Banisteriopsis caapi
Banisteriopsis caapi

- Jungle vine native to South America.
- At least 42 indigenous names. Yage and Ayahuasca being the most common.
- High MAOIs and Harmala Alkaloids content
- Utilized to make ayahuasca.
Ayahuasca

- “Vine of the Dead”
- Used in initiation rights for shamans
- Icaros are learned
- Visions are induced
Preparation

Proper Diet

Bark from Ayahuaca is mixed with tobacco, coca, and other plants depending on ritual.

Heat to a boil and serve
What might you see?
How it works

- DMT is a powerful psychoactive substance.
- Harmine and Harmala are the chief MAOIs.
- MAOI’s enable the DMT to be activated
Etnobotanist’s Interests

- Used in AIDS and cancer treatments.
- Treat diabetes
- Control of intestinal parasitic worms and microbes
- Treat addiction
Popular Culture