













#### OCTOBER 2021-NOVEMBER 2022

THE CONCEPT
THE SYMPOSIUM
THE FORMULA
JERUSALEM
ROME
LUGANO
MILAN
GENEVA
LONDON
LISBON

In collaboration with



#### **ROME**



#### **LUGANO**



#### **MILANO**



#### **GENEVA**



### 

IInternational Institutional Relations



















# THE CONCEPT

Emotions have long been interpreted as storms capable of overwhelming human souls, especially women's, and emotionality has been contrasted with the more reliable and masculine rationality. Instead, today we are discovering that it is precisely that turmoil that often constitutes the spark that triggers deep cognitive processes.

Reversing the stereotype of women ruled by their emotions and incapable of rationality, the **CMOTIONS** Itinerant BrainForum has invited brilliant scientists from the most prestigious international universities and institutions to analyse the emotions. considering all their biochemical, genetic, epigenetic, psychological and neurological aspects.

Starting with the history of emotions, we shall discuss how they are born and develop in the brain, their role in artistic manifestations, how they have influenced the development of the most recent studies in virtual reality, robotics and embodiment, the role of gender in the manifestation of emotions, and the pathologies of emotions from excess to absence, and to deception.

All the conferences will be filmed and uploaded on our website, to start an on-line archive of women scientists free for consultation.











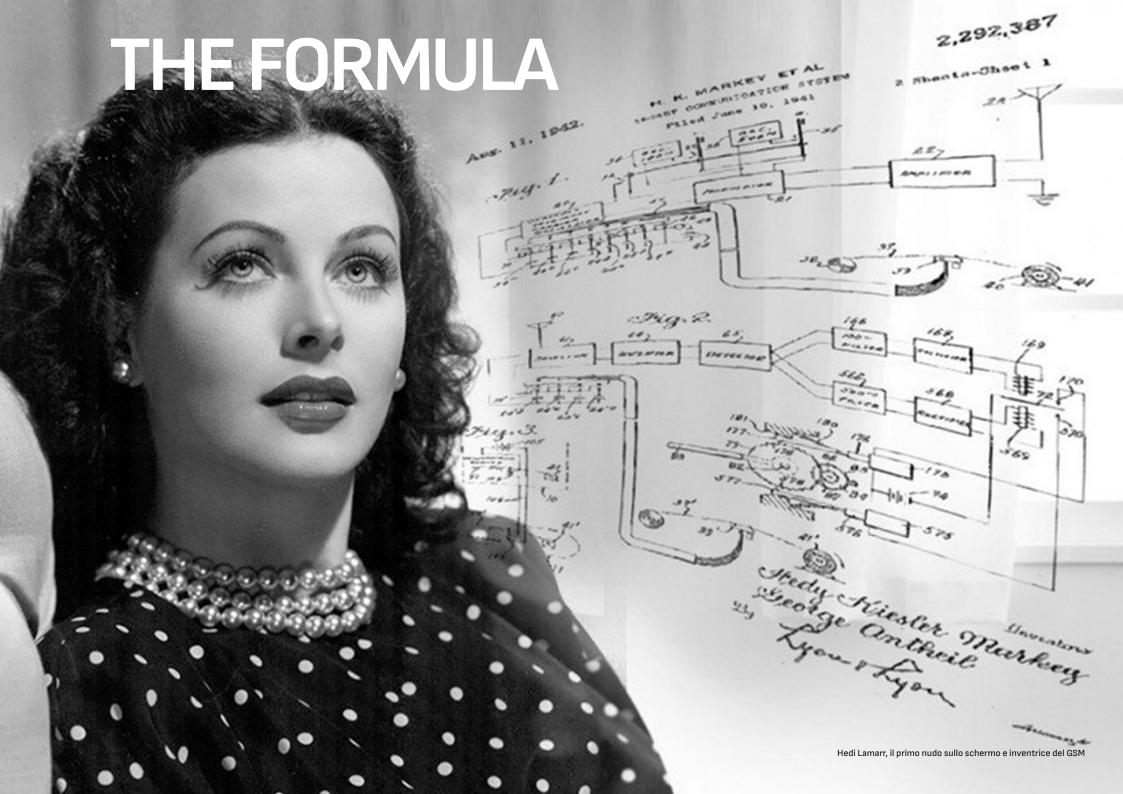




# THE SYMPOSIUM

The symposium was conceived by **Viviana** Kasam, President of BrainCircleItalia, in partnership with Clara Caverzasio, Copresident of BrainCircleLugano, Hermona **Soreq**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Daniela Perani, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan and Bianca Jones Marlin, Zuckermann Institute, Columbia University. It is promoted by BrainCircleItalia, **European Brain Research Institute** Rita Levi- Montalcini, ELSC, the Center for Brain Sciences of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, The Sagol Network and Women's BrainProject to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the creation of the BrainCircleItalia Association, which was founded with the support of Rita Levi-Montalcini, who was Honorary President, and of Pietro Calissano

**CMOTION** is dedicated to **Rita Levi- Montalcini**, and aims to promote **women in science**, **following the path outlined by the Italian Nobel Prize Laureate**.

















# THE FORMULA

The formula is innovative. The project involves a series of BrainForums between October 2021 and November 2022, which will take place in various cities: Jerusalem, Rome, Lugano, Milan, Geneva, London, Lisbon, Each BrainForum will host between four and six speakers and will be organised in collaboration with prestigious local universities and research institutes. All the BrainForums will be video-recorded, streamed live and subsequently uploaded online as a single event (www.braincircleitalia.it and www.brainforum.it). All the presentation uploaded on our website will constitute the beginning of an archive of women neuroscientists from all over the world, freely available for consultation. It is a totally new format: an itinerant BrainForum, focussing on emotions from a woman's perspective.

The inauguration will be held in Jerusalem on 17 October 2021 at the ELSC, Centre for Brain Sciences of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

BrainCircleItalia will take care of the coordination, supervision and fundraising. At each location we shall cooperate with local scientific institutions to co-organise the BrainForum and to select topics and speakers.

Institutional relations are entrusted to **Marilena Francese**, president of Musadoc.

















# JERUSALEM

SUNDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2021, 9:30 AM-1:30 PM ELSC, ELSC AUDITORIUM, EDMOND J. SAFRA CAMPUS, HUJ

In Jerusalem, in partnership with the ELSC Centre for Brain Sciences of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, we'll be talking about UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS.

MODERATOR:

Idan Segev The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**PROGRAM** 

**EMOTIONS: A TOOL BOX** 

Maya Tamir The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

### **EMOTIONS FROM SAFETY TO SELFIE**

**Talma Hendler** Director of the Sagol Brain Institute, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center

### HELPING OTHERS IN DISTRESS:

### **NEURAL NETWORKS INVOLVED IN EMPATHY**

**Inbal Ben Ami** Tel-Aviv University, Sagol School of Neuroscience

### **FEAR**

Mouna Maroun Sagol Center, Haifa University

### **GROWING A SOCIAL BRAIN**

Shir Atzil The Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

### THE ROLE OF MEMORY IN EMOTIONS

**Daniela Perani** Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan

### REPRESSED EMOTIONS AND PTSD

**Hermona Soreq** The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The musician Daniel Hoffman will evoke emotions with the magic sound of his violin in between the presentations

# ROME 19.11.2021 BEAUTY AND THE BRAIN Can neuroscience explain art?

















# ROME FRIDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2021, 9:00 AM-13:30 PM ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

In Rome the BrainForum, organized in partnership with European Brain Research Institute 'Rita Levi-Montalcini' will focus on the theme of the BRAIN AND ART, a subject very dear to Rita Levi-Montalcini, who repeatedly stressed the similarities between scientific research and artistic creativity.

#### PRESENTATION:

Viviana Kasam President BrainCircleItalia
Pietro Calissano former President and co-Founder EBRI
MODERATOR:

Antonino Cattaneo President EBRI

#### **PROGRAM**

### **HOW EMOTIONS SHAPE MEMORIES**

**Cristina Alberini** New York University Center for Neural Science

### THE REWARDING EFFECT OF BEAUTY IN THE BRAIN

**Merav Ahissar** ELSC Center for Brain Research, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

### BEHIND BEAUTY: CHOICE IN BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL EVOLUTION

**Eva Jablonka** Cohn Institute for the History of Philosophy of Science and Ideas, Tel Aviv University

### MUSICAL GROOVE: THE INTERSECTION OF PLEASURE AND MOVEMENT

**Virginia Penhune** Concordia University and the International Laboratory for Brain, Music and Sound Research (BRAMS)

### BEAUTY AND THE BRAIN: A VIEW FROM THE BODY

Beatrice de Gelder Maastricht University

### EMOZIONI NELL'ARTE DELLA MEMORIA EMOTIONS IN THE MNEMONIC ART

Lina Bolzoni Normale Superiore, Pisa

### PROUST 'S "RECHERCHE": A TRIGGER OF EMOTIONS

**Hannah Monyer** EBRI & University Hospital in Heidelberg

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE IN ENGLISH AND ITALIAN WITH SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

















# **LUGANO** FRIDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2021, 6:00-8:30 PM LAC, LUGANO ARTE E CULTURA, Piazza B. Luini 5

The conference is organized by

BrainCircleLugano in collaboration with

Women's Brain Project and Settimana del

Cervello in the framework of LAC Edu

Project. The subject is: DOES GENDER

AFFECT EMOTIONS?

MODERATOR:

Clara Caverzasio Co-President BraincircleLugano

#### **PROGRAM**

NATURE VS NURTURE: PARENTS PROMOTING SURVIVAL

**Bianca Jones Marlin** Zuckerman Institute, Columbia University

### DO MEN AND WOMEN HAVE DIFFERENT BRAINS?

**Pamela Agazzi** EOC Neurocentro, Ospedale Regionale di Lugano

### HOW EMOTIONS RELATE TO DISEASE: GENDER AND SEX IN MEDICINE

**Antonella Santuccione Chadha** Women's Brain Project (WBP) Zürich

### EMOTIONS, BETWEEN BIASES AND PARADOXES: A NEUROSCIENTIFIC PERSPECTIVE

**Michela Balconi** Università Cattolica, Milan and Brescia

### SOCIAL EMOTIONS: EMPATHY IS ALSO A GENDER ISSUE?

Giorgia Silani University of Vienna

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE IN ENGLISH AND ITALIAN WITH SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

















# THUESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2022, 9:00 AM-1:30 PM MEET DIGITAL CULTURE CENTER, Viale Vittorio Veneto, 2

In Milan, in collaboration with MEET-Digital Culture Center, the main subject of the seminar will be ROBOTICS, ALAND VIRTUAL REALITY.

WELCOME ADDRESS:

Viviana Kasam President BrainCircleItalia

MODERATOR:

Maria Grazia Mattei Founder and President MEET

#### **PROGRAM**

### MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN HUMANS AND ROBOTS

**Alessandra Sciutti** Italian Institute of Technology, Genoa

### NEUROSCIENTIFIC METHODS FOR DESIGNING MORE SOCIAL ROBOTS

**Agnieszka Wykowska** Italian Institute of Technology, Genoa

#### CYBORGS AND MAGICAL THINKING

**Daniela Cerqui** Institute of Social Sciences (iSS), Université de Lausanne

### NON HUMAN ROBOTS: A DIFFERENT KIND OF INTELLIGENCE?

**Barbara Mazzolai** Italian Institute of Technology, Pisa

### EMBODIMENT IN VIRTUAL REALITY: IMPACT ON EMOTIONS AND THERAPY

**MAVI SANCHEZ VIVES** ICREA, August Pi I Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS), Barcelona

### ALGORITHMS TO DETECT HATEFUL MESSAGES AND EMOTIONS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

**Sara Tonelli** Digital Humanities Group, Fondazione Bruno Kessler

# GENEVA 11.02.2022 EMOTIONS, BEHAVIOUR AND DECISIONS

















# **GENEVA** FRIDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2022, 9:30 AM-1:30 PM CAMPUS BIOTECH, UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

In Geneva, in partnership with the CISA –
Centre Interfacultaire en Sciences
Affectives of the University of Geneva and
Les Amis Suisses de l'Université de Jerusalem,
we'll be discussing EMOTIONS, BEHAVIOUR
AND DECISIONS.

#### **PROGRAM**

### **AGING AND EMOTIONS**

Carien Van Rekuum University or Reading, UK

### **IRRATIONAL BELIEFS AND POSITIVE ILLUSIONS**

**Lisa Bortolotti** University of Birmingham

### **HOW EMOTIONS AFFECT OUR SLEEP**

Sophie Schwartz University of Geneva

### REPRESSED EMOTIONS AND POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDERS

**Hermona Soreq** ELSC, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

















# LONDON DATE TO BE CONFIRMED, 2022 SAINSBURY WELLCOME CENTRE, 25 Howland Street W1T 4JG

In London, the conference is organized by BrainCircleUK in collaboration with Sainsbury Wellcome Center of University College and will explore LOVE AND ITS **EMOTIONAL IMPLICATIONS.** 

PROPOSED THEMES

- Empathy/autism and love/hate
- The biochemistry of love, between sex and tenderness
- Jealousy, a Darwinian resource
- Various forms of love: erotic, maternal, friendly

The panel to be confirmed



















# LISBON JUNE 2022 CHAMPOLIMAUD FOUNDATION

In Lisbon, in collaboration with

Champolimaud Foundation, we are planning a Festa do Cerebro, a Brain Party to celebrate the last appointment of Emotions.

Musicians, visual artists, actors, will alternate with the lectures from prominent women neuroscientists discussing the EVOLUTION OF EMOTIONS from the simplest forms of life to the new experiments in technological implants.

The panel to be confirmed



# BrainCircleItalia



BrainCircleItalia, a non-profit association for the promotion and dissemination of studies of the brain, was founded by Viviana Kasam, who has been President since the beginning, along with a group of professionals from diverse backgrounds — united by their enthusiasm for brain research, which is opening up extraordinary perspectives on the life of humanity, and by the desire to create events of excellence in Italy in the field of neuroscience. The work of BrainCircleItalia was inspired by Rita Levi-Montalcini, Nobel Laureate and Senator for life, who was its Honorary President for three years. BrainCircleItalia is part of the international BrainCircles network of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The network was established to support the activities of the ELSC, the Center for Brain Sciences, which is considered one of the best in this field and has on numerous occasions been designated Centre of Excellence by the European Union.

www.braincircleitalia.it



# **EBRI** EUROPEAN BRAIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE 'RITA LEVI-MONTALCINI'



Founded by Nobel Laureate Rita Levi-Montalcini in 2005, the European Brain Research Institute (EBRI) is a non-profit research center dedicated to understanding higher brain functions, and to studying the brain at the level of molecules, synapses, nerve and glial cells, neuronal circuits and behavior.

Researchers at EBRI are investigating mechanisms underlying serious neurological and neurodegenerative diseases of enormous social importance, including Alzheimer"s disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, chronic pain, as well as rare genetic diseases. EBRI is also dedicated to studying complex neurodevelopmental disorders, such as Autism spectrum disorders. Applying a multidisciplinary approach, EBRI researchers use state-of-the-art experimental and computational techniques and develop new technologies to study the brain. From its research, EBRI has generated a rich pipeline of drug candidates of therapeutic interest that are being developed towards clinical testing in humans. Outreach activities aimed at disseminating scientific knowledge in neuroscience to the public is also a special focus area at EBRI.

www.ebri.it



# **ELSC** THE EDMOND AND LILY SAFRA CENTER FOR BRAIN SCIENCES





The Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Brain Sciences (ELSC) of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is a leading global institute in neuroscience. Since its inception, ELSC is driven by a powerful interdisciplinary approach that brings together world-renowned scientists pursuing brain research from different perspectives of theory, biology, and cognitive science.

ELSC is not only home to talented faculty members but also to outstanding doctoral students, many of whom study in its international Ph.D. program. Arthur Berrou, a Ph.D. student from France, described ELSC as "the promised land for a budding neuroscientist". Bringing talented scholars together and working in cutting-edge laboratories in a single research institute, has resulted in many significant breakthroughs.

www.elsc.huji.ac.il



## THE SAGOL NETWORK



The Sagol Network was set up by the Sagol Family with a vision to support and accelerate advanced research, education and therapy in the fields of Neuroscience & Healthy lifespan. Under the leadership of Sami Sagol, the family set up a virtual network of schools & research centers based in leading academic and medical institutions promoting multidisciplinary projects, laboratories, and technologies. Among these, The Sagol School of Neuroscience at Tel Aviv University, Joseph Sagol Neuroscience Center at Sheba Medical Centre, Sagol Institute for Longevity Research, Weizmann Institute, The Sagol Center for Neurobiology & Ethology and Emily Sagol Center for Creative Art Therapy at Haifa University, Sagol center for Brain & Mind at the IDC, The Sagol Brain center at Sourasky (Tel Aviv) medical center, The Sagol program for computational healthcare at Hebrew University, Kahn-Sagol-Maccabi Health Data Science Institute and The Sagol Center for Hyperbaric Medicine & Research at Shamir Medical Center. Recently, the Sagol Network's philanthropic efforts have also extended to 'bridge' & promote collaborations between Ivy league institutions throughout the world, with initiatives such as Sagol MIT-Weizmann Bridge program, Sagol-Kandel Brain Longevity Initiative at Columbia University, and The Sagol Center for Epigenetics of Metabolism and Aging between Monash

University, in Sydney and Tel Aviv Medical Center. The Sagol Network GerOmic Awards for Junior Faculty with American Federation for Aging Research exemplify the Sagol Network's global approach.



# WBP WOMEN'S BRAIN PROJECT



Founded in 2016, we are a group of scientists hailing from various disciplines, including medicine, neuroscience, psychology, pharmacy and communication, who work together with caregivers, patients and their relatives, policymakers and other stakeholders.

The Women's Brain Project (WBP) aims to stimulate a global discussion on sex and gender differences in brain and mental diseases as a gateway to precision medicine.

Men and women are different when it comes to brain and mental disease risks, frequency, severity, symptomatology and even response to treatments. Our goal is to clearly identify such differences in diseases, diagnosis, and treatments, as well as novel technologies, and leverage them for better solutions. Sex and gender differences are the first steps towards precision medicine.

WBP aims to address these issues through scientific research, education, debate, public engagement and advocacy — and the establishment of an institute for sex and gender precision medicine research.

www.womensbrainproject.com



# MEET DIGITAL CULTURE CENTER

MEET is the Italian center for digital culture.

Rorn in 2018 with the support of Fondazione Born in 2018 with the support of Fondazione Cariplo, MEET aims to bridge the Italian digital divide as the result of a cultural transformation.

> Founded and chaired by art critic Maria Grazia Mattei, MEET headquarters is located at the heart of Milan in an art nouveau building Carlo Ratti Associati design firm has redesigned to be the house of digital culture.

MEET is a cultural space for online and on-site digital experience and co-creation. In addition to the famous Meet the Media Guru series, it designs and curates workshops, masterclasses, educational formats, exhibition projects and site-specific installations.

www.meetcenter.it



# **MUSADOC**



MUSADOC is a non-profit cultural association that promotes the exchange of values and cultures between people, organizations, and institutions of different nationalities. In collaboration with all the relevant stakeholders, and often with the patronage of both the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister of Italy, MUSADOC develops cultural projects, organizes art exhibitions, literary reviews, concerts, and meetings in order to contribute to the ethical and civil growth at all levels of society.

Musadoc's President Marilena Citelli Francese is also Vice President of Brain Circle Italia. She leads the efforts on Fund Raising and is in charge of all International Relations. Together with Viviana Kasam, they have successfully organized many scientific and cultural events worldwide.

www.musadoc.it