

Biographies | Lecturers

Luca Francesco Ticini is a Neurobiologist (University of Trieste, Italy) who currently works at the Center of Neurology at the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research (Tübingen, Germany). He is the President of the Italian Semir Zeki Neuro-Aesthetics Society, as well as the founder and vice-President of the Committee for the Promotion of Neurosciences. Additionally, Dr. Ticini is Member of the Italian Society of Neurosciences and represents the Institute of Neuro-Aesthetics (London, U.K. and Berkeley, CA.). He has written numerous articles and essays which explore the relations between different forms of artistic expression and the physiology of the brain. Dr. Ticini has been the creator and curator of many expositions, among them, "Genialmente, l'Arte del Cervello", which involved scientists like Semir Zeki and the designer Ottavio Missoni. His work in this particular exposition has been praised for its originality and scientific content by the President of the Italian Republic.

Joaquim Quintino Aires is a Neuropsychologist, clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. He is the director of the Instituto de Psicologia Aplicada e Formação (IPAF) and teaches in universities at Lisbon, Madrid, São Paulo and Moscow. His PhD dissertation in the area Psycholinguistics connects studies in Linguistics, Anthropology and Neurosciences. He is a researcher in the Psycholinguistics and Clinical Linguistics sub-unit of the Centro de Linguística da Universidade Nova de Lisboa (CLUNL).

Dahlia W. Zaidel is an Adjunct Professor of Psychology and Behavioral Neuroscience at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and Member of the Brain Research Institute of this University. In her book, *Neuropsychology of Art - Neurological, Cognitive and Evolutionary Perspectives* (2005), Dr. Zaidel explores the intersection between artistic creativity, talent, aesthetics and brain structures based on interdisciplinary principles such as the biology of art, brain evolution, cognition and neuroscience. Among her research interests are the consequences of perceptual problems in famous artists, the performance of autistic savants and established artists with brain damage as a result of unilateral stroke, dementia, or various other neurological conditions. Dr. Zaidel also investigates the hemispheric memory for surrealist and realistic paintings, as well as the perception of facial symmetry-asymmetry and attractiveness.

Pascale Lidji is a Neuropsychologist, as well as a Teaching assistant and Junior Researcher in the Université Libre de Bruxelles (U.L.B., Belgium) and in the Laboratory for Brain, Music and Sound (BRAMS) in University of Montreal (Canada). Her Ph.D. dissertation is directed by Pr. Régine Kolinsky (U.L.B.) and Pr. Isabelle Peretz (BRAMS). She uses behavioral and electrophysiological methods to study the interactions between language and music in the song perception of both musicians and non musicians. She is also interested in the mental representations associated to pitch and melody and in the effects of musical expertise on these representations. Lidji occasionally takes part in research about the impact of brain lesions on musical abilities in professional musicians. As a hobby, she is a singer, actress and director in several theater companies, and animates since 2005 theater lessons conceived for teenagers and psychiatric patients.

Vitor da Fonseca is a Professor in Learning and Development Disabilities at the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation of the Faculty of Human Motricity (FMH), Univ. Técnica de Lisboa. His PhD is in the area of Special Education and Rehabilitation (FMH) and his master's degree is in Learning Disabilities (University of Northwestern, Chicago). He was psychopedagogue in the Pedagogic Investigation Centre of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and did his traineeship with Ajuriaquerria, Bergès, Lapière, Accoutoir, Vayer, Helmer Myklebust and Doris Johnson. He is the President of the Dyslexia Association in Lisbon, as well as the founder of the Center of Observation and Psicoeducational Rehabilitation (CORPE), where he works as a clinician. He is the author of a great number of books, some of them published in Brazil, England, Germany and Spain.

Alberto B. Sousa has a PhD. in Education Sciences (University of Ever) and has two master's degrees in Psychology of Education from the University of Bristol and the Superior Institute of Applied Psychology (ISPA, Lisbon). His undergraduation is in Clinical Psychology (University of Lisbon), Education through Art (National Conservatory) and Physical Education (Federal University of Macolin, Switzerland). Currently, he is professor at the Polytechnic Institute of Lisbon and headmaster of the Master's Course in Education through Arts on the Modern University (Lisbon). In the field of Clinical Psychology, he has created a child and family counseling office where, with a team of specialists, he develops intense work in support of children with special needs.

Eduarda Coquet graduated in Plastic Arts (Faculdade de Belas Artes da Universidade do Porto), has a master's degree in Portuguese Literature and Culture (Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa) and a PhD in Architecture, in the area of Visual Communication (Faculdade de Arquitectura da Universidade Técnica de Lisboa). She is Associate Professor and head of the Department of Artistic Expressions and Physical Education of the Institute of Child Studies, Universidade do Minho. Her research interests focus on illustration and visual text, having published in 2006, with two other colleagues, *Leitura, literatura infantil e ilustração: investigação e prática docente* (Reading, Children Literature and Illustration). She is the director of *Ensinarte*, a publication about arts in educational settings and coordinates a Master's course on Child Studies. She is still producing regularly artistic work, with two individual shows: *Retorno* (Return, 2004) at Galeria da UM, Museu Nogueira da Silva, Braga; and *Inevitável* (Inevitable, 2005) at Sala do Recibo, Mosteiro de São Martinho de Tibães.

Janek Dubowsky is currently the Subject Head for the Arts & Play Therapies area of the School of Human & Life Sciences, Roehampton University, London. As such he has responsibility for the management of the MA Art Therapy, MA Dance Movement Therapy, MA Dramatherapy, MA Music Therapy and MA Play Therapy Programmes. He is also active within 'APT' the Arts and Play Therapies Research Cluster located within the University. Dubowsky is a qualified Arts Therapist, Counselor and Psychotherapist who is actively involved in research focusing in the application of the Arts Therapies with people who have severe communication problems such as autism. He also investigates Jungian Analytical Psychology and the use and understanding of symbols as products of the unconscious. He has been involved in training Art Therapists at University level for over 25 years and has a wealth of experience in developing training courses both in the UK and internationally. He has contributed to the development of Art Therapy training in Finland, Ireland and, recently, Lithuania.

Tony Brooks has developed a body of work that is recognized as a platform for interdisciplinary research. The SoundScapes concept uses interactive art and game playing in room size environments with large screens where non-intrusive technologies empower intuitive and motivated creative and fun engagement between "user and technology" and "user and user with technology" - all where gesture controls the feedback stimulus. The research since 1987 has focused on persons with disabilities with a targeted goal of creating a new form of supplemental tool for therapists and towards encouraging other digital artists to explore the potentials for their own development from interacting and creatively working together with this community. Close cooperation with experts, teachers, caregivers and families is inherent to his research. In 2006 the research evolved into an international conference titled *ArtAbilitation*. Sensorama Lab | <http://www.aae.dk/~bh/sensorama/>

Eva Petersson has developed interdisciplinary and international projects and research in human-centered design, development, and implementation/use of toys, educational media/multimedia/, and interactive environments applied in play, learning, and (re)habilitation contexts, involving flexible methods of delivery for local, national and international users. Dr Petersson has developed theories on non-formal learning, play, and activity related to how technologies can support playful activities motivated by curiosity and exploration rather than externally defined tasks. Systems designed to support playful values are open-ended and ambiguous and offer situations for people to appropriate, explore, and interpret. Dr Petersson's work includes methodological approaches which consider idiosyncratic appropriation, participatory involvement, and action driven situated use. She has researched and presented with Dr Tony Brooks around the world on the combined attributes and potentials of non-formal learning and SoundScapes/ArtAbilitation.

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Org: Investigation Subunit on
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