



Séminaire ISIR
Mardi 4 décembre 2018 à
16H00

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Campus Jussieu, 4 place Jussieu, Paris
Salle H20

Shaping body movement and perception by multisensory experience

Abstract : We are in constant interaction with others, in a multisensory environment, where the interplay between affect and experience is an important component. In the first part of the talk, I will focus on how multisensory experience shapes action and movement perception. In a second part I will focus on one specific modality - touch, and in particular on affective touch perception, quite often neglected in social interactions. The studies discussed in the first part of this presentation aim at understanding the impact of experience on action perception and affective judgment when watching complex whole-body dance movements. To do so, we used complementary behavioural and brain- based approaches, such as skill training interventions, functional neuroimaging, and physiological measures of implicit affective responses. Overall, the results of these studies suggest that experience with a particular movement affects affective judgments of that movement, as well as modifies brain circuits engaged during action perception. In a second part of my talk, I will present work investigating how tactile experience shapes perception. Tactile experiences can shape our bodily and emotional states. Surprisingly, research investigating how affective touch contributes to shaping our sense of self and interpersonal relationships has been sparse. The studies I will present shed light on the brain bases of affective touch perception as shown by a brain lesion study, as well as the role of touch in interpersonal communication as shown in several behavioural experiments.

Short bio : Louise Kirsch completed her undergraduate studies in Biology (BSc) at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS) in Paris, and then gained a MSc in Cognitive Neuroscience (Cogmaster). Louise completed her PhD within the SoBA Lab at Bangor University, in Wales; investigating how action experience influences action perception and how aesthetic evaluation of movement is impacted by experience. Louise just finished a 3-year postdoc within Katerina Fotopoulou's lab at UCL, London; investigating body awareness and affective touch in stroke patients and healthy adults. She has now just started a postdoc with Malika Auvray and Vincent Hayward at ISIR investigating the impact of multisensory integration on tool embodiment.