



THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF AFFECTIVE TOUCH: INAUGURAL CONGRESS

FRIDAY 20 TO SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2015

UCL, 33 Queen Square London WC1

C O N G R E S S P R O G R A M M E

FRIDAY

12:30-13:30: **Registration**

13:30-13:40: Congress Welcome: **Aikaterini Fotopoulou** on behalf of the organisers

13:40-15:20: **Plenary Session I (part 1): The Affective Touch Landscape**

Chair: **India Morrison**

13:40-14:20: **Johan Wessberg: *The CT Afferent System: Peripheral Pathways***

14:20-14:30: Questions from the Floor

14:30-15:10: **Håkan Olausson: *The CT Afferent System: Central Pathways***

15:10-15:20: Questions from the Floor

15:20-15:50: *Tea and poster presentations*

15:50-16:40: **Plenary Session I (part 2): The Perceptual and Affective Properties Pleasant Touch**

Chair: **Giandomenico Iannetti**

15:50-16:30: **Francis McGlone: *The CT Afferent System: What is it For?***

16:30-16:40: Questions from the Floor

16:40-17:00: **Panel Discussion of all three speakers with Questions from the Floor**

17.00-18:10: **Special Guest Address**

Chair: **Aikaterini Fotopoulou**

17.00-17.45: **Camila Batmanghelidj: *If My Hands Could Speak***

17.45-18.10: Questions from the Floor

18:30- 20:30: **Reception**

SATURDAY

09:30-11:30: **Invited Symposium: Neural Pathways of Affective Touch from Receptor to Brain**

Co-ordinator: **India Morrison**

India Morrison: *Affective touch: brain and behavior*

Emmanuel Bourinet: *Low threshold calcium channels determine low threshold mechanoreceptor function*

Sarah Lloyd-Fox: *Staying in touch with baby brains*

Steve Guest: *Psychophysical Assessment of Pleasant Touch*

11:30-12:00: *Coffee and poster presentations*

12:00-12:50: **Plenary Session II: Theme: Affective Touch Beyond CT Afferents**

Chair: **Aikaterini Fotopoulou**

12:00-12:40: **Charles Spence: *Affective Touch: Commercial Applications***

12:40-12:50: Questions from the Floor

12:50-14:30: *Lunch, poster presentations & Founding Society AGM*

14:30-15:35: **Data Blitz Session**

Chair: **Patrick Haggard**

Hilary Abbey: *Exploring the Potential Role of Affective Touch in Grounding Manual Therapy Interventions for Patients with Persistent Pain*

Laura Case: *Repetitive 1Hz TMS to Primary Somatosensory Cortex Alters Discriminative but not Affective Aspects of Somatosensation*

Laura Crucianelli: *Bodily Pleasure Matters: the Role of Affective Touch to a Healthy Sense of Body Ownership*

Jan B.F. van Erp: *The Midas Touch Effect: Can a Robot gain Compliance?*

Emma Jönsson: *Affective Touch Processing in Infancy: an fNIRS study*

Charlotte Krahé: *Pleasant Touch as Social Support: Exploring the Impact of Embodied Interactions on the Experience of Pain*

Leehe Peled: *Autistic Traits are Associated with Reduced Suppression in the Mu\Alpha Band for Social Touch*

Alexander Toet: *Effects of Mediated Hand Touching on Affective Experiences and Trust*

15:35-16:00: *Tea and poster presentations*

16:00-17:45: **Invited Symposium: Affective Touch and the Bodily Self**

Chair & Discussant: Paul Jenkinson

Aikaterini Fotopoulou: *The Touched Self: Affective Touch and Body Awareness in Health and Disease*

Donna Lloyd: *Can Pleasant Touch Moderate the Experience of Pain?*

Chris Dijkerman: *Affective Touch and Body Representations*

18:00 Optional event:

SUNDAY

09:30-11:10: **Plenary Session III - When the Touch System goes wrong**

Chair: Susannah Walker

09:30-10:10: Martin Paulus: *Affective Touch - Evidence for Dysregulation in Substance Users*

10:10-10:20: Questions from the Floor

10:20-11:00: Carissa Cascio: *The Mind-Skin Connection: Affective Touch in Psychopathology*

11:00-11:10: Questions from the Floor

11:10-11:45: *Coffee and poster presentations*

11:45-13:30: **Research Presentations**

Chair: Nadia Berthouze

Rochelle Ackerley: *C-tactile Afferents are Tuned to the Temperature of a Skin-Stroking Caress*

Elisa Burato: *Touch in Osteopathy: an Exploration of its Role in the Clinical Setting*

Younbyoung Chae: *The Role of Body Ownership in Neurophysiological Responses to Acupuncture Stimulation*

Jan van Erp: *Mediated Social Touch: How Behavioural and Computer Science go Hand in Hand*

Antje Gentsch: *Social Softness Illusion - The Perceptual Experience of Active Interpersonal Touch*

Uta Sailer: *Brain Representation of Long-Lasting Pleasant Touch*

Oliver Turnbull: *The Neuroscience of Erogenous Zones*

13:30-13:45: **Closing Remarks - The Organising Committee with speakers and chairs**



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