



**For Immediate Release**

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Synergetic Press

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**Dennis McKenna to introduce worldwide book launch for *The Mind of Plants: Narratives of Vegetal Intelligence***

SANTA FE, N.M. — World renown ethnobotanist and researcher Dennis McKenna, PhD, will give an introduction at a global, livestream event to celebrate publication of *The Mind of Plants: Narratives of Vegetal Intelligence*, a new collection of essays, narratives, poetry and art from Synergetic Press.

*The Mind of Plants* event will feature the book's editors, John Ryan, Monica Gagliano and Patricia Viera as well as reflections from José María Pout, whose illustrations bring the plants to life throughout the collected works. Multiinstrumentalist January Kultura will also provide a deep listening experience for event attendees.

***The Mind of Plants* book launch featuring Dennis McKenna**

**Where:** Online (<https://artsfront.com/event/144867-book-launch-the-mind-of-plants>)

**When:** Thursday, October 28, 2021, 1-3 p.m. pst

**About the book**

*The Mind of Plants* brings together a collection of short essays, narratives and poetry on plants and their interaction with humans. Authors from the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences write about their connection to a particular plant, reflecting upon their research on plant studies in a style accessible for a general audience. In total, *The Mind of Plants* features pieces on 54 plants, with full-color illustrations by Pout.

The idea that plants have a mind of their own has been a prominent feature of some Indigenous narratives, literary works and philosophical discourses. Recent scientific research in the field of plant cognition also highlights the capacity of botanical life to discern between options and learn from prior experiences or, in other words, to think.

This collection includes texts that interpret the mind of plants broadly—from the ways that humans mind and unmind plants to the mindedness or unmindedness of plants themselves. Each of the authors has selected a plant that functions as a guiding thread to their interpretation of the mind of plants. From the ubiquitous rose to the ugly hornwort, from the Amazonian ayahuasca to tobacco, the texts reflect the multifarious interactions between humans and flora.

*The Mind of Plants: Narratives of Vegetal Intelligence* is edited by Ryan, Vieira, and Gagliano. McKenna wrote the foreword. It features contributions by Robin Wall-Kimmerer, Jeremy Narby, John Kinsella, Luis Eduardo Luna, Megan Kaminski, and many others.

Event registrants will receive a 20% discount to purchase *The Mind of Plants: Narratives of Vegetal Intelligence* through Synergetic Press.