The World Ayahuasca Diaspora

Ayahuasca is a psychoactive substance that has long been associated with indigenous Amazonian shamanic practices. The recent rise of the drink's visibility in the media and popular culture, and its rapidly advancing inroads into international awareness, mean that the field of ayahuasca is quickly expanding. This expansion brings with it legal problems, economic inequalities, new forms of ritual and belief, cultural misunderstandings, and other controversies and reinventions.

In *The World Ayahuasca Diaspora*, leading scholars, including established academics and new voices in anthropology, religious studies, and law fuse case-study ethnographies with evaluations of relevant legal and anthropological knowledge. They explore how the substance has impacted indigenous communities, new urban religiosities, ritual healing, international drug policy, religious persecution, and recreational drug milieus. This unique book presents classic and contemporary issues in social science and the humanities, providing rich material on the bourgeoning expansion of ayahuasca use around the globe.

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The World Ayahuasca Diaspora

Reinventions and controversies

Edited by Beatriz Caiuby Labate, Clancy Cavnar, and Alex K. Gearin



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To Erik, Des and their garden.

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Foreword

Ayahuasca in the twenty-first century: having it both ways

The genie is out of the bottle, tweeting about the next shamanic bodywork leadership seminar, and the bottle; well, check and see if it isn't in the back of your fridge by the vegan TV dinner.

Who would have ever imagined that ayahuasca, the enigmatic jungle potion William S. Burroughs once referred to as "the secret" (Burroughs & Ginsberg, 2006 [1963]) and whose very botanical identity was a matter of debate through the mid-twentieth century (Schultes, 1957) would, within a matter of decades, become a household (or at least, yoga-mat) word; the subject of hundreds of scientific, anthropological, and medical studies; a magnet for international tourism; the motor behind a global religious diaspora; and the victorious plaintiff *in absentia* of an historic Supreme Court case?

The rhyme "herbal brew"/"bamboo" in Paul Simon's 1990 ayahuasca-inspired song "Spirit Voices" already rings of kitsch, but there is still something, if not fresh, then at least compelling about Sting (2005, p. 18), in his biography *Broken Music*, revealing that "ayahuasca has brought me close to something, something fearful and profound and deadly serious." But by the time Lindsay Lohan confides to a reality TV host in April of 2015 that ayahuasca helped her "let go of past things . . . it was intense" (Morris, 2014), Burroughs's "final fix" has finally entered the realm of cliché.

How did this happen? What is the special appeal of this bitter Amazonian brew in the post-post-modern global village toolbox of self-realization? How has it fared in the bustling marketplace of New Age spiritual entrepreneurism and on the battleground of the War on Drugs? And what does it all mean for the multiple, religiously and socially diverse, communities and individuals who consume ayahuasca, as well as various ayahuasca-like analogs, around the world?

We can think of the global ayahuasca expansion of the past two decades as a kind of second wave to the psychedelic revolution, following upon that other, "fantastic universal... inevitable... high and beautiful wave," Hunter S. Thompson describes as cresting in the mid-1960s only to crash so quickly, and so disappointingly:

So now, less than five years later, you can go up on a steep hill in Las Vegas and look West, and with the right kind of eyes you can almost *see* the highwater mark – that place where the wave finally broke and rolled back.

(Thompson, 1998 [1971], p. 68)

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Many of those who sought out ayahuasca in the Amazonian rainforests in the 1970s and 1980s were indeed spiritual orphans, in some sense, of this failed revolution that, though inspired by natural psychoactive substances and indigenous medico-religious rituals of the Americas, relied heavily on synthetic substances like LSD and mescaline, often consumed in informal or recreational, rather than ritual, settings. In its initial expansion, beginning in the 1980s, ayahuasca came, first, to non-Amazonian urban centers in tropical countries, and later, to dozens of countries across the globe, in much the same form as it was consumed in its place of origin. Traditional practitioners and religious groups still export ayahuasca, brewed from the rainforest vine *Banisteriopsis caapi* and the dimethyltryptamine (DMT)-containing shrub *Psychotria viridis* and related species, to adepts in many world countries, who risk and sometimes face prosecution under international controlled substance laws. Freelance enthusiasts operating at the fringes of legality may also obtain raw ingredients and make their own preparations.

But, due to chronic problems of supply, transport, and storage, not to mention legal restrictions, a growing number of people have experimented with various avahuasca analogs, using alternative plants or pure pharmacological substances ("pharmahuasca") with essentially the same chemical constituents, to produce brews that have similar experiential effects, at least according to some enthusiasts. And vet, by all indications – and despite the myriad contexts of international use, from commercially adapted indigenous rituals in ecotourism lodges in the Amazon to weekend workshops at yoga academies around the world – the ayahuasca diaspora seems to have resisted what Thompson and others saw as the recreational denouement, hedonistic failure, and political marginalization of the 1960s psychedelic revolution. Instead, wherever it is used, imported, or reinvented, avahuasca seems to quickly, almost automatically, elaborate around itself a protective cloak of ritual and social control, from the Christian-influenced doctrines of Brazilian ayahuasca religions to the idiosyncratic neoshamanic ceremonies emerging in North America, Europe, and Australia. Whether this is due to a changing social milieu of use, or something about the avahuasca experience itself, remains to be seen.

Setting aside the hype, and respecting the cultural and individual variability inherent in such powerful subjective states, one constant element of the ayahuasca experience, attested across different cultures, spiritual traditions, and personal backgrounds, is its ability to propitiate encounters with radical otherness. Speaking myriad languages, through dozens of religious and spiritual idioms and within infinite possibilities of individual variation, ayahuasca drinkers across the globe have described visions of celestial landscapes beyond comprehension and encounters with awe-inspiring, alien intelligence that alternately tantalizes and terrorizes them with healing and bodily degradation, spiritual salvation and ego disintegration, ecological wisdom and universal apocalypse.

The ayahuasca experience defies ordinary notions of causality, space, time, and logic. Indeed, in its intensity and fundamental strangeness, the ayahuasca experience can feel like the cognitive equivalent of the far side of a black hole, spewing out new space-time tunnels and parallel universes with utter disregard for the laws

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of cognition, if not of physics itself. It is perhaps the very intensity of the cognitive, bodily, and spiritual disassociation produced by ayahuasca that calls so desperately to the structuring powers of ritual, ideology, and social control to impose order, provide meaning, and even extract advantage from the boiling foam of ecstasy.

Trance associated with altered consciousness of all kinds is characterized by symbolic visual imagery and nonlinear thought processes that can result in revelatory insights or intuitions about self, others, nature, and the cosmos (Winkelman, 1986). Gregory Bateson's (1972) cybernetic theory of mind sheds light on the adaptive functions of trance and altered states. In his reformulation of Freud, Bateson suggests that, for reasons of sheer economy, mental processes that are repetitive or that surpass the boundaries of the individual self become "sunk" into the subconscious. Bateson (1972) views art and certain kinds of religious beliefs as serving a corrective function, allowing integration of the narrow, individual consciousness with larger circuits of mental process, including collective and environmental "ecologies of mind." In the light of Bateson's theories, psychoactive plants like avahuasca can be seen as tools for loosening up mental processes, blurring ego boundaries between individuals and their larger social and ecological context (Shepard, 2005). By amplifying the unexpected, nonlinear associations of the subconscious, this "ecstatic mode" of consciousness allows for the perception of new patterns and relations among things, experiences, and events.

Although trance states emerge for the individual through specific alterations in brain function, these personal experiences become framed and imbued with meaning by the social group, often in a ritual context. Victor Turner's (1974) classic writings on ritual, structure, antistructure, and the countercultural movement of the 1960s provide a framework for understanding what several authors call the "re-traditionalization" of ayahuasca (Labate & Cavnar, 2014). For Turner, people participating in rituals occupy a *liminal* or transitional social state, clearly distinguished in space and time from ordinary social life. During ritual, social structure is temporarily suspended and replaced by an undifferentiated comunitas of equal individuals who share a mutual sense of identity and belonging. The social distinctiveness of ritual is accompanied by a distinctive cognitive state in which ordinary logic is suspended and replaced by the nonlinear, inductive, combinatorial logic of symbols. Thus, ritual itself represents a kind of altered state of consciousness that, when amplified through trance techniques or the use of psychoactive substances, only reinforces the social, spatial, and temporal distinctiveness of the ritual state (Shepard, 2005).

Though he began his work studying rites of passage in a Zambian village, Turner realized that these concepts could also be used to understand the social upheavals of the 1960s. Although serving to maintain the functional stability of "institutionalized and preordained" social structures, liminality and communitas can also emerge in moments of "radical structural change" (Turner, 1974, p. 248). The difference, for Turner, is that institutionalized rituals, when they conclude, facilitate the orderly return of individuals from liminality and comunitas back into the social order, whereas revolutionary and countercultural movements attempt to create permanent liminality: not a passage, but rather a constant state (1974).

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Perhaps ayahuasca is the contemporary world's way of having it both ways; of being both traditional and modern, ecstatic and scientific, heterodox yet messianic, transgressive but safe and (eventually) legal, altruistic and selfish. It is precisely around this set of contradictions – or dialectics, or challenges – that the current volume is organized. Moving beyond the ethnological purists' snubbing of neo-avahuasca practices as mere drug tourism, and yet also avoiding the intellectual pitfalls of naïve enthusiasm, the authors in this volume apply the classic tools of critical sociocultural analysis to the universe of the global ayahuasca diaspora. The chapters present a multitude of voices, from "Aussie-huasca" (a native Australian analog) enthusiasts hoping to save the planet from the evils of capitalism, to indigenous Amazonian communities torn apart by rivalries and economic disparities brought on by the "ayahuasca boom." Though sympathetic to this diversity of experiences and opinions, the authors take an unblinking look at the legal and social conflicts and ideological contradictions produced as indigenous shamans and Brazilian ayahuasca churches have entered the global marketplace of New Age spiritualism. Contributions discuss troublesome emergent issues, including the commodification of avahuasca practices, the reconfiguration of shamanic worldviews to attend to the modern self-as-project, health and safety concerns (drug interactions, ayahuasca-related accidents, sexual harassment), legal disputes, the "bureaucratization of enchantment" in ayahuasca religions, and the sanitization of darker aspects of traditional Amazonian shamanism, such as witchcraft and attack sorcery.

Will the "re-traditionalization" of global neo-ayahuasca ceremonies provide adequate social controls and ideological coherence to ensure that this "second wave" psychedelic revolution doesn't crash and dissipate somewhere between the headwaters of the Amazon and the Great Barrier Reef? Will the contradictions of the modern self and the temptations of capitalism undercut the radical vision of individual and planetary healing that some neo-ayahuasca enthusiasts prophecy? Will ayahuasca become another battlefield casualty in the global War on Drugs, or will legislation evolve to protect ayahuasca as a religious sacrament, as a medicine, as a tool of experiential freedom? We don't yet have all the answers to these questions, but the authors of this book are on the crest of the wave, and if anyone can see ahead to the far shore, it is they.

Glenn H. Shepard Jr. Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi

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10 Global ayahuasca

An entrepreneurial ecosystem

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This chapter addresses the business of ayahuasca. In approaching ayahuasca as a burgeoning industry linked to the ayahuasca diaspora – the spreading of its use beyond Amazonia – I will discuss its emergence through entrepreneurism arising amid local contexts and participants. My analysis of how the ayahuasca industry has developed in only a few decades from an obscure practice into a cosmopolitan capitalist endeavor is examined through a case study in the Tambopata Province in Peru. It also suggests that small-scale entrepreneurism has contributed toward shaping ayahuasca's international popularity. This chapter further contemplates the actual and potential impact that ayahuasca businesses have on South American indigenous and local peoples whose expertise and practices have long been the hallmark of ayahuasca practices, and raises questions of South American postcolonialism and its legacy of imperialism.² As such, this analysis provides an anthropological approach toward understanding the emergence and development of entrepreneurship, and makes contributions to literatures on postcolonialism, globalization, Amazonia, and ayahuasca.

Entrepreneurism, the processes of initiating and enterprising one's own business or organization, emerges all around us, and mostly proliferates in potential business settings that reflect untapped or high-demand markets that can accommodate new investments and start-up companies. The Amazon Basin is no exception to this global phenomenon. In fact, entrepreneurial businesses have long been operating in its midst, particularly since the seventeenth century, via strong colonial trade networks in animal skins, timber, vanilla, cacao, and later, quinine, rubber, and other commodities that propelled personal business pursuits (Cleary, 2001; Alexiades, 2009). A general pattern of exporting natural resources was well established by the nineteenth century and has markedly shaped the economic and political realties of Latin America today (Bulmer-Thomas, 2003). Many of these entrepreneurial businesses benefitted from colonial discourses of primitivism and wildness that still pervade popular views about Amazonia (Taussig, 1987). Indeed, it was often traders who perpetuated myths of danger so as to keep other entrepreneurial competition away (Taussig, 1987).

Overview

Increasingly, the majority of people who live in Lowland South America reside in urban areas (Alexiades & Peluso, 2015), a number estimated to be at 70%

(Padoch et al., 2008). Amazonia is home to several large cities, including Manaus (a Free Trade Zone) and Belem – each with a population exceeding two million – alongside others, like Iquitos and Satarem, with populations in the hundreds of thousands. This also means that rural areas have become further linked to urban areas (Peluso, 2015) and also attract increasing economic interests. For instance, in rural and peri-urban parts of Amazonia, ecotourism and other tourist-related activities, alongside the environmental economy, have flourished in the last few decades and are growing exponentially (Peluso & Alexiades, 2005). For example, in 1989, \$150,000,000 was spent in Manaus in hotel construction, with tourism being the largest source of income in the state of Amazonas (Veseth, 2002).

Avahuasca tourists increasingly visit Amazonian cities and rural areas. Such tourism is part of adventure and/or international tourism, whereby individuals and groups travel for the opportunity to take the brewed mixture of *Banisteriopsis* caapi and Psychotria or various other admixtures. Ayahuasca holds great fascination for travelers, particularly because of its potential for providing hallucinatory visions that can be used to diagnose and heal illness, as well as to provide psychotherapeutic benefits (Trichter, 2010), alongside its association with romanticized and exoticized images of Amazonia in the popular imagination (Ramos, 1987; Conklin, 1997). Ayahuasca rituals, whereby ayahuasca is administered by an ayahuasquero (individuals who use ayahuasca, including some shamans), have long been practiced locally in Amazonia and its surrounding Andean environments by indigenous people and mestizos (Dobkin de Rios, 1970; Taussig, 1987; Gow, 1994; Beyer, 2010; Luna, 2011; Calavia Sáez, 2014); and, since the 1930s, these rituals have also been integrated into popular expanding religious forms through Santo Daime, Barquinha, and the União do Vegetal (UDV) in Brazil (Labate, Macrae, & Goulart, 2010).

With the advent of ayahuasqueros traveling abroad and the export of ayahuasca itself, ayahuasca tourism has assumed international proportions, and ayahuasca seekers and tourists are no longer restricted to drinking this hallucinogenic beverage *in situ*. The possibilities for participating in ayahuasca ceremonies or consuming it individually have been mounting (Labate & Cavnar, 2014). Now more readily available outside of local or regional Amazonian settings, ayahuasca experience-seeking is a global trend (Alexiades, 2002; Winkelman, 2005; Tupper, 2008; 2009; Labate, Cavnar, & Barbira Friedman, 2014). As such, ayahuasca is now replicated or integrated into new forms of practice in places like Australia (Gearin, Chapter 6 in this volume), Canada (Tupper, 2011), the United States (Trichter, 2010; Harris & Gurel, 2012), the Netherlands (Groisman, 2001), Spain, Germany (Balzer, 2005), as well as countries in Africa (Greenfield & Droogers, 2001; Sobiecki, 2013), Asia, and elsewhere (Labate & Jungaberle, 2011).

Overall, in the last decade, ayahuasca ceremonies and retreats have been offered frequently enough for the opportunity to be considered commonplace (Davidov, 2010; Fotiou, 2010). I suggest that until recently, ayahuasca, as a potential industry, has mostly remained untapped because of its spiritual and religious uses that may be seen as antithetical to modernity, alongside its variable legal status. Its temporary haven as an unexploited market is also linked to a general interpretation

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of the avahuasca experience as being sacred and therefore outside of the realm of capitalism. For instance, its existence as a practice is often negated as having anything to do with money (Peluso, forthcoming). Prior to the international focus on rainforests and the creation of national parks and reserves, tourism to Amazonia was steady and in some cases lagging. For some time, avahuasca had been rather protected from an onslaught of attention and the unleashing of its own marketing potential. However, for the last two decades, the emerging position of the avahuasca experience as a potential income source, both locally and internationally, can no longer be ignored. Ayahuasca tourism has ignited the potential economic business lure ablaze with local, national, and international interests in avahuasca as part of broader sets of globalization processes.

Avahuasca economies

I would like to first distinguish between ayahuasca as part of a local economy and avahuasca as a form of entrepreneurism. Economically, shamans and avahuasqueros have long been participating in various forms of exchange that have generally compensated them for their time, skills, and talents. They have tended to peoples outside of their communities, cities, and countries. Indeed, shamans from "afar" are often perceived as being more powerful, and therefore people tend to travel great distances to cure more serious illnesses or social problems (Taussig, 1987). As healers and sorcerers, avahuasqueros have always been integral to their local and regional economies, yet systems of reciprocity and tendencies toward egalitarianism, whereby peoples' livelihoods may be different but their lifestyles are not, have meant that their status did not indicate economic stratification (Clastres, 1987).

In this chapter, "avahuasca entrepreneurism" refers to a set of responses to the dynamics of increased avahuasca tourism and the marketing strategies used to attract such tourism. This phenomenon has resulted in the proliferation of shamans, avahuasqueros, tourist lodges, and agencies that provide the avahuasca experience alongside a plethora of other secondary businesses that participate in this rise in popularity and demand. Here, entrepreneurism reflects smaller-scale activities than those normally associated with high-profile entrepreneurism (e.g., the creation of Apple, Inc.), thus incorporating micro-businesses and enterprises. In taking heed to Keith Hart's (1975) call that the use of "entrepreneur" be refined, here I refer to entrepreneurs as leaders who exercise particular "aspects" of their roles (Barth, 1963, p. 6), whereby they assume risk and implement initiative, anticipating and taking advantage of market opportunities as they arise, and often "manipulate other persons and resources" to meet their ends. In referring to the entrepreneurial role, I highlight the opportunistic features of that push toward profit maximization, whereby profit can also include enterprises listed as nonprofit organizations, such as various nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), eco-ventures, and charitable institutions. I also emphasize how entrepreneurism is a cultural process (Greenfield & Strickon, 1981) that reflects consumer targeting and desires, and the social and political milieus and principles to which these businesses abide and in which they operate.

It is useful here to explore ayahuasca as being part of an "entrepreneurship ecosystem," a term that I borrow from Isenberg (2010) and modify to reflect an anthropological approach to the ayahuasca industry. For Isenberg, an entrepreneurship ecosystem consists of the complex combination of "individual elements – such as leadership, culture, capital markets, and open minded customer. . . . In isolation each is conducive to entrepreneurship but insufficient to sustain it" (Isenberg, 2010, p. 3). I view such elements as already being informed by and shaping one another so as to reflect the fluidity, mixture, and unboundedness of culture. An ayahuasca entrepreneurial ecosystem would need to include indigenous and nonindigenous individuals, groups, and organizations, and the nations/states in which they reside, and be a crucial mechanism for the ayahuasca diaspora. These entities, or "stakeholders," can be favorable or inhibitive for entrepreneurships to prosper.

There is a scant, yet growing, literature on the anthropology of entrepreneurship (Stewart, 1991). Historically and currently, much entrepreneurism is studied within the context of large-scale organizations (Casson, 1986; Oviatt, McDougall, & Loper, 1995). Yet, more recently, it has been located in the individuals who craft local forms of livelihood amid processes of global capitalism (Dolan & Johnstone-Louis, 2011; Sanchez, 2012; Meisch, 2013). It is in this latter vein that I explore the unfolding entrepreneurism surrounding ayahuasca. Here, I suggest that ayahuasca tourism and ceremonies have generated a series of profit-based opportunistic small businesses that, as a whole, link into the larger, broader industries, such as adventure travel (Palmer, 2002), international tourism (Becker, 2013), and the New Age movement (Davies & Freathy, 2014). To illustrate how such small-scale entrepreneurism emerges and expands, I elaborate by focusing on the Tambopata Province of Madre de Dios, Peru – one of many regions that attract ayahuasca tourists – and then broaden the analysis to include the international market for ayahuasca.⁴

Amazonian and international frontiers

The Tambopata Province is the largest of three provinces in the department of Madre de Dios. Its economy is based on the extraction of raw materials, including gold mining and timber, as well as forest products, such as Brazil nuts. Tambopata is designated as a biodiversity "hot spot," comprised of the Tambopata National Reserve and the Bahuaja-Sonene National Park. These form part of a "megacorridor" aimed to tie together Bolivian and Peruvian protected areas (Bennett & Ader, 2004). Thus, ecotourism is a major growing industry in the province. In 2005, in the Tambopata Province, ecotourist lodges brought in U.S. \$6 million out of U.S. \$11.6 million spent on Peruvian rainforest ecotourism, of which U.S. \$3.8 million were local revenues, i.e., funds transacted in Tambopata (Kirkby et al., 2011). Ayahuasca, once a decidedly local practice, has exploded alongside this environmental economy sector.

Only 30 years ago, the ayahuasca usage landscape was starkly different. In the 1980s, the information for nonlocals who were interested in experiencing ayahuasca was scarce, and very few people were openly known as ayahuasqueros. In 1983, a nonlocal European man who lived in Puerto Maldonado, the capital of Madre de Dios, was one of the first nonlocals to be interested in taking ayahuasca. He explained how it was not a straightforward process in those days to encounter people willing to talk about ayahuasca. After trying to determine who knew how to prepare and drink the brew and whom he could approach, he was eventually directed to two men, a *Tacana* and a *ribereño*, both living in the Ese Eja native community of Infierno. When he first went to the community to search for either of these men, he met an Ese Eja man who was serendipitously approaching the ribereño ayahuasqueros to drink for the very first time, an experience they shared together. Although the eco-lodges in Tambopata now boast that ayahuasca is an ancient Ese Eja tradition, Ese Eja, like many other indigenous groups, recently learned to drink ayahuasca from nonindigenous others (Alexiades, 2000).

In the 1980s, there were also several mestizos and one well-known Shipibo ayahuasquero, now deceased, with the characteristic frontal-occipital skull deformation of Shipibo-Konibo peoples who also practiced in Puerto Maldonado. When I interviewed his daughter-in-law, she explained that "gringos" never came to see him, yet patients arrived from elsewhere. Surely there were numerous other ayahuasqueros that were unknown to outsiders, and certainly in some of the indigenous communities such as Tres Islas, where the practice continued among Shipibo, with one younger ayahuasquero who continues to drink to date. Yet, there was generally much silence around ayahuasca's use, and it certainly would have been challenging for travelers to come across ayahuasqueros.

The silence and secrecy that once effusively surrounded avahuasca practices is understandable considering that municipal officials, the Catholic Church, and evangelical groups have systematically condemned the practice of avahuasca drinking (Dobkin de Rios & Grob, 2005; Tupper, 2008). Such demonization of the practice certainly continues to inform attitudes of rural and townsfolk toward both avahuasca and its participants. The crucial step in normalizing avahuasca in the Madre de Dios region was the emergence of AMETRA 2001 (Aplicación de Medicina Tradicional), an indigenous health project aimed at integrating local health beliefs and practices with basic aspects of primary healthcare (Cueva, 1990, Alexiades & Lacaze, 1996). Although drinking ayahuasca was not a specific aim of the program, the program did aim to support and revitalize shamanism. The project was modeled after AMETRA-Ucayali and counted on the participation of Shipibo shamans, whose presence gave prominence to the use of avahuasca in shamanic practices and resulted in the training of shamans as ayahuasqueros. By 1986, the project had spread throughout Madre de Dios, and it cast ayahuasca, alongside other indigenous treatments for health and illness, in a positive and popular light. It is in the AMETRA era that various indigenous individuals who did not customarily drink ayahuasca began to do so with more frequency. During my own fieldwork visits, I witnessed the training of Shipibo, Ese Eja, Hauchipaere, and Amahuaca individuals as avahuasqueros, as well as others. Avahuasca practices were focused on community health and healing, but with the eventual changes that were to come, a few individuals began to drink with tourists; and one

of these ayahuasqueros began holding ayahuasca ceremonies in Cusco, a prime South American tourist destination.

Nationally, tourism began to surge after the election of Alberto Fujimori as President of Peru in 1990, the subsequent renegotiation of foreign debt, and the defeat of *Sendero Luminoso* and the *Movimiento Revolucionario Túpac Amaru* (MRTA) activities.⁷ These actions encouraged international investment as the country invested in their transportation infrastructure, thrusting Peru toward a tourist boom (Desforges, 2000) that has not stopped since. Tourism to the Tambopata district benefitted from these changes particularly, as international interest in the rainforest movement also gained momentum, and international conservation organizations became more active in South America. Furthermore, the 1990s was a catapult decade for technological and communications innovations that served to bridge the temporal and spatial distances between places as geographically remote as Tambopata and the rest of the world, a transformation referred to as a "time—space compression" (Harvey, 1989), and critical to globalization processes.

Further, gradual changes in attitudes toward ayahuasca in the 1990s emerged from two principal directions: the flourishing tourism lodges ("eco" or otherwise) that began to prosper; and the small but influential migration to Puerto Maldonado of individuals and their families, which was unassociated with previous migrations related to the "gold rush" (mining) or poverty alleviation strategies. Such a migration was in distinct juxtaposition to Andean migrants who began to arrive to Tambopata in the late 1960s, and increasingly in the 1980s, mostly due to state incentives, population pressures, landlessness, poverty, or to economic booms, such as the "gold rush" or lax regulations on timber extraction (Serra-Vega, 1990; Fraser, 2009). This small but different wave of migrants opened small businesses and embraced the benefits of living in an Amazonian town. They also tended to show interest in rainforest conservation and the struggles of indigenous peoples.

The setting in the 1980s – when there were only two lodges and no other touristic operations apart from a few freelance guides who only sporadically obtained work by standing at the small airport whenever a flight arrived – has changed significantly. In fact, the airport, formerly a one-room tin-roofed structure, was replaced by a more seemingly modern structure. By 2008, there were 37 ecotourism lodges (Kirkby et al., 2011); and since then, at least a dozen more have opened, as Peruvian legislation increasingly grants private concessions for conservation or ecotourism ventures. As nonlocal individuals increasingly traveled to the Amazon in search of ayahuasqueros, the lodges began to offer an option to drink ayahuasca with their own ayahuasquero, someone they kept in-house or at hand, or by transporting guests to the ayahuasquero's home or center.

The increase in tourism, lodges, and the influx of people has had a significant impact on how the ayahuasca experience is perceived locally. Although conservative Christian beliefs against the ritual still prevail, seeing it as the work of the devil, their influence has lost its grip against the encroachment of other views. The fact that national visitors and international tourists were seeking out ayahuasca prompted local peoples and businesses to perceive it as something valuable. Consequently, ayahuasca began to be viewed as a potentially lucrative source of

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income whose demand by outsiders helped to validate its legitimacy. This meant that more people wanted to become openly associated with ayahuasca, including many who had no prior interest or knowledge about it, and this also served as a catalyst for the current proliferation of ayahuasqueros and their apprentices.

The entrepreneurial drive

Accordingly, ayahuasca became much more accessible, less secretive, and more readily available via individuals and lodges. Whereas it was once lone travelers who made their way to seek an ayahuasquero, burgeoning tour guides and tourist lodges soon began to bring tourists together with ayahuasqueros. In such scenarios, there is a wide array of participants who may potentially come together for the ayahuasca experience, and with ever-increasing chances that they are inexperienced. In both urban and rural areas, individual homes and lodges began to make themselves available as part of an ayahuasca ecosystem, offering their spaces and attempting to gather together basic levels of expertise. Such accommodations range from small and basic to large and luxurious; they can be individually or family owned, partly owned by an indigenous or ribereño community or owned by a larger consortium of partners. They can thus cater to backpackers, affluent visitors, and anyone in between.

Locally, the critical nucleus for an avahuasca ceremony had usually been the patient and the healer. This could also include assistants and family and community members. In such a setting, there is little that resembles a formal business, apart from the fact that services are rendered and some form of compensation, usually voluntary, eventually follows. Yet in the specialized centers, one sees the full gamut of avahuasca entrepreneurship and, in the larger lodges, one is struck by the way that the ayahuasca experience is offered to tourists as readily as a birdwatching activity or hiking event, mostly through a language that exoticizes its features, e.g., "ancient," "tradition," "magical," etc. (Labate, 2011). By the 1990s, some avahuasqueros began to seize the opportunities that adventure tourism presented by starting to operate lodges or healing centers on their lands, or purchasing or renting lands for such purposes. In the case of the Tacana ayahuasquero mentioned earlier, he reorganized his homestead to make space for sleepover guests and put up a large wooden plaque upon which he painted his name. He also sporadically asked his son to help with transportation, but for the most part, at the age of 84, he still runs a solo business. Most other ventures are often family-based but also employ workers such as cooks and cleaners. Having a lodge or center also broadens the extended involvement of tour agencies, tour guides, additional tourist attraction activities and sites, botanical and artisanal producers and markets, boat and taxi drivers, and social media and business Internet sites. I would classify this type of interest and expansion as small-scaled entrepreneurism, wherein the growth of the business comes from an existing livelihood.

The eco-lodges in the Tambopata area represent much larger-scale entrepreneurism than the ventures I have just described. Lodges openly advertise ayahuasca ceremonies as one of many possible activities that their guests may participate in.

Some lodges have been exclusively set up with ayahuasca retreats in mind (Fotiou, 2010). Furthermore, these lodges have a strong presence on the Internet via their own websites or other websites that cater to tourism. Often, visits to these lodges are also part of larger tourist industry packages (Kirkby et al., 2011), and at least three of these lodges own or have commercial ties to tourist agencies in Cusco or Lima. Further, income can also be garnered from government conservation concessions and grants (Kirkby et al., 2011) and from certification accreditation for behaving as model eco-tourist businesses (Cater, 2006; Jamal, Borges, & Stronza, 2006). These larger operations employ a retinue of managers, guides, boat drivers, bus drivers, airport greeters, cooks, cleaners, and several others.

The lodges and centers specifically set up to capitalize on the avahuasca boom are strongly linked to the New Age movement, either through their ownership or their clientele. In the last two decades, Peruvian nationals and non-Peruvian entrepreneurs, not local to Madre de Dios, founded a majority of these lodges; they often incorporate a local partner, though more usually, a caretaker. This trend is also common in other parts of Peru (Fotiou, 2010; Holman, 2011; Labate, 2011) and reflects the ability of nonlocals or foreigners to better access cash, and therefore to seize such entrepreneurial opportunities. A frequent origin narrative among a subset of more recent newer lodges is that the owners were greatly enthused by avahuasca visions and were thus inspired to permanently move to the place where they had their ayahuasca "awakening" (Doyle, 2006, p. 14), an experience in which one experiences their own "divinity" (p. 13) and that stirs one to dedicate his or her life to a greater spiritual quest. I have commonly witnessed ayahuasca tourists return to Tambopata with messianic zeal, believing that they were "chosen" to save the world, which is not necessarily negative as long as it is rooted in an understanding of local reality and is not detrimental to others. In one case, a woman sold her home, gave up her career as a professional musician, and arrived ready to open a lodge. By the time she got a clear sense of how everything worked, all of her money was gone. Cases of post-avahuasca-session-euphoria have been amply documented both historically (Gearin, 2015) and contemporarily; a memorable example is the case of an Englishman who returned to Peru to follow his ayahuasca vision using his substantial cash savings to build a sevenstory floating wooden pyramid hotel/cultural center, only to watch it disintegrate into driftwood (Mann, 2011). Yet several lodges designed as avahuasca centers, having a separate maloca (ritual house) for the ceremony, are successful, especially when they take time to allow their businesses to develop and thus attain a better sense of local culture and how things are best situated. These lodges will seek their own shaman, and the owners themselves are often interested in becoming neoshamans: nonlocal ayahuasqueros. It is common for them to apprentice with the avahuasquero in residence.

Ayahuasca lodges and ceremonies are also advertising in New Age periodicals and websites, as well as in blogs and social media. On many of these websites, individuals share their spiritual awakenings and indirectly entice others to follow suit. In order to sell rooms and tour packages, lodges are registering with service websites such as Trip Advisor and Booking.com, where consumers can, in turn,

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give feedback. Other websites, such as Aya Advisor (http://ayaadvisor.org), cater specifically to avahuasca tourist interests so that travelers can post reviews based on various aspects of their avahuasca experiences.

International avahuasca tourists began to organize avahuasca sessions in their home countries, flying in their shamans and hosting workshops. At these workshops, attendees pay per person and the funds are divided differentially to cover the avahuasquero's travel and associated expenses, yet also allow him or her to return with a stipend that usually ranges in the thousands, if not tens of thousands, of dollars. In the latter cases, particularly in places like California, arrangements are made for avahuasqueros to hold rituals with celebrities who demonstrate their appreciation monetarily (Labate, 2011). In addition, the host's costs are usually also covered. This, too, ranges differentially; whereas some hosts are only covered for the expense of hosting such an event, others derive a percentage for their efforts. Such entrepreneurial efforts serve to create an international market for both avahuasca and avahuasqueros.

In Tambopata, the avahuasca entrepreneurial ecosystem has had various negative impacts on local populations who have long depended upon avahuasqueros for purposes of health. These changes are part of a comparatively pan-Amazonian response to international ayahuasca tourism, and the resultant processes of commodification and appropriation of their practices, that entails local peoples' inaccessibility to avahuasqueros due to tourist obligations, the legitimacy of practices, the sanitization of rituals for Western purposes, and a host of health and safety issues affecting both locals and tourists (Hutchins, 2000; Labate & Cavnar, 2004; Peluso, 2006; Tupper, 2009; Davidov, 2010; Holman, 2010; Labate, 2011; Homan, Chapter 8 in this volume; Tupper, Chapter 9 in this volume;). These impacts further exacerbate economic differences in local populations, and also vis-à-vis nonlocal participation in the commodification of cultural practices, a point I will return to.

If one considers that ayahuasqueros now also travel abroad, and that Westerners have also become avahuasqueros and thus have their own tour and retreat schedules, then the level of participation expands yet further, as such activities are welcomed and endorsed by adventure travel and the New Age movement. Such New Age interests endorse a variety of shamanic retreats and training workshops, courses, and centers. Furthermore, the growing international popularity of Brazilian religions that use avahuasca as a sacrament need to also be taken into account when considering the spread of ayahuasca's popularity. Add to this the sales, both on- and off-line, of the ingredients for brewing ayahuasca, and an array of other products and paraphernalia – such as raw tobacco rolls (mapacho), agua de florida, music CDs of ayahuasquero chants (icaros), textiles (such as Shipibo cloths, noted as reflecting the geometric patterns common in ayahuasca visions), jewelry, drawings and paintings – and there is further incentive to promote, produce, and reproduce ayahuasca practices. If one searches for ayahuasca ingredients and paraphernalia on the Internet, the pages go on and on.

Another entrepreneurial design has been the development and the sale of pharmahuasca⁸ or its equivalent, a synthesized form of ayahuasca (Ott, 2011; Araújo et al., 2015) with a strong underground market that services various ayahuasca

sects who prefer to ingest ayahuasca this way (Anonymous, personal communication). In addition, there is an arena of legal specialists who endeavor to protect ayahuasca's usage, the academics who write about ayahuasca, and the NGOs that support its use and practices – thus, there is a significant assemblage of livelihoods that come together to form this industry, ranging from a small household or community in Amazonia to financiers on Wall Street or celebrities in Ibiza.

It is therefore not only avahuasca's spiritual status but also entrepreneurial efforts that have assisted in the avahuasca experience emerging amidst a globalized set of activities. This flourishing has also inspired local NGOs that are concerned about the rapid proliferation of avahuasqueros, many of whom are considered to be untrained. As an avahuasquero in Tambopata explained, he is also disturbed by neoshamanism and the fact that many of the nonlocal peoples who are taught for short periods of time consider themselves to be bona fide avahuasqueros. Furthermore, some local avahuasqueros resent that Westerners come to apprentice them and then return to their own countries to earn money from their craft (Razam, 2014); this may also destabilize the local ayahuasquero's importance in the international avahuasca network. Yet, established avahuasqueros are just as concerned by the proliferation of indigenous ayahuasqueros as they are of foreign ones. Their concern is with anyone who is inexperienced and insufficiently trained, as they view this as impacting the quality of both the avahuasca and the healing practices. and thus the reputation of their profession. In the case of Colombia, as a result of the gathering in 1999 of the most esteemed *yageceros* (ayahuasquero shamans) and community representatives, a declaration, code of ethics, and alliance among them was founded: the Unión de Médicos Indígenas Yageceros de la Amazonía Colombiana (UMIYAC) (the Union of Indigenous Yagé Healers of the Colombian Amazon), an alliance among Ingano, Kofan, Siona, Kamsá, Coreguaje, Tatuyo, and Carijona. Similar alliances, such as the Consejo de Yachak Runa Amazónico del Ecuador (Yachak Runa Amazonian Council of Ecuador) are aimed to preserve cultural and professional integrity. 10

Ayahuasca cosmopolitanism

Ayahuasca tourism and its diaspora has also fostered a strong embracement of cosmopolitanism – a shared moral and philosophical commitment to "the primacy of world citizenship over all national, religious, cultural, ethnic and other parochial affiliations" (Beck & Sznaider, 2010, p. 6) – creating a sense for ayahuasca tourists that they are all part of a singular utopian community. In many cases, this creates blindness on the part of ayahuasca seekers toward the social and economic differences between Amazonians and non-Amazonians. The rising cosmopolitanism of ayahuasqueros has much to do with the capitalistic entrepreneurial ecosystem in which all participants partake and its focus is on urbanism. When ayahuasqueros first began to travel, their consumption of novelties was at first experimental; yet eventually, a political positioning was dynamically asserted through consumption and capital investment amid families, communities, and cities that embraces cosmopolitanism – indigenous, ribereño, mestizo, or otherwise.

The income and travel perks amassed while traveling abroad, where avahuasca workshop prices are considerable, is often used to purchase an urban home or the land and infrastructure for a local lodge. Indeed, several avahuasqueros I have interviewed have funded their lodges from money earned abroad, and they continue to travel when needed to bolster their funds (see also Labate, 2011).

Concern for well-being among practitioners and users of avahuasca has recently spurred further entrepreneurship and niche marketing. Some lodges advertise only female shamans as a way of safeguarding against potential sexual impropriety (Peluso, 2014); others emphasize further details about the avahuasqueros they use, as well as a series of safety guidelines and more comprehensive details. Avahuasca seekers can also find an abundance of information via a plethora of user-friendly websites that offer valuable information, such as AyaAdvisor.org, Plantaforma, Steven Beyer's SingingtothePlants.com, 11 and other organizations such as the International Center for Ethnobotanical Education Research & Service (ICEERS) (see De Loenen, Parés Franquero, and Sánchez Avilés, Chapter 11 in this volume), who offer a comprehensive set of safety guidelines, as well as general and scientific information. Following such readily available services, a new NGO, the Ethnobotanical Stewardship Council (ESC), has also surfaced with the self-appointed mission to "protect people who work with this medicine [avahuasca]" and to set up guidelines for practice so as to provide a comprehensive certification or "assurance" at the retreat center level, so that avahuasca seekers and tourists can differentiate the market (Wickerham, Percival, Flaming, & Keller, 2014, pp. 13, 65). Although the organization claims to build broad consensus, its mission is based on the needs of Western consumers; and indeed, the idea for this organization emerged from the founders' attendance at the Psychedelic Science 2013 conference in California. Organizations like the ESC, with the support of its fiscal sponsor, the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelics Society (MAPS), reflect a common feature of ayahuasca entrepreneurism and the ayahuasca diaspora: that they seem to mostly financially benefit outsiders and target their efforts toward the well-being of Western clientele rather than the communities from where ayahuasca practices emerge, although their discourse and marketing are pitched as being concerned with the well-being of these communities. An examination of the ESC board and field-workers reflects a lack of field expertise and knowledge about local avahuasca beliefs and practices, given their large sweeping mission. Their emergence as self-acclaimed authorities is symptomatic of the over-optimism that sometimes accompanies a variety of entrepreneurial forms (Dosi & Lovallo, 1997). It is not unlike the proliferation of poorly trained ayahuasqueros and is reminiscent of the messianic qualities of novice ayahuasca visionaries mentioned earlier. While it makes sense that the conference attendees who inspired the ESC had concerns about avahuasca safety, even though many of them may not even see ayahuasca tourism as part of the problem, it was the concerns of Western conference-goers that were expressed, not the concerns of Amerindians. While larger eco-tourism businesses might view a certification scheme as beneficial, and they may be well positioned to acquire and market such a competitive advantage, the scheme would simultaneously prejudice those

smaller ventures that do not have the necessary Western-appealing infrastructure. There are serious challenges surrounding the complexity of identifying legitimate authorities, actors, voices, and criteria if an organization like the ESC were to place their brand on the avahuasca market. Apart from reservations relating to viability and ethical considerations, or even the desirability, of whether devising effective measures of "transparency," "efficacy," and "safety" with regards to participation in avahuasca sessions is even suitable or possible, the ESC's scheme will unwittingly draw lines across the Amazonian landscape between those their organization would deem as legitimate actors and those they would not. 12 In turn, certification, as proposed by an NGO like the ESC, would offer a discriminative marketing tool; this tool would be discriminatory by default, as some organizations would gain a competitive edge in a world where there is already a marked disjuncture between what transpires in the spoken, material, and visible realities, and the unspoken, intangible, and invisible worlds.¹³ Such entrepreneurism makes sense for Western avahuasca tourists, and would likely exacerbate tourism levels, but it makes little sense within the broader social, political, and cultural contexts in which the majority of local avahuasca practitioners live and operate.

Ayahuasca entrepreneurism needs to be analyzed as part of the colonial legacy and postcolonial context from which it sprang forth, and within which it continues to be shaped. Economic growth and prosperity have been uneven across all sectors of society, and indigenous peoples and their lands have suffered at the behest of a long history of extractive industries, including rubber and, more recently, oil and gas companies. Indeed, in particular instances, entrepreneurship has been associated with piracy because, similar to pirates, entrepreneurs may sometimes appropriate value that they themselves have not created, thus unsettling processes of supply and demand (Dent, 2012, p. 29). As I have discussed, entrepreneurial efforts range from the most grassroots homestead, where profits are more localized, to larger tourist agencies and organizations that see an opportunity to find their niche, make their mark, and make money while the profits are garnered and stored elsewhere. As the ayahuasca ecosystem expands, ayahuasca tourists search for this "way of life" . . . and are ironically creating more "ways of making a living."

Conclusions

There is a wide range of existing and potential forms of ayahuasca-related businesses that comprise an ayahuasca entrepreneurial ecosystem and contribute toward the making of an ayahuasca industry. This chapter has argued that such entrepreneurship is clearly linked to ayahuasca's widespread global use, referred to in this volume as the "ayahuasca diaspora." In my discussion of the emergence of ayahuasca businesses in the Tampobata province of Madre de Dios, Peru, from the 1980s through to the present, I address the transformations that have taken place locally over time — mostly the emergence of international tourism, local entrepreneurship, and the international popularity of ayahuasca, alongside local

perceptions of avahuasca use and the political changes in Peru affecting both migration and tourism. In doing so, discussions of neo- and post-colonialism are inevitably linked to such transformations, particularly as profits are streamlined outside of local areas while the labor, expertise, and intellectual property of local peoples and their lands are disadvantageously appropriated.

The avahuasca entrepreneurial ecosystem – whose participants range from individuals and groups, and whose enterprises range from the most rustic local homesteads to large tourist agencies and international networks and organizations – briskly responds to the increasing intensity of capitalist supply-and-demand dynamics. Within such a growing ecosystem, where both access to goods and resources and the capital to invest in them are unevenly available, local peoples are systematically disadvantaged. It is difficult for them to competitively engage in ways that do not compromise the integrity of their avahuasca practices, whether it be because their avahuasqueros are with tourists or are too busy traveling, or because there is a plethora of undertrained self-acclaimed avahuasqueros who are not effective healers or social mediators. As avahuasqueros multiply as a response to indiscriminate demand and they become more customer- and consumeroriented, both locally and in their travels, and as avahuasca seekers become more product purchase-oriented, exchange is as unequal as the "structures of economic development that underpin the global circulation of designated 'exotic' goods" (Huggan, 2002, p. 15). As such, the emerging forms of entrepreneurism and cosmopolitanism of the avahuasca industry participate in an historically ongoing economic neo-colonization of South America in ways that privilege nonlocal profits and benefits. Scholars note that, when nation-states are formed after long periods of imperial dominance, such as in Latin America, they recurrently become "managers for Western enterprise" as part of broader processes, whereby the generation of wealth happens abroad – or as Fanon crudely states, "in practice set[ting] up its country as the brothel of Europe" (Fanon, 1965, p. 154). With practices such as avahuasca, when the market becomes determined and controlled by nonlocals, forms of the old colonialist practices emerge in these various entrepreneurial opportunities to find a market niche and generate profits. The tensions between "the official end of direct colonial rule and its presence and regeneration through hegemonizing neo-colonialism within the First World and toward the Third World" (Shohat, 1992, p. 107) is historically structured in these global relationships. The ayahuasca diaspora is aligned with the tendency for goods to flow from the "south" to the "north" (or also, toward powerful nationals); and, while it holds the promise of the great global transformations precipitated by many of its forerunners, such as rubber or quinine, it should also be heeded that this diaspora does not consist of similar patterns of exploitation and disruption as did some of its predecessors. Further caution is also due to how avahuasca entrepreneurism may contradict some of the core values associated with ayahuasca that it seeks attain, uphold, and "sell."14

The sweeping technological, transportation, and communication advances and ensuing changes across the globe, reflecting a "time-space compression" (Harvey, 1989), have been critical to globalization processes which minimize the temporal

and spatial distances between Amazonians and other people, places, capital, products, processes, and ideas. Such bridging has also meant that practices such as ayahuasca rituals become part of the flows of trade, migration, and movement of people and ideas. Yet, alongside this intensification of social relations¹⁵ and the greater dissemination of knowledge and beliefs, particularly through increased travel and diasporas of practices, is a greater potential for its appropriation and exploitation – to the extent that economic dominance overtakes what would otherwise be a more equally negotiated set of transformations that all culture and its effects undergo as part of the human condition.

Whereas innovation is a motor for change, it can also inspire entrepreneurs to push too hard and too fast. Ayahuasca entrepreneurism can also encourage excess and poor judgment, like the bundling together of a variety of Amazonian and Andean plant rituals and uses, such as San Pedro cactus (Echinopsis pachanoi); datura (various Brugmansia species); kampo venom (Phyllomedusa bicolor); tobacco (Nicotiana) in various forms such as eaten, snuffed, ingested, and as purges; and marketing them as part of this growing ayahuasca industry (see Labate, 2014). Such mix-and-match marketing is effective among the New Age groups who have a penchant for combining traditions. ¹⁶ Notwithstanding, entrepreneurism is a human outlook and practice that is poised to partake in any competitive market opportunity. As I have described here, ayahuasca cosmo-capitalist endeavors hold significant possibilities toward fostering increasing inter-connectedness, but they also have escalating tendencies toward redefining the terms of business among an already unequal set of relations. Here, it is critical to understand that local and global avahuasca entrepreneurs portray their products and activities as being "good" and intricately engaged in spiritual-seeking endeavors, which ultimately redefine and determine the outcome of such practices in ways that, inevitably, also reflect capitalism, globalization, and the postcolonial predicaments.

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Notes

- 1 Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology, University of Kent, UK. Email: D.Peluso@kent.ac.uk
- 2 This research is based on over 25 years of ethnographic participant-observation research in Amazonia, particularly in the Madre de Dios region of Peru and the Pando and Beni

- regions of Bolivia. For this study, I used targeted interviews with ayahuasqueros, avahuasca-related entrepreneurs, and avahuasca participants.
- 3 Some scholars suggest that the veneer of danger was part of a strategy to ensure compensation from the European colonial powers (Mabry, 2002).
- 4 Peruvian cities such as Iquitos, Tarapoto, and Pucallpa are also popular ayahuascaseeker destination sites.
- 5 Tacanas are indigenous Amazonians (Takána language family). Ribereños are Amazonian people of mixed European and Amerindian ancestry who are native Spanish
- 6 AMETRA-Ucayali was founded in 1982 by Guillermo Arévalo, a Shipibo shaman/ avahuasquero who began teaching youth in over 100 communities how to identify plants and prepare remedies to treat common health problems, such as intestinal parasites, diarrhea, and dehydration. Guillermo, his father Benito, also a shaman, and other established shamans came to Tambopata to assist with the AMETRA 2001. In an interview with the Tacana avahuasquero of Infierno, he references an AMETRA workshop on ayahuasca (though not by name) in Tambopata to explain how he became inspired to use ayahuasca for healing, after having previously learned to drink ayahuasca among Bolivian woodworkers in the 1950s for personal use only. The important role of Didier Lacaze, as co-founder of AMETRA 2001 and health advocate dedicated to indigenous health issues, is often underplayed in the history of how ayahuasca spread in the Tambopata region.
- 7 See Homan, Chapter 8 in this volume, for a comparative analysis regarding historical changes in Iquitos, Peru.
- 8 Pharmahuasca contains crystalline N₂N-dimethyltryptamine (DMT) plus harmine, as well as combinations of other psychoactive tryptamines with other β-carbolines (Ott, 1999).
- 9 See the Amazon Conservation Team (ACT) website: http://amazon.dead-city.org/umi vac.html
- 10 See www.ecured.cu/index.php/Yachak
- 11 See, for instance, Beyer's risk management plan for lodges: www.singingtotheplants. com/2012/10/you-cant-call-911-in-jungle/
- 12 See www.avahuasca.com/amazon/statement-critiquing-the-ethnobotanical-stewardshipcouncil-esc/
- 13 See Cater (2006) for a viewpoint on the Western construction of ecotourism and her reflection on how certification schemes "may be used to further enfranchise the powerful tourism companies" (p. 26).
- 14 See West and Carrier (2004) for a similar discussion regarding the ecotourism milieu, and Western projections and ideals concerning natural environments and the people who live there, further linking such values to neoliberal institutions.
- 15 See Rosaldo (2002) and James (2006) for broader discussions in non-Amazonian contexts.
- 16 This mixing of traditions as a means to achieve market diversification may, unfortunately, be associated with the increase in ayahuasca-related accidents.

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