

**EXPLORING PSYCHOMANTEUM AS A PSI-CONDUCTIVE STATE OF
CONSCIOUSNESS: PSYCHOLOGICAL, NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL AND
PARAPSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH OF ANOMALOUS COGNITION (ESP),
DYNAMIC/NON-DYNAMIC (EMOTIONAL) VISUAL TARGETS,
OBSERVATION/NON-OBSERVATION CONDITIONS, AND
PSYCHOMANTEUM/NON-PSYCHOMANTEUM SESSIONS
[BFP 45/02]**

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FINAL REPORT

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Abstract.- This mirror gazing procedure termed "psychomanteum" was developed by world well-known psychiatrist Dr. Raymond Moody, which was designed to facilitate reunions with deceased individuals, as a way of addressing feelings of bereavement. Although Moody termed the psychomanteum as a mean of divination. However, the purpose of the modern psychomanteum tends to be to facilitate reunions; the aim is not usually to seek ESP information about the future. There are many similarities and differences between psychomanteum experiences and accounts of hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery. Hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery is that which occurs during the transition states between wakefulness and sleep and between sleep. However, the hypnagogic-like imagery could be psi-conductive. The aim of this research project was explore if the psychomanteum is a psi-conductive state of consciousness above chance expectation, and –if it works– would be related to an altered state of consciousness or not. One hundred thirty-three participants (both 95 females and 38 males; Mean age= 47.44; SD= 12.02), were recruited by announcements in newspapers and magazines. Ninety six of them (78%) claimed to have had sometimes ESP experiences, 51 of them claimed to have ESP ability (41.8%), and 52 of them claimed have not ESP ability (42.6%). Each subject received seven questionnaires *Pre-psychomanteum Questionnaire*, *Psi Previous Experiences*, *Betts's Vividness of Imagery Scale*, *Barrett's Hallucinations Questionnaire*, *Neo Personality Inventory –Revised*, *Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire*, *Revised Physical Anhedonia Scale* and *Phenomenology of Consciousness Inventory*. Two conditions, psychomanteum and non-psychomanteum condition, were performed. Both conditions were blind to the experimenter, receiver, and sender. Under psychomanteum condition, psi-hitting was obtained (29.2%, notably above chance expected); however, under no-psychomanteum ("control") condition, 24.6% was obtained. The results differ significantly from mean chance expectation in psychomanteum condition ($p = .03$) in comparison with no-psychomanteum condition, but no significant differences were found. These interesting results seems to suggest that psychomanteum condition somehow optimizes psi-communication. A number of positive correlations were also found, for instance, subjects who scored higher Auditory ($p = .005$) and Visual hallucination ($p = .008$) scores tended to score psi-hitting. Sixty six participats underwent by two type of targets, video-clip (dynamic) and image-picture (no-dynamic), but no significant results were found.

INTRODUCTION

Background of the mirror gazing

Beginning in very remote times indeed, and independently in cultures all over the earth, human beings made an astonishing discovery: certain individuals see remarkable visions when gazing into the clear depth of a mirror, the still surface of a clear pond, or a crystal ball. These visions are eidetic; that is, they are projected into the visual space and are seen as though they are externally located. They are usually iridescently colored and three-dimensional and they often appear to move in a natural way, like the characters and scenes in a movie. The imagery assumes an apparent size proportional to the size of the speculum, small images being seen in small speculums, and large images in large ones. The crystal gazer has a sense that the visions appear and proceed independently of his or her conscious volition. Crystal gazing, as scrying, came to be used for divination: fortune telling, seeing events taking place at a great distance, locating lost objects, and criminal detection.

Divination by crystal gazing was practiced among the Ojibwa, Apaches, Cherokees, and other Native American groups. The chief oracle of Tibet used a magic scrying mirror to divine the future, and the cabinet ministers took his visions into account in directing state policy. In medieval Europe, *specularii* traveled from town to town telling fortunes by mirror gazing (about the history see Besterman, 1965; Kieckhefer, 1989; Thomas, 1905; Hyslop, 1896). Moody (Moody with Perry, 1993, p.143) says that "partly because of the association between crystal gazing and fortune telling, a kind of taboo about the subject has arisen among scholars [...]. However, some scholars have ignored academic timidity and have studied crystal visions and done fascinating work."

This mirror gazing procedure termed "psychomanteum" was developed by world well-known psychiatrist Dr. Raymond Moody (Arcangel, 1994; Moody, 1992; Moody with Perry, 1993) who authored the best-seller book *Life after Life* at the '70. It was designed to facilitate reunions with deceased individuals, as a way of addressing feelings of bereavement. Moody conducted clients through a process of remembrance and counseling combined with the mirror-gazing, and reported that about 50% of the participants believed they had a reunion with a loved one. Some of these reunion experiences involved apparent apparitions of the deceased person, both in the mirror and externally in the room. The apparitions that appear in the Psychomanteum may be similar to crisis and other apparitions that have been the topic of parapsychological theory and research, and the question of survival after death.

Raymond Moody (personal communication, 1995) has been conducting research on crystal gazing since 1987, and up to now has demonstrated the technique to hundreds of people (Moody & Arcangel, 2001). Dr. Moody has directly observed more than 300 individuals as they were crystal gazing and afterward interviewed them about their experiences. Based upon this work, he concluded that crystal gazing can be a helpful technique in

tapping into one's creative potential and an aid to self-understanding. According to Dr. Moody's files, several persons reported using it to their advantage in ferreting out conflictual issues and even in recovering repressed early trauma as a part of a process of psychotherapy.

Several visual images are usually seen in the mirror. These included black robed figures, animal faces, flowers, a starry night, a landscape, and faces. These may be similar to imagery seen in crystal gazing and the uses of mirrors by shamans and priests, where images are seen to form in the reflective surface (Lang, 1910; Myers, 1903). These have been documented and discussed in the early research on psychic phenomena. Gurney, Myers and Podmore (1886), in *Phantasms of the Living*, report hallucinations (apparitions) of faces in a polished surface of a wardrobe and in a window. People also reported colors and flashes of light, but these were not formed into images. It may be that these images seen by people could be developed into more complete and long lasting images, perhaps with symbolic meaning. The phenomena reported seem generally similar to those found by Roll and Braun (1995) and Radin and Rebman (1995).

Other perceptual modalities that are activated are sound (i.e. hearing voices, and unusual sounds, waves of sound and silence), proprioception (i.e. warmth, being touched, body movements) and smell (i.e. incense). Voices, smells and touch have been reported with apparitions, but the body sensations have not been and may be worthy of further study. At least three main phenomenological traits of the psychomanteum technique could be mentioned: 1. Sense of presence, Communication and dialogue (apparition interaction), and 2. Alterations in the sense of time.

1. *Sense of presence.* Many of the participants said that they felt the "presence" of the sought person, through energy, presence, a connection, or a sense of contact. These wordings may represent different inner experiences, but the sense is a feeling the person is there. Radin and Rebman's research (1995), which found that there were physiological changes in their participants, external or internal shifts in temperature, electromagnetic state, and other fields associated with feelings of presence.
2. *Communication and dialogue.* It appears that communication from the deceased and resulting dialogue took place subjectively, that is in the mind of the participant. Telepathy experiences are mentioned many times as the mode of communication. Sometimes this was one sided, with the deceased person giving a message and for other participants. Participants usually used psychomanteum to conduct inner dialogue with sub-personalities and imagined persons and images.
3. *Alterations in the sense of time.* Persons who experience altered states of consciousness often report that during these episodes their sense of time is distorted. Persons attending programs at the Crystal gazing techniques are asked not to wear watches.

Scientific research using psychomanteum technique

After a few minutes to a half-hour in the psychomanteum, many people report that the mirror seems to transform into a window, swirling clouds appear in this window, and then intensely vivid visions are seen through the window. On occasion, visions from the "other side" of the window appear to extend into the psychomanteum itself. These latter, three-dimensional visions, sometimes taking the form of humanoid apparitions, are often described as "hyper-real," that is, as more intensely real than the reality experienced under ordinary consciousness. An especially interesting aspect of visions induced by mirror gazing is the autonomy of the image (Kelly & Locke, 1981). That is, these visions appear to be so utterly separate from the viewer that Frederic Myers reported (see Myers 1903, Vol.1, Chapter 6) that occasionally an image could be examined in more detail under a magnifying glass.

Some people report that these apparitions are accompanied by electrostatic sensations (prickling skin, hair standing up), changes in ambient temperature (typically to extreme cold), or illumination anomalies (sparkling lights, whole room diffused with bright light) (Moody with Perry, 1993). The experience of seeing an apparition can also be accompanied by feelings of profound meaning, sometimes leading to significant transformations of personality. These dramatic effects are reminiscent of phenomena associated with peak experiences and mystical states (Ludwig, 1966).

In Roll's and Moody's experiments with the psychomanteum, about half of the participants reported some form of experience with apparitions of (presumably) departed spirits (Moody, 1994; Moody with Perry, 1993). Other researchers report more modest results with estimates ranging between 1 and 3 percent of population (Kelly & Locke, 1981), up to about 25 percent (Newbold, 1895). Of those who reported full-blown, vivid, stable apparitions, many were deeply affected and were utterly convinced that the apparitions were genuine. Radin (2001) found at least five possible hypotheses about the psychomanteum. In order of increasing controversy, these include:

- The *Neurological Hypothesis*, whereby exposure to certain environmental factors, or energies of certain frequencies, affect brain and nervous system functioning, which in turn evokes subjective hallucinations of apparitions, perhaps due to stimulation of neurological events such as temporal lobe microseizures (Persinger, 1985, 1987, 1989).
- The *Perceptual Hypothesis*, whereby exposure to certain environmental energies affect brain and nervous system functioning, which in turn allows us to perceive unusual events or objects, such as genuine ghosts, that cannot be perceived in ordinary states of awareness.
- The Telepathic Hypothesis, whereby intense telepathic rapport affects brain functioning, causing the telepathic communication to be perceived as though it was projected from outside the body,

sometimes in the form of the "sender's" image, as is often reported in cases of crisis telepathy (Gauld, 1977).

- The *Psychokinetic Hypothesis*, whereby intense subjective experiences occasionally intrude upon the physical world, as postulated in poltergeist activity and by the concept of psychokinetic phenomena in general (Roll, 1977).
- The *Ghost Hypothesis*, whereby apparitions are genuine, independent entities that can be directly perceived or indirectly detected as anomalous energetic effects (Roll, 1994).

A study by Roll and Braun (1995) of 41 persons in workshop formats found that 22% reported strong reunion experiences with apparitional elements, though not all saw full fledged apparitions. Radin and Rebman (1995), interested in the empirical nature of any experienced phenomena, used sophisticated electronic monitoring to detect any physical changes in the mirror room and in the physiology of the individuals. The seven participants reported fluctuations in illumination and temperature, feelings of presence, and mild apparitions. The instruments showed significant correlations between the physiological changes in the participants and physical environmental changes in the room, such as temperature, electrical and magnetic field strength, and ionizing radiation. Five of the seven participants reported that they felt the presence of a deceased individual, an animal, or angelic spirits. Two of these included perception of apparitions, though not full visionary experiences. The results were suggestive that the participants were experiencing altered states with corresponding physiology and physical environmental shifts and that apparitions might be facilitated as these factors moved toward extreme changes.

As part of a counseling and mirror gazing procedure in a hospice, Arcangel (1997) gave participants the *Myers-Briggs Type Indicator*, an indicator of Jungian typology. Though the range of types in the group was limited, the results suggested that persons high in Feeling and Intuitive functions were more likely to report a contact with a deceased person. Archangel has said that about 80% of the participants in her work have reported contact with the deceased (personal communication). None of the above studies collected data on how the Psychomanteum experiences affected feelings of loss, grief, and bereavement.

Psi-psychomanteum research project

In recent years, a number of researchers have been using psychomanteum chambers to try to facilitate reunions between participants and their deceased loved ones (Hastings et al., 1999; Moody, 1994; Moody with Perry, 1993; Radin & Rebman, 1996; Roll & Braun, 1995; Moody & Arcangel, 2001). Although Moody with Perry termed the psychomanteum as a mean of divination so that spirits can be asked questions about the future, however, the purpose of the modern psychomanteum tends to be to facilitate reunions; the aim is not usually to seek ESP information about the future.

As above mentioned, some researchers report that more than half of the participants have reported encounters with deceased persons during their time in the psychomanteum chamber. The psychomanteum experience appears to be generally beneficial and may help the grieving process even if strong reunion experiences are not reported (Hastings *et al.*, 1999; Moody, 1994; Roll & Braun, 1995). Research has also found that widows and widowers who report some form of contact with their deceased spouses, in a non-psychomanteum context, generally find them helpful (Rees, 1971).

One possible explanation for psychomanteum apparitional experiences is that they involve hypnagogic-like imagery whose content may be strongly influenced by the needs, motivations and expectations of the participants. Hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery is that which occurs during the transition states between wakefulness and sleep and between sleep (see Mavromatis, 1987; Schacter, 1976). However, the main difference between psychomanteum imagery and hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery is that in the former case the participant presumably has his/her eyes open whereas in the latter case the participant may or may not have his/her eyes open. Another difference is that, unlike hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery, psychomanteum experiences do not tend to feature non-verbal auditory imagery. Verbal or mental communications also tend to be coherent whereas with hypnagogic/hypnopompic auditory imagery it is often unintelligible and can be nonsensical. Psychomanteum experiences also seem to be more interactive, more emotional and have more of an impact on the participants, and also many participants report anomalous experiences about (see Sherwood, 1998). The hypnagogic-like imagery could be psi-conductive. Further research is needed to investigate the potential influence of participants' mental set and expectations on the content of psychomanteum experiences with psi. So that, like an altered state of consciousness's way (Braud, 1978; Honorton, 1974), there are many similarities and differences between psychomanteum experiences and accounts of hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery.

If the psychomanteum is a quasi-hallucinative psi-conductive state or not, we should focus on the 1880's and 90's. An answer is in the early English psychical researchers. They began to see in psi hallucinations a new meaning and interpretation. The most complete record is found in *Phantasms of the Living*, written in 1886 by Edmund Gurney, Frank Podmore, and Frederic W. H. Myers. In this study Gurney *et al.* characterized the experiences which are today classed as parapsychical hallucinations as "telepathic hallucinations." The implications of this definition gave experiences of this type their significance for the survival problem since the agency involved was in many instances represented as that of a deceased person.

L.E. Rhine found a total of 825 hallucinatory experiences, she had drawn from general case collections of over 8,000 items. The hallucinations were thus about 10 percent of the total. The remaining 90 percent were dreams and intuitions. When the cases were separated on the basis of sense modality, they fell into four groups: visual, auditory, olfactory, and somatic. The classifying of the types of ESP phenomena represented in the hallucinatory cases involving the sense modalities. But decision as to whether these cases were

telepathic, clairvoyant, or precognitive in origin depended on what was perceived; that is, on the nature of the event associated with the percipient's experience.

Telepathy, which was taken to be the extrasensory contact of mind with mind, seemed to afford such evidence. This predilection for telepathy in comparison with clairvoyance was the result of an assumption as to the way telepathy works. With this concept of the telepathic process, psi hallucinations took on peculiar significance: Hallucinatory psi experiences were once a very much discussed and debated topic. In fact, terms like *ghost* and *apparition*—however—appear again and again in the older literature. Since all experiences that led to terms like *vision*, *ghost*, or *apparition*, have one common characteristic, that of being taken for sensory experience, but without the presence of an objective stimulus, they fall by definition into the general broad class of hallucinations. This class includes experiences varying in character and origin from the pathological to the religious. But the occurrences of interest to parapsychologists are different from the rest in one essential aspect: even though no objective stimulus is within sensory range, a stimulus does exist which could be accessible to extrasensory perception. Also included under psi hallucinations are some that reportedly are shared by two or more persons.

The word hallucination as applying to a parapsychical occurrence has not always meant exactly what it does today. Before the discovery of any of the extrasensory phenomena—telepathy, clairvoyance, or precognition—such occurrences could not have been defined in terms of psi. Hallucinatory parapsychical experience can be defined as the expression in sensory equivalents of impressions received by extrasensory means. They are one of the four forms of spontaneous experience, the three others are intuitions, and unrealistic and realistic dreaming (Rhine, 1953, 1956a, 1956b, 1957a, 1957b, 1963).

Those changes can be seen in the purely psychological concepts as well as in the parapsychological. A general hallucination (whether psi or non-psi), for instance, as defined by Gurney, is a "percept which lacks but which only by distinct reflection can be recognized as lacking, the objective basis which it suggests" (Gurney, Myers & Podmore, 1886, Vol. I, p. 459). This definition is, of course, purely descriptive. On this account, the concept of hallucinations was broader then than now, and dreams as well as waking experiences were included under it. Hallucinatory waking experiences were designated as "sensory hallucinations." It was in order to differentiate psi from non-psi hallucinations that Gurney called the former "telepathic hallucinations," thereby expressly assuming the basis of all veridical hallucinations to be telepathic. But telepathy too was a word used with the freedom from exactness that would be expected in a pioneer study. Although the term was used as a broader one than *phantasm*, *apparition*, or *hallucination*, usually seen in the psychomanteum chamber, the distinction sometimes wore rather thin and the words were used almost interchangeably.

METHOD

Participants

The sample included 133 participants, both 95 females (71.4%) and 38 males (28.6%), their ages ranged from 19 to 75 years (Mean= 47.44; SD= 12.02). Subjects were recruited by announcements in newspapers and magazines and by brochures distributed in conferences hold at the Institute of Paranormal Psychology and other centers. Interested persons were in touch by phone, e-mail, fax or by letter with the Institute in order to request an interview for the Psychomanteum session. We designed a web page and host it in our web site for recruit subjects to add to the sample (<http://www.alipsi.com.ar/psicomanteum>), from which we selected only the inquiries of the Argentines. The receiver did not receive information about characteristics related to the hypothesis of the experiment before the session.

Sender and Experimenter

First author (AP) was the experimenter, who received each participant, and the second author (JV) was sender to the entire sample. Each session was carried out in two trials per receiver (psychomanteum/no-psychomanteum condition). Sender had taken part in other ESP studies as a sender (Parra & Villanueva, 2003a, 2003b, 2004), he knows meditation and imagery-techniques.

Psychomanteum Chamber

The Institute of Paranormal Psychology built its own Psychomanteum chamber. The lab space is 4 mts. square with a 2.35 mts. ceiling; a psychomanteum chamber is built within this larger room, with dimensions of 6 by 8 feet and an 8 foot ceiling. To help create an isolated, undisturbed setting, the selected chamber room is in a remote, second floor area of our laboratory building at the Institute of Paranormal Psychology in Buenos Aires. This chamber has no windows, the ceiling and two walls faced the outside (i.e., had no common walls with other rooms); it is located above a storage room. The walls and ceiling of the lab are painted matte black to reduce light reflections. The chamber itself is electromagnetically shielded.

The walls of the psychomanteum chamber were constructed out of 2 inch x 4 inch wood studs, 5/8 inch wood studs, 5/8 inch wallboard, and R11 Fiberglas insulation. To form a rudimentary electromagnetic shield inside the chamber, the floor, walls and ceiling are completely covered with aluminum insulation, and then checked throughout for electrical continuity. The insulation consisted of a sheet of 1/16, 99 percent pure aluminum, a quarter-inch air spacing consisting of plastic bubblewrap, and then another sheet of 1/16 aluminum. The walls and ceiling of the chamber are covered by black velveteen fabric to create a dark, featureless interior, and the floor is covered by a black carpet.

A reclining chair and a wall mirror (1x1 mt.) were brought inside the chamber and positioned for optimum comfort and viewing angles. Because the chamber is essentially a darkroom, a dim incandescent lamp was placed behind the reclining chair, facing down, to provide some illumination so the participant could see the mirror. A dimmer control for this lamp can be operated outside the chamber to adjust illumination levels.

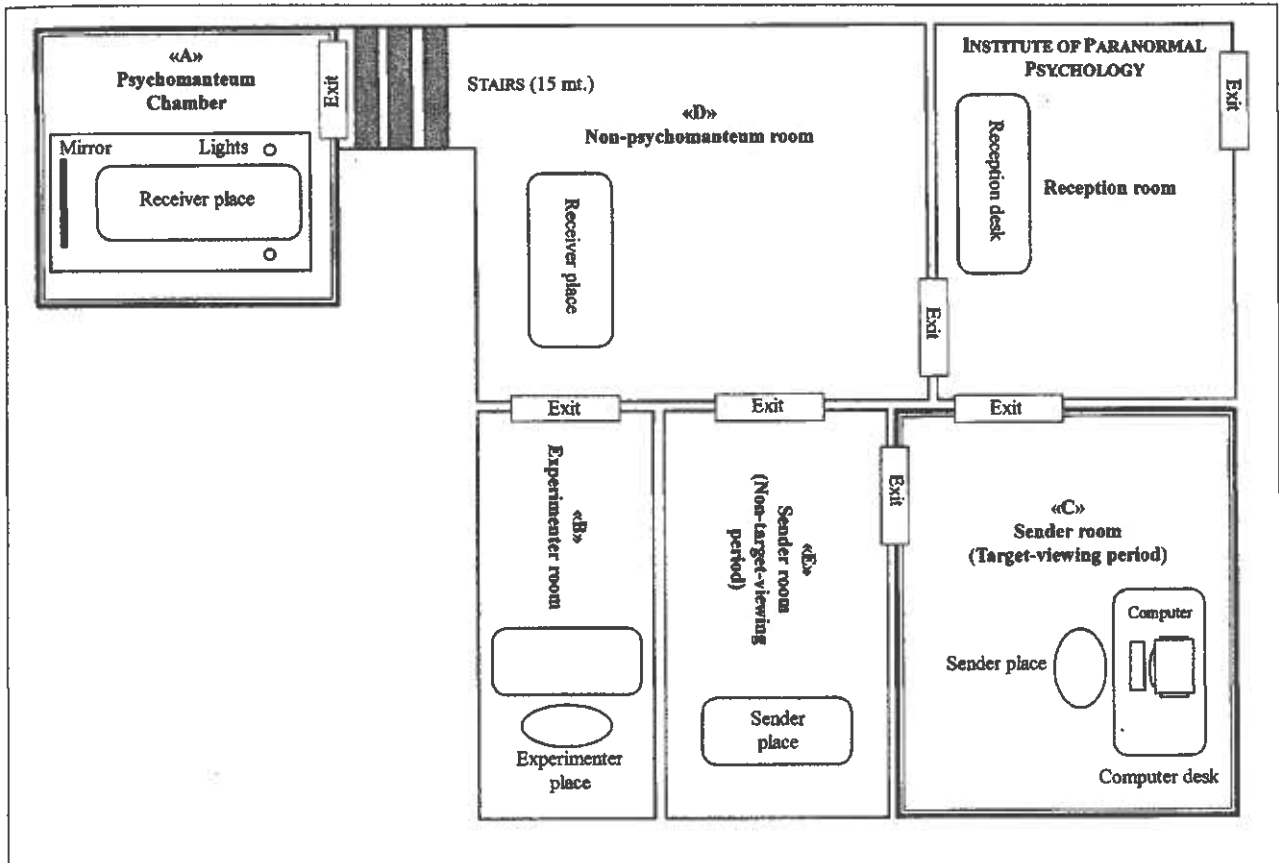
Procedure

When each subject came, he/she remained in a reception room at the Institute. The experimenter talked with each subject for provide more information about what is the psychomanteum technique and both conditions. He/she complete seven questionnaires; the first ones (*Pre-psychomanteum Questionnaire, Psi Previous Experiences, Betts's Vividness of Imagery Scale, Barrett's Hallucinations Questionnaire, Neo Personality Inventory -Revised, Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire, Revised Physical Anhedonia Scale*) before the psychomanteum session and the second one, the *Phenomenology of Consciousness Inventory*, when the test was over. Each participant ran one session in the psychomanteum. Each session lasts 30 minutes. The seven ones are delivered in a counterbalanced order.

The condition is selected at random (*see Randomization*). Sender remains alone in his sender's room (room C) before and during the psychomanteum session. No participant has any contact with the sender before and during, whether in the psychomanteum condition or in the no-psychomanteum condition. The distance between sender-receiver, as well as the walls of the Institute and the design of the psychomanteum chamber optimally isolate, so that one cannot infer that both could have communicated -intentionally or not-intentionally- any sensorial clues. After the psychomanteum session, the sender left the room leaving the set of pictures (three picture-decoys and the picture-target) on the computer's screen, before the experimenter and the receiver would enter the sender's room.

The testing period corresponded to the GESP test during the psychomanteum and non-psychomanteum condition. Sender does not aware know which condition the experimenter had randomly selected.

FIGURE 1
PSYCHOMANTEUM CHAMBER AT THE IPP



Psychomanteum chamber at the IPP: Psychomanteum chamber with the mirror and non-psychomanteum room (psychomanteum/non-psychomanteum condition), Experimenters Room B, and Observation/no-observation sender's rooms.

Type of Targets

A CD-pool containing 200 avi-format video-clips and 3,500 color pictures of high-quality were designed from many collections of CDs clip-art. For each subject one video-clip and picture-target randomly selected was used. A personal computer Pentium[®] IV (Intel[®]), 2.4 GHz, 512 RAM, 30 Gb. hard disc with SVGA color screen, PC-system video 8Mb, 3D AGP and a CD ROM reader 56X owned by the Institute of Paranormal Psychology was used.

Tests instructions

Explanations of the experiment were given to the subjects. We said them that we are doing a telepathy experiment in which we have two conditions: psychomanteum and a non-psychomanteum condition, that of both situations it is said that they can stimulate psychic abilities in people, and that we are now exploring both

situations in one research project, so that we can evaluate their relative importance in stimulating psychic abilities.

Altered state manipulation

As psychomanteum condition, receivers undergo a 9–minutes recorded relaxation exercise before target-viewing period, which included autogenic phrases (Jacobson, 1974) recorded using the voice of one of the experimenters (AP). The instructions and relaxation exercises were delivered in a slow, soothing but confident manner with classical music [Antonio Vivaldi's *Double concerto, Largo G Minor*] in the background. The auditory stimulation was given by a 33-minute, white-noise, CD generated for this experiment.

As non-psychomanteum condition, experimenter was indicated that receiver “remained with eyes closed, quiet, waiting for mental impressions for a twenty-three minute period.” Receiver also freely chose relaxation technique. Music or sounds were not used.

Randomization

All the procedures of selection of dynamic”/”non-dynamic targets, psychomanteum/non-psychomanteum conditions, and the procedures described in the experiments above mentioned before were be carried out blind, randomized using a Random Event Generator (REG).

For randomize the conditions we selected ABBA one of them being A= psychomanteum condition and B= non-psychomanteum condition; A= observation condition; B= non-observation condition; and A= emotional target, B=non-emotional target. Each randomly selected condition –by the way– is blind to the experimenter, receiver, or sender, so that it was evaluated to the kind of experiment (being # 1, 2 or 3).

A video-clip target was randomized for each subject. The experimenter and the sender had not any contact among themselves during the randomizing process.

Testing procedure

1. *Testing period:* This period corresponds to the period during the GESP test. The tests have two conditions:

- (a) *Psychomanteum condition.* The experiment test ESP using the psychomanteum as a technique to elicit psi-conducive altered states of consciousness. The experimenter have no contact whatsoever with the sender during the observation of the picture-clip-target.

The experimenter remains in room B to control the ESP-testing period. The video-clip-target remains on the computer's screen during twenty minutes, seen and listened to by the sender four times. Using a caller (a sound gadget which emits a *bip*), the experimenter communicates to the agent the beginning and the end of the "viewing" period of the video-clip-target.

(b) *Non-psychomanteum condition*. The receiver is placed in room D, seated on a chair at a desk. The experimenter have also no contact with the sender and the experimenter remains in room B. The sender s observes the video-clip target, which display on the computer's screen during the same period that the psychomanteum session. Again, using a caller, the experimenter communicates to the agent the beginning and the end of the observation/non-observation period for the video-clip target.

2. *Post-test period*: This period correspond to the period after the GESP test. During this period the receiver also rank the video-clips at the target' room. The test have two conditions:

(a) *Psychomanteum condition*: Each receiver is asked to verbalize his/her impressions as much as possible immediately after the psychomanteum session. They are audio-taped by the experimenter. The receiver completes the *Phenomenology of Consciousness Inventory*. The identification of the video-clip-target is ranked from 1 to 4 (1= highest coincidence and 4= lowest coincidence). It is considered a hit when the receiver place the video-clip target in the first rank.

(b) *Non-psychomanteum condition*: Each receiver is asked to verbalize his/her impressions as much as possible immediately after the non-psychomanteum session. They are not audio-taped. Again like psychomanteum condition, the identification of the video-clip target is selected by ranking 1 to 4.

Judgment procedure

Receiver viewed the four potential targets (the actual target and three decoys on the computer screen), which are presented in one of four random placed at the computer screen. Receiver, viewing each candidate, associates to the item as though it were the actual target, describing perceived similarities between the item and the psychomanteum impression. A score of 1 is assigned to the candidate the receiver feels has the strongest similarity to his psychomanteum impression; a score of 4 is given to the candidate the receiver feels is least like his psychomanteum experience (scores 2 and 3 were also marked). Experimenter did not suggest any additional comments during the judging process. Judgment procedure –depending on each subject– lasted

between five and ten minutes on both conditions (psychomanteum/non-psychomanteum). The forms were individually signed by each participant.

Consent Form

As a part of the recruiting procedure, the participants filled a Consent Form: "The study is being conducted by Alejandro Parra and Jorge Villanueva of Institute of Paranormal Psychology at Buenos Aires, and it has been approved and granted by BIAL Foundation. No deception is involved, and the study involves no more than minimal risk to participants (i.e., the level of risk encountered in daily life). Participation in the study typically strictly anonymous. All responses are treated as confidential, and in no case will responses from individual participants be identified. Many individuals find participation in this study enjoyable, and no adverse reactions have been reported thus far. Participation is voluntary, refusal to take part in the study involves no penalty or loss of benefits to which participants are otherwise entitled, and participants may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which they are otherwise entitled."

Analyses

Percentages, media and other statistical analysis were produced using the Spanish version of *SSPS 11.0*.

RESULTS:
PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPLORATION

Psi previous experiences: It is a two-items self-report inventory, which contains items concerning anomalous/paranormal experiences and beliefs. It may be particularly helpful in identifying different types of people for research on psi-related abilities in the laboratory.

TABLE 1
EXTRASENSORY EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY
(N= 133)

	No, never	One time	Sometimes	Many times
1. Have you had the sensation of picking up mentally the thoughts or feelings of another person at a distance?	8 (6.5%)	10 (8.1%)	96 (78.0%)	9 (7.3%)
2. Have you or could you control your mind to pick up mentally the thoughts or feelings of another person, by only wishing or wanting to do it?	52 (42.6%)	9 (7.4%)	51 (41.8%)	10 (8.2%)

Betts's Vividness of Imagery Scale, BVIS. We use the Spanish version translated by S. Lemos and P.C. Martinez of the University of Oviedo (Richardson, 1969). This test contains 35 short descriptions, from which subjects must try to image, and corresponding to seven different sensory modalities: visual (i.e. "the sun as it is sinking below the horizon"), auditory ("the mewing of a cat"), cutaneous ("the feel of sand"), kinetic ("reaching up to high shelf"), gustatory ("taste of oranges"), olfactory ("the smell of new leather") and organic ("the feeling of a sore throat"). The vividness of each of these was rated on a scale from 1 (maximum) to 7 (minimum). The test may usually be completed within 10 minutes.

TABLE 2
BETTS'S VIVIDNESS OF IMAGERY SCALE

Modality	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Visual (low= 5; high= 34)	12.76	5.84	11.28	6.43	11.70	6.28
Auditory (low= 5; high= 35)	11.92	6.01	12.60	6.61	12.41	6.43
Cutaneous (low= 5; high= 29)	11.70	6.39	10.95	5.90	11.16	6.03
Kinetic (low= 5; high= 32)	11.94	6.18	11.32	6.51	11.50	6.40
Gustatory (low= 5; high= 35)	14.17	8.23	12.38	7.51	12.90	7.73
Olfactory (low= 5; high= 35)	14.08	8.71	12.34	7.33	12.85	7.59
Organic (low= 5; high= 35)	13.25	6.38	13.30	6.63	13.28	6.53

Barrett's Hallucinations Questionnaire, HBQ (Barrett & Etheridge, 1992, 1994; Barrett, 1993). This questionnaire collects 22 different types of hallucinatory experiences, such as hearing one's own name when nobody is present, hearing one's own thoughts aloud, hearing voices coming from a place where there is nobody, or hearing voices belonging to dead friends or relatives. The frequency with which these phenomena are experienced are rated on a scale from 1 (never) to 5 (very often). In its original version, a Likert-type scale was used, from 1 ("just once or twice ever") to 7 ("at least once a day"). The test may usually be completed

within 5 minutes. We use the Spanish version translated by S. Lemos and P.C. Martinez of the University of Oviedo.

TABLE 3
BARRETT'S HALLUCINATIONS QUESTIONNAIRE
(N= 133)

HALLUCINATION	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Auditory	29 (85.3)	5 (14.7)	85 (94.4)	5 (5.6)	114 (91.9)	10 (8.1)
Visual	23 (63.9)	13 (36.1)	57 (62.0)	35 (38.0)	80 (62.5)	48 (37.5)
Gustatory	16 (45.7)	19 (54.3)	49 (54.4)	41 (45.6)	65 (52.0)	60 (48.0)
Tactile	23 (67.6)	11 (32.4)	69 (76.7)	21 (23.3)	92 (74.2)	32 (25.8)
Olfactory	17 (50.0)	17 (50.0)	48 (53.3)	42 (46.7)	65 (52.4)	59 (47.6)

Revised Physical Anhedonia Scale, RPAS: The Chapman Scales are a series of 4 scales that assess aspects of psychotic symptoms: physical and social anhedonia, perceptual aberration, and magical ideation. We use the American version, translated into Spanish by us. The trait descriptive items across all scales are presented in a true-false format. Clinically relevant scores are those that fall two standard deviations or more above the mean score of their same-gender cohort: The Revised Physical Anhedonia Scale (61 items), the Revised Social Anhedonia Scale (40 items), the Perceptual Aberration Scale (35 items), and the Magical Ideation Scale (Eckblad & Chapman, 1983) (30 items). For that we used the last two: 1. Perceptual Aberration Scale assesses psychotic-like experiences such as bodily discontinuities and unusual experiences (i.e., "I have felt that something outside my body was a part of my body") and 2. Magical Ideation Scale assesses erroneous beliefs that are based in magical thinking (i.e., "I have occasionally had the silly feeling that a TV or radio broadcaster knew I was listening to him.") (Eckblad & Chapman, 1983; Mislove & Chapman, 1985). The test may usually be completed within 5 minutes.

TABLE 4
MAGICAL IDEATION AND PERCEPTUAL ABERRATION SCALE

	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Magical Ideation Scale (low= .3; high= .8)	.43	.14	.45	.12	.45	.13
Perceptual Aberration Scale (low= 2; high= 77)	.74	.25	.24	.14	.24	.14

Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire, SPQ-A (Raine, 1991, 1992, Raine et al. 1994, 1997, Raine & Baker, 1992, Raine & Benishay, 1995): It is designed for researchers interested in the use and application of the full-length *SPQ-A*. We use the American version, translated into Spanish by us. It summarizes the psychometric properties and reports findings on construct validity. It can be used with both adults and adolescents, and with both normal and pathological populations. Scores to measures three factors of schizotypy (Cognitive-Perceptual, Interpersonal, and Disorganized) can be derived by simple summation of the sub-scale raw scores for the relevant factors. Each "Yes" response on the *SPQ-A* scores one point. Total scores can therefore range from 0 to 74. Sub-scale scores can be calculated by summing the following items: 1. Ideas of reference, 2.

Excessive social anxiety, 3. Odd beliefs or magical thinking, 4. Unusual perceptual experiences, 5. Odd or eccentric behavior, 5. No close friends, 6. Odd speech, 7. Constricted affect, 8. Suspiciousness. While very similar to the original normative sample, it should be born in mind that while unselected, this community sample showed significant elevations in the base-rate of DSM-IV schizotypal and paranoid personality disorders. The test may usually be completed within 5 minutes.

TABLE 5
SCHIZOTYPAL PERSONALITY QUESTIONNAIRE

	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
1. Ideas of reference (low= 0; high= 9)	2.97	2.44	3.99	2.16	3.70	2.28
2. Excessive social anxiety (low= 0; high= 8)	2.50	2.06	2.83	2.16	2.74	2.13
3. Odd beliefs or magical thinking (low= 2; high= 7)	5.24	1.35	5.60	1.37	5.50	1.37
4. Unusual perceptual experiences (low= 1; high= 7)	3.32	2.26	4.10	1.92	3.88	2.04
5. Odd or eccentric behavior (low= 0; high= 7)	2.79	2.37	2.52	2.27	2.60	2.29
6. No close friends (low= 0; high= 8)	2.65	1.68	2.64	2.09	2.64	1.97
7. Odd speech (low= 0; high= 8)	2.85	2.21	3.83	2.27	3.55	2.29
8. Constricted affect (low= 0; high= 6)	2.24	1.86	1.77	1.75	1.90	1.78
9. Suspiciousness (low= 0; high= 8)	1.94	1.87	2.74	2.10	2.51	2.06
Factor 1: Cognitive-Perceptual S. (low= 1; high= 21)	11.53	4.95	13.51	4.06	12.95	4.40
Factor 2: Interpersonal S. (low= 1; high= 21)	7.38	4.41	7.29	4.93	7.31	4.77
Factor 3: Disorganized S. (low= 0; high= 13)	5.65	3.94	6.34	3.45	6.15	3.59
SPQ TOTAL SCORE	26.50	11.88	29.89	10.48	28.93	10.95

Neo Personality Inventory - Revised, NEO-PI-R (Costa & McCrae, 1992). It was designed to provide a general description of normal personality relevant to clinical, counseling and educational situations. We use the Spanish standardized version of the inventory and its Argentine adaption. Based on the Five-Factor model of personality, the NEO-PI-R is comprised of 243 items; the 240 facet and domain items are rated on a 5-point scale (3 validity items are also included). NEO-PI-R items and materials were designed to be easily read and understood. The five domains (factors) measured by the NEO-PI-R provide a general description of personality, while the facet scales allow more detailed analysis. These five factors and their facet scales include: Neuroticism (anxiety, hostility, depression, self-consciousness, impulsiveness, vulnerability), Extraversion (warmth, gregariousness, assertiveness, activity, excitement-seeking, positive emotions), Openness to Experience (fantasy, aesthetics, feelings, actions, ideas, values), Agreeableness (trust, modesty, compliance, altruism, straightforwardness, tender-mindedness), Conscientiousness (competence, self-discipline, achievement-striving, dutifulness, order, deliberation). Form S is designed for self-reports. This may be used to supplement self-reports or as an alternative. Internal consistency coefficients range from .86 to .95 for domain scales, and from .56 to .90 for facet scales. Stability coefficients ranging from .51 to .83 have been found in three-year, six-year, and seven-year longitudinal studies of the original NEO-PI factors. The NEO-PI-R has been validated against other personality inventories and projective techniques. The test may usually be completed within 45 minutes.

TABLE 6
PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS MEASURED BY NEO-PI-R

	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
NEUROTICISM (low= 15; high= 142)	80.30	18.97	81.84	24.29	81.38	22.77
Anxiety (low= 0; high= 28)	14.97	4.78	15.95	5.73	15.66	5.47
Hostility (low= 6; high= 26)	12.65	4.86	12.56	4.90	12.59	4.86
Depression (low= 2; high= 29)	12.22	4.18	13.39	5.82	13.04	5.39
Self-consciousness (low= 3; high= 28)	13.92	3.94	13.75	5.28	13.80	4.90
Impulsiveness (low= 6; high= 34)	16.68	3.71	16.51	4.98	16.56	4.62
Vulnerability (low= 1; high= 21)	10.19	4.40	10.76	4.36	10.59	4.37
EXTRAVERSION (low= 67; high= 154)	104.03	16.67	107.85	17.17	106.71	17.04
Warmth (low= 12; high= 29)	20.16	4.04	21.55	4.71	21.14	4.55
Gregariousness (low= 3; high= 27)	13.97	5.40	15.54	5.72	15.07	5.65
Assertiveness (low= 3; high= 30)	16.95	4.41	16.47	4.73	16.61	4.63
Activity (low= 12; high= 27)	17.85	3.58	18.32	4.02	18.18	3.89
Excitement-seeking (low= 1; high= 31)	15.68	4.09	14.06	4.55	14.54	4.46
Positive emotions (low= 11; high= 30)	19.59	4.30	21.86	4.61	21.19	4.62
OPENNESS (low= 92; high= 55)	122.65	14.61	122.24	17.78	122.36	16.84
Fantasy (low= 7; high= 32)	20.84	4.18	20.37	6.10	20.51	5.58
Aesthetics (low= 11; high= 31)	20.78	5.18	22.82	4.57	22.21	4.83
Feelings (low= 9; high= 29)	20.19	3.82	21.25	3.87	20.94	3.87
Actions (low= 11; high= 26)	17.70	3.31	18.18	3.53	18.04	3.46
Ideas (low= 10; high= 31)	21.62	3.75	19.77	4.86	20.32	4.62
Values (low= 15; high= 29)	21.59	3.08	21.16	3.07	21.29	3.07
AGREEABLENESS (low= 68; high= 152)	119.62	17.13	123.83	14.58	122.57	15.43
Trust (low= 8; high= 30)	20.03	4.37	20.08	4.64	20.06	4.54
Modesty (low= 1; high= 29)	18.84	5.47	19.94	5.21	19.61	5.29
Compliance (low= 14; high= 30)	22.38	3.39	23.31	3.95	23.03	3.80
Altruism (low= 8; high= 28)	17.49	4.14	18.74	4.90	18.36	4.70
Straightforwardness (low= 8; high= 28)	18.54	3.50	18.66	3.71	18.62	3.64
Tender-mindedness (low= 13; high= 29)	22.81	3.32	22.85	3.17	22.84	3.20
CONSCIENTIOUSNESS (low= 55; high= 165)	119.19	16.14	115.24	18.83	116.42	18.10
Competence (low= 100; high= 27)	20.30	3.23	19.87	3.66	20.00	3.53
Self-discipline (low= 3; high= 28)	18.70	4.10	16.80	4.60	17.37	4.53
Achievement-striving (low= 12; high= 31)	21.43	3.70	22.80	3.66	22.40	3.71
Dutifulness (low= 7; high= 31)	21.19	3.36	20.77	4.53	20.90	4.21
Order (low= 5; high= 30)	19.78	4.37	18.99	5.13	19.23	4.91
Deliberation (low= 4; high= 25)	17.76	5.01	17.25	5.01	17.40	5.00

Eysenck Personality Questionnaire, Form A (Eysenck & Eysenck, 1964/1978): EPQ-A is a 94-item self-report inventory. Each item of this scale requires a 'yes' or 'not' response. It measures three personality factors: Neuroticism (N), Extraversion (E), and Psychoticism (P). The fourth one is Lie scale (L), which can be taken as a personality variable or "social desirability." Spanish version was used. Eysenck's theory is based primarily on physiology and genetics. Although he was a behaviorist who considered learned habits of great importance, he considers personality differences as growing out of our genetic inheritance. He is, therefore, primarily interested in what is usually called temperament. Temperament is that aspect of our personalities that is genetically based, inborn, there from birth or even before. That does not mean that a temperament theory says we don't also have aspects of our personality that are learned, it's just that Eysenck focused on "nature," and left "nurture" to other theorists. Eysenck initially conceptualized personality as two, biologically-based categories of temperament:

1. **Extraversion/Introversion.** Extraversion is characterized by being outgoing, talkative, high on positive affect (feeling good), and in need of external stimulation. According to Eysenck's arousal theory of extraversion, there is an optimal level of cortical arousal, and performance deteriorates as one becomes more or less aroused than this optimal level. Arousal can be measured by skin conductance, brain waves or sweating. At very low and very high levels of arousal, performance is low, but at a more optimal mid-level of arousal, performance is maximized. Extraverts, according to Eysenck's theory, are chronically under-aroused and bored and are therefore in need of external stimulation to bring them up to an optimal level of performance. Introverts, on the other hand, are chronically over-aroused and jittery and are therefore in need of peace and quiet to bring them up to an optimal level of performance.
2. **Neuroticism/Stability.** Neuroticism or emotionality is characterized by high levels of negative affect such as depression and anxiety. Neuroticism, according to Eysenck's theory, is based on activation thresholds in the sympathetic nervous system or visceral brain. This is the part of the brain that is responsible for the fight-or-flight response in the face of danger. Activation can be measured by heart rate, blood pressure, cold hands, sweating and muscular tension (especially in the forehead). Neurotic people, who have low activation thresholds, and unable to inhibit or control their emotional reactions, experience negative affect (fight-or-flight) in the face of very minor stressors - they are easily nervous or upset. Emotionally stable people, who have high activation thresholds and good emotional control, experience negative affect only in the face of very major stressors - they are calm and collected under pressure.
3. **Psychoticism/Socialisation.** Psychoticism is associated not only with the liability to have a psychotic episode (or break with reality), but also with aggression. Psychotic behavior is rooted in the characteristics of toughmindedness, non-conformity, inconsideration, recklessness, hostility, anger and impulsiveness. The physiological basis suggested by Eysenck for psychoticism is testosterone, with higher levels of psychoticism associated with higher levels of testosterone.

The two dimensions or axes, extraversion-introversion and emotional stability-instability, define four quadrants. These are made up of: 1. **Stable extraverts** (sanguine qualities such as outgoing, talkative, responsive, easygoing, lively, carefree, leadership); 2. **Unstable extraverts** (choleric qualities such as touchy, restless, excitable, changeable, impulsive, irresponsible); 3. **Stable introverts** (phlegmatic qualities such as calm, even-tempered, reliable, controlled, peaceful, thoughtful, careful, passive); and 4. **Unstable introverts** (melancholic qualities such as quiet, reserved, pessimistic, sober, rigid, anxious, moody).

TABLE 7
PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS MEASURED BY EYSENCK PERSONALITY QUESTIONNAIRE

	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
1. Neuroticism (low= 1; high= 24)	9.58	5.95	12.54	5.52	11.68	5.79
2. Extraversion-Introversion (low= 3; high= 19)	9.66	4.32	11.45	3.93	10.92	4.11
3. Psychoticism (low= 0; high= 7)	3.21	3.39	2.83	3.55	2.94	3.49
4. Lie (low= 1; high= 17)	9.39	4.43	9.24	3.79	9.28	3.97

Pre-Psychomanteum Questionnaire, Pre-PQ: This questionnaire was designed by us. Each subject indicate his degree of mind/body relaxation (low to high), mood (low to high), expectation of success (low to high), and motivation (low to high) on a 0-99 point scale. It was useful to measure the sensation of relaxation, mood, expectation and motivation of success subjectively experienced *before* the psychomanteum session.

TABLE 8
PRE-PSYCHOMANTEUM QUESTIONNAIRE
(N= 133)

	Mean	SD
1. How physically relaxed do you feel right now? (low= 1; high= 7)	4.80	1.33
2. What is your general mood like right now? (low= 1; high= 7)	5.73	1.08
3. How would you describe your expectation of success on the ESP task right now? (low= 1; high= 7)	5.19	1.33
4. How motivated are you for success on the ESP task right now? (low= 1; high= 7)	6.49	.81

Phenomenology of Consciousness Inventory, PCI: It is a 53-items self-report inventory that maps 12 major and 14 minor dimensions of subjective experience. We use the American version, translated into Spanish by us. They include the following subdimensions (in parentheses): positive affect (joy, sexual excitement, love), negative affect (anger, sadness, fear), altered experience (body image, time sense, perception, meaning), imagery (amount, vividness), attention (direction, absorption), self-awareness, altered state of awareness, internal dialogue, rationality, volitional control, memory, and arousal. An example of a PCI item for altered state of awareness is "My state of awareness was not unusual or different from what it ordinarily is" versus "I felt in an extraordinarily unusual and nonordinary state of awareness." Each dipole of the item is separated by a 7-point Likert scale that participants use to evaluate their experience. With the PCI we rate the *psychomanteum* experience of the sample and the time period in question by means of statements like the one shown below: 1. *Sensations:* are internal bodily impressions that you become aware of. Itches, pressure, pain, warmth, and coldness are examples of such sensations; 2. *Perceptions:* are impressions that you feel you receive from the external world. Perceptions come from the environment through sights, sounds, smells, etc.; 3. *Feelings or Emotions:* are those internal impressions or moods such as happiness, joy, anger, excitement, etc.; 4. *Thoughts:* are internal words, statements, and verbalizations that you are saying to yourself; 5. *Images or Imagery:* are internal visual (sights), auditory (sounds), kinesthetic (bodily), olfactory (smells), tactual (touch), or gustatory (tastes) impressions or pictures which pass before your mind, no matter how vague or dim they may be. They originate within you instead of coming from the environment; 6. *Impressions or Events:* are any of the above, i.e., sensations, perceptions, thoughts, or images. (Pekala, 1991a; 1991b; Pekala,

& Forbes, 1997; Pekala, & Kumar, 1987; Pekala, & Kumar, 1999, Pekala, Kumar, & Cummings, 1992; Pekala, Kumar, & Marcano, 1995).

TABLE 9
PHENOMENOLOGY OF CONSCIOUSNESS INVENTORY

	MALE (N= 37)		FEMALE (N= 95)		TOTAL (N= 133)	
	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>SD</i>
ALTERED EXPERIENCE (low= 0; high= 65)	27.86	13.95	29.98	13.07	29.36	13.31
Body image (low= 0; high= 18)	8.49	3.73	8.92	4.27	8.79	4.11
Time sense (low= 0; high= 18)	8.08	5.26	8.42	4.58	8.32	4.77
Perception (low= 0; high= 15)	5.73	4.33	6.35	4.21	6.17	4.24
Meaning (low= 0; high= 20)	5.97	5.34	6.28	4.95	6.19	5.05
POSITIVE AFFECT (low= 0; high= 30)	9.22	6.70	10.87	7.82	10.38	7.52
Joy (low= 0; high= 11)	3.86	3.14	4.84	3.49	4.56	3.41
Sexual excitement (low= 0; high= 10)	1.38	2.39	1.72	2.86	1.62	2.72
Love (low= 0; high= 12)	4.11	3.10	4.29	3.52	4.24	3.39
NEGATIVE AFFECT (low= 0; high= 25)	5.38	6.19	6.21	6.20	5.97	6.19
Anger (low= 0; high= 12)	1.76	2.25	2.22	2.45	2.09	2.40
Sadness (low= 0; high= 10)	2.03	2.93	1.98	2.74	1.99	2.78
Fear (low= 0; high= 12)	1.59	2.63	2.13	3.06	1.98	2.94
ATTENTION (low= 0; high= 27)	17.89	5.10	20.65	5.41	19.84	5.45
Direction (low= 0; high= 18)	9.22	4.15	11.03	4.58	10.5	4.52
Absorption (low= 0; high= 12)	9.14	2.31	9.62	2.15	9.48	2.20
IMAGERY (low= 2; high= 88)	14.73	13.44	14.25	5.24	14.39	8.45
Amount (low= 0; high= 12)	7.32	2.70	8.18	2.43	7.93	2.53
Vividness (low= 0; high= 12)	5.57	3.10	6.31	3.36	6.10	3.29
SELF-AWARENESS (low= 0; high= 21)	13.11	4.33	12.52	4.98	12.69	4.79
ALT. STATE OF AWARE. (low= 0; high= 17)	8.70	3.87	10.33	4.59	9.85	4.44
AROUSAL (low= 0; high= 11)	3.70	3.60	2.61	3.06	2.93	3.25
RATIONALITY (low= 0; high= 18)	12.89	3.75	12.91	3.37	12.90	3.47
VOLITIONAL CONTROL (low= 0; high= 18)	7.95	3.01	7.46	3.43	7.60	3.31
MEMORY (low= 0; high= 19)	14.84	1.77	15.60	2.26	15.37	2.14
INTERNAL DIALOGUE (low= 0; high= 12)	5.08	3.88	5.33	3.26	5.25	3.43

RESULTS:
PARAPSYCHOLOGICAL EXPLORATION

Does the Psychomanteum really induce non-ordinary states of consciousness with effects of greater magnitude than a control condition?

The main aim of this research project is explore if the psychomanteum technique is a psi-conductive state of consciousness more than chance expectation, although we still do not know if the ESP task using Psychomanteum –if it works– would be related to an altered state of consciousness or not. If we could compare the hits using Psychomanteum/non-psychomanteum condition we would not be able to evaluate the hits as related to an altered state of consciousness without being able to measure the degree of the altered state of consciousness, due to the fact that these results could be dependent on other variables independently of the non-altered state.

Both conditions (psychomanteum and no-psychomanteum or control) for each participant is being carried out. We explored if the psychomanteum condition is, by itself, psi-conductive of the ESP task. We randomized the condition of the GESP test, so that each participant start the test of GESP first in psychomanteum condition or later non-psychomanteum condition, or vice versa (see Table 10).

TABLE 10
PSYCHOMANTEUM VS. NO-PSYCHOMANTEUM CONDITION AND DYNAMIC VS. NO-DYNAMIC
CONDITION
(N= 133)

	PSYCHOMANTEUM		NON- PSYCHOMANTEUM	
	HITS			
	Yes	No	Yes	No
DYNAMIC TARGETS (N= 65)	20 (30.8)	45 (69.2)	16 (24.6)	49 (75.4)
NO-DYNAMIC TARGETS (N= 66)	19 (29.2)	46 (70.8)	22 (33.8)	43 (66.2)

* N is the same for both conditions.

Is the nature of the target the key for ESP hit using Psychomanteum technique?

There is a general belief that psi phenomena may be stronger if the material to which the phenomena pertain is more emotional. Psychological research suggests that the effect is largest if the prime is of an emotional nature. Dick J. Bierman (1995) of the University of Amsterdam, who conducted 76 sessions of a special ESP ganzfeld called “autoganzfeld,” used emotional target-clip, strongly suggested the effect of either positive or negative target emotionality on the direct hit rate (Neutral target scoring, 28.1%; Emotional target scoring: 45.5 %, one-tailed).

The procedure of dynamic/non-dynamic visual target was applied by us. A CD-pool containing dynamic and non-dynamic visual targets was designed by one of our member of the Institute (MI). MI selected a pool of video-clip fragments and images containing high- and neutral-emotional (i.e. picture or photo images and modern famous motion pictures) randomly displayed on the computer’s screen and

recorded using a video-PC system. The CD contains 200 five-minute fragments of *mpeg*-format video-clips grouped and classed (see *Randomization* procedure section) named "dynamic targets" and 200 picture images from a *Master IMSI* clip-art which contained 3,500 color pictures of high resolution in *jpg* format such as animals, landscapes, caricatures and humoristic cartoons, people, plants, religious symbols, named "non-dynamic targets". The sender observe the image-target in a dynamic/non-dynamic target condition during the same period as the receiver at the psychomanteum chamber. In the case of the one-minute fragment of video-clip the sender observe the video-clip target many times during twenty minutes. The ranking process (judgement) of the video-clip/color photo target each receiver see four different video-clip fragments or color photos (one image-target and three image-decoys each) (Table 11)

TABLE 11
RANK ORDER TO SELECT THE IMAGE AS TARGET
(N= 133)

Rank order*	PSYCHOMANTEUM				NO-PSYCHOMANTEUM			
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
DYNAMIC TARGETS (N= 65)	19 (29.2)	17 (26.2)	20 (30.8)	9 (13.8)	16 (24.6)	17 (26.2)	17 (26.2)	15 (23.1)
NO-DYNAMIC TARGETS (N= 66)	19 (29.2)	22 (33.8)	7 (10.8)	17 (26.2)	22 (33.8)	15 (23.1)	10 (15.4)	18 (27.7)
BOTH TARGETS (N= 133)	38 (29.2)	39 (30.0)	27 (20.8)	26 (20.0)	38 (29.2)	32 (24.6)	27 (20.8)	33 (25.4)

* 1 = highest coincidence to 4 = lowest coincidence.

Z-score was used to determine if a significant relationship exists between psychomanteum and no-psychomanteum condition. The results differ significantly from mean chance expectation in psychomanteum condition ($z = -1.88$; $p = .03$ vs. $z = -.78$; $p = n.s.$), in comparison with no-psychomanteum condition (see Table 12). Ranks order was performed as follow: Score 1st represents highest coincidence wit potential target and score 4th represents lowest (or null) coincidence. Scores 2 and 3 represented "mid-scores". Both conditions were not compared between them.

TABLA 12
PSYCHOMANTEUM AND NO-PSYCHOMANTEUM RANKS ORDER
(N= 133)

	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
PSYCHOMANTEUM	38 (29.2%)	39 (30.0%)	27 (20.8%)	26 (20.0%)	- 1.88	.03
NO-PSYCHOMANTEUM	38 (29.2%)	32 (24.6%)	27 (20.8%)	33 25.4%)	-.78	n.s.

First analysis was performed to determine if a significant relationship exists between Low/High groups personality groups and psi-hitting in psychomanteum condition. Each group was clustered as high/low based on a median split. Both groups were also not compared between them. A number of positive correlations were found. Subjects who scored lower Neuroticism and lower Extroversion (EPQ), and lower Openness (NEO-PI-R) tended to score psi-hitting ($p = .023$) (see Table 13).

TABLE 13
RANKS ORDER FOR LOW/HIGH NEUROTICISM AND EXTROVERSION (EPQ) AND OPENNESS (NEO-PI-R)

NEUROTICISM	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 66)	25.76%	40.91%	18.18%	15.15%	- 1.98	.023
HIGH (N= 65)	32.79%	18.03%	24.59%	24.59%	- .63	n.s.
EXTROVERSION	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 66)	34.85%	27.27%	18.18%	19.70%	- 1.98	.023
HIGH (N= 65)	22.95%	32.79%	24.59%	19.67%	- .63	n.s.
OPENNESS (NEO-PI-R)	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 64)	34.85%	27.27%	18.18%	19.70%	- 2.46	.006
HIGH (N= 57)	22.95%	32.79%	24.59%	19.67%	- .41	n.s.

Second analysis was performed to determine if a significant relationship exists between Low/High Visual imagery, Auditory and Visual hallucination and Cognitive-perceptual and psi-hitting in psychomanteum condition (No-psychomanteum condition were not performed at the present report). Each group was clustered as high/low based on a median split. Both groups were also not compared between them. A number of positive correlations were founded. Subjects who scored lower Visual imagery tended to score psi-hitting and subjects who scored higher Auditory and Visual hallucination and higher Cognitive-perceptual (Sc) scores tended to score psi-hitting ($p = .046, p = .005, p = .008, p = .028$, respectively) (see Table 14).

TABLE 14
RANKS ORDER FOR LOW/HIGH VISUAL IMAGERY (BVIS) AND AUDITORY AND VISUAL HALLUTINATION (HBQ) AND COGNITIVE-PERCEPTUAL (Sc) (SPQ)

VISUAL IMAGERY	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 66)	35.93%	23.44%	18.75%	21.88%	- 1.68	.046
HIGH (N= 65)	23.81%	38.10%	20.63%	17.46%	-1.30	n.s.
AUDITORY HALLUTINATION	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 66)	25.71%	28.57%	25.71%	20.00%	- .75	n.s.
HIGH (N= 65)	35.29%	35.29%	13.73%	15.69%	-2.57	.005
VISUAL HALLUTINATION	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 78)	24.36%	30.77%	28.21%	16.67%	- 1.01	n.s.
HIGH (N= 43)	39.53%	32.56%	6.98%	20.93%	- 2.39	.008
COGNITIVE-PERCEPTUAL (Sc)	Rank order				z-score	p (2-T)
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th		
LOW (N= 62)	24.19%	35.48%	24.19%	16.13%	- 1.25	n.s.
HIGH (N= 56)	35.71%	26.79%	17.86%	19.64%	- 1.91	.028

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Under psychomanteum condition scored psi-hitting 29.2%, notably above chance expected; however, under no-psychomanteum ("control") condition we obtained 24.6%. The overall results (dynamic and non-dynamic targets joined together, N= 133) gave 29.2%, also above chance expected in comparison with non-psychomanteum overall (29.2%). These are interesting results which seems to suggest that psychomanteum condition somehow optimizes psi-communication. In other words, the results differ significantly from mean chance expectation in psychomanteum condition ($p= .03$) in comparison with no-psychomanteum condition, but no significant differences were found.

Of the 133 participants in this partial sample, 96 of them (78%) responded to have had sometimes previous ESP experiences, such as telepathy, and 51 of them have had, sometimes, a degree of ESP ability (41.8%). Fifty-two of them claimed have not had ESP ability (42.6%).

The *Phenomenology of Consciousness Inventory* gave information about the phenomenology of the experience. Some of the significant results are:

1. Some participants indicated psychophysical relaxation, which is consistent with the score for sensation of pleasure about the experience. It is probable that both variables influence the number of hits in the experience.
2. Some participants manifested to be conscious of their body. Although some of them indicated not to have experienced changes in their corporal perception, an some people said to be lighter, heavier, numb, and out-of-proportion.

Many subjects of this sample did not indicate a drastic change in the state of consciousness. Some of them experiences lost the notion of elapsed time (temporal distortion) and less time than normal (10 instead of 33 minutes). This also might be in relation with the high score for sensation of pleasure and relaxation during the experience.

The scores of the psychological tests of this partial sample have not been correlated in the present report to determine if the hits obtained have to do with a characteristic of the personality. The results of the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ-A) indicate that the score for Neuroticism for women is higher than for men and the score for Extraversion for women is also higher than for males. Analysis were performed to determine if a significant relationship exists between personality factors and psi-hitting in psychomanteum condition. A number of positive correlations were found. Stable introverts subjects ("Phlegmatic", qualities such as calm, even-tempered, reliable, controlled, peaceful, thoughtful, careful, passive) tended to scored psi-hitting. Maybe under psychomanteum, ESP works better. Emotionally stable people, who have high activation thresholds and

good emotional control, experience negative affect only in the face of very major stressors, they are calm and collected under pressure. Also lower conventional, down-to-earth, preserving the status quo tended to score psi-hitting.

More psychological analysis was performed to determine if a significant relationship exists between visual imagery, auditory and visual hallucination and psi-hitting in psychomanteum condition. A number of positive correlations were founded. Although it is natural to suppose that visual mental imagery is important for psychomanteum condition and ESP, subjects who scored low visual imagery tended to score psi-hitting. However subjects who scored higher auditory ($p = .005$) and visual hallucination ($p = .008$) tended to score psi-hitting. It supports the Telepathic Hypothesis, whereby intense telepathic rapport affects brain functioning, causing the telepathic communication to be perceived as though it was projected from outside the body, sometimes in the form of the "sender's" image, as is often reported in cases of crisis telepathy.

Further research will needed to investigate the potential influence of participants' mental set and expectations on the content of psychomanteum experiences with psi. So that, like an altered state of consciousness's way, there are many similarities and differences between psychomanteum experiences and accounts of hypnagogic/hypnopompic imagery.

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**APENDIX 1
PSYCHOMANTEUM PROCEDURE**

(Right) This mirror gazing procedure termed "psychomanteum" was developed by world well-known psychiatrist Dr. Raymond Moody. It was designed to facilitate reunions with deceased individuals, as a way of addressing feelings of bereavement. Moody conducted clients through a process of remembrance and counseling combined with the mirror-gazing, and reported that about 50% of the participants believed they had a reunion with a loved one.



(Left) Raymond Moody (left) together with Alejandro Parra (right) and Jorge Villanueva has been conducting research on crystal gazing since 1987. Dr. Moody has directly observed more than 300 individuals as they were crystal gazing and afterward interviewed them about their experiences. Based upon this work, he concluded that crystal gazing can be a helpful technique in tapping into one's creative potential and an aid to self-understanding.

(Right) Psychomanteum chamber of the Institute of Paranormal Psychology. A reclining chair and a wall mirror were brought inside the chamber and positioned for optimum comfort and viewing angles. Each participant runned one session in the psychomanteum. Each session lasts 30 minutes.





(Left) To help create an isolated, undisturbed setting, the selected chamber room is in a remote, second floor area of our laboratory was built. The chamber itself is electromagnetically shielded.

(Right) Because the chamber is essentially a darkroom, a dim incandescent lamp was placed behind the reclining chair, facing down, to provide some illumination so the participant could see the mirror. A dimmer control for this lamp can be operated outside the chamber to adjust illumination levels.



(Left) Psychomanteum technique is used as a technique to elicit psi as a conducive state of consciousness. Experimenters have no contact whatsoever with the sender during the observation of the picture-target. The experimenter remains in room B to control the ESP-testing period. The video-clip-target remains on the computer's screen during twenty minutes. Using a caller (a sound gadget which emits a *bip*), the experimenter communicates to the agent the beginning and the end of the "viewing" period of the video-clip-target.

(Right) Each receiver was asked to verbalize his/her impressions as much as possible immediately after the psychomanteum session. Experimenter audio-taped them. Each receiver completed the *Phenomenology of Consciousness Inventory* after session.

