof is also the cofounder of a "dog-cat discipline" transpersonal psychology, which is trying to unite science and spirituality.

Dr. Grof gives the babbling accounts of doped hyperventilators the status of reality; he deduced from them even the concept of Cosmic Consciousness. According to Grof, human consciousness can through the change of Ph of the blood detach from the body and transport to one of the past lives or to the time of biological birth. It is a pity that historians have not yet discovered these witness reports as a source of information about the past.

Our famous laureate is assuring the public about the reality of phenomena such as:

- Bending of spoons through mental power (a number of enterprises are impatiently awaiting this effective technology of mending metals)
- Telepathy (telephone operators are scared of imminent competition)
- Miraculous extraction operations of Philippine healers (these of course will have to expand their activity to implantation of cardiostimulators, hip replacements, etc)

In Grof's books we find many reports about extrasensory human contacts, as if these were verified facts. The mental giant, who was the subject of a special document in the Gen series, unfortunately receives (to the regret of the members of the committee) only a Bronze delusional Boulder. Moreover, the interest in Holotropic Breath work seems to be subsiding, because of the fact that too many drugs compete for the induction of non-ordinary states of consciousness.