



MUSIC AND THE BRAIN

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Perspectives from the study of human motor control

Musical performance involves the movement of various segments of the body that have to be controlled in a systematic and meaningful way. Studying how the human brain puts together these movements involves a good understanding of sensory processes, cognitive skills and motor control. This lecture will present a comprehensive picture of how the brain handles vast amounts of information and acts on it during musical performance. It will specifically focus on timing in piano performance and learning. Acts such as playing the piano involve the repetitive movement of certain effectors (wrist, finger, arm), with respect to external events such as a metronome, a musical score or even the movements of other musicians. From studying the timing aspect of such motor behaviour, we can understand 1) how the brain organizes sequential movements 2) how rhythmic structure might be represented in the brain and 3) how sequences are learned and encoded. This lecture will bring together evidence from neurophysiological and behavioural data in presenting a coherent view of the neural representation of timing in the acquisition and development of musical skills. Special emphasis will be placed on music and motor control research in the context of piano pedagogy.



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Vendredi
24 mars
11H30 à 13H00
Salle Freiman

Pavillon Pérez Building
610 Cumberland

Friday
March 24
11:30 am - 1 pm
Freiman Hall



Laboratoire de recherche en pédagogie du piano
Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory

