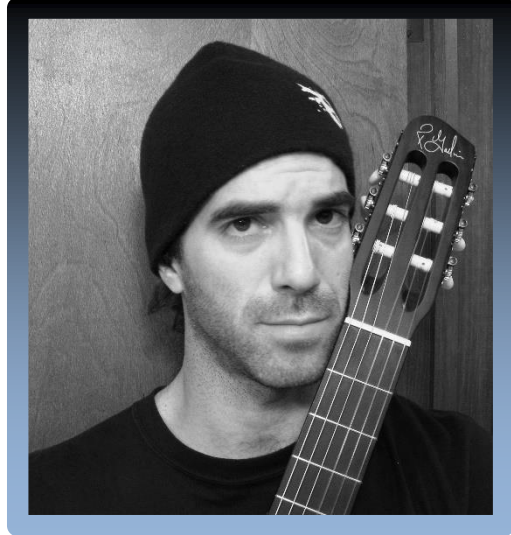


Seminar Series

Topics in the Aesthetics of Music and Sound: Special Event



**Friday, February 21, 2014
10:15 a.m. - 12 noon in Comenius,
Institute for the Study of Culture**

***Das Unheimliche* and Musical Dissonance: Mentalizing, Self-Other Distinction, Metaphor and Cross-Modal Mechanisms in the Brain**

Fernando Bravo, PhD Candidate (3rd year) in Music, U. of Cambridge, (Queens' College Walker Studentship) UK; MSc in Integrated Electronic Arts, Iowa State U., USA; MSc in Clinical Psychology/Psychoanalysis, AEAPG-UNLaM, Argentina; BA Honours in Psychology, UCA, Argentina, 1998; "Alumno Extraordinario" Status in Music Composition, Sound Design and Film-scoring, UCA, Argentina. Professional Artistic Plan (Classical Guitar Performance) Conservatory of Music "Manuel de Falla", Argentina.



Das Unheimliche ("The Uncanny" in English, "Lo siniestro" in Spanish) is a core concept not only with regard to literature, but also with respect to theoretical and clinical psychoanalysis.

I will present some very recent neuroscientific findings regarding an area in the brain called the Angular Gyrus, which could be selectively linked to metaphor, out of body experiences, theory of mind and cross modal association.

The stimuli that I have used to study this area were all examples of strictly controlled dissonance.

Participants were given the following task:

A radio-telescope located in Cambridge captured a series of radio signals from outer space. You will listen to these sounds and your task is to decide if they were produced by good or bad aliens.

Preliminary analyses of this data indicate that the specific musical structure manipulation used in the study (i.e. dissonance controlled by interval content), could be applied to isolate emotional valence from the arousal dimension and, more importantly, it may enable exploration of the neural circuitry involved in the processing of negative emotion.

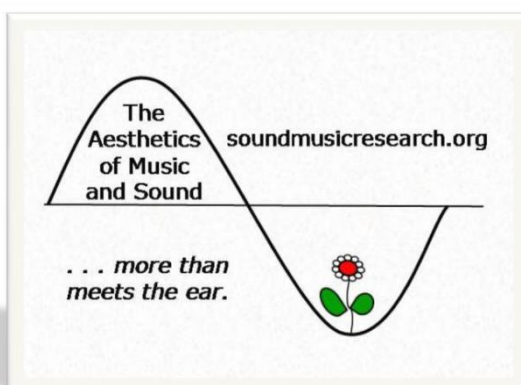
All are welcome - also via Skype 🌿



Moderators for the event:

Claudio Cifuentes-Aldunate, Associate Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies, Institute for the Study of Culture

Mogens Davidsen, Associate Professor of Literature, Institute for the Study of Culture



- Cross-Disciplinary Interplay between the Humanities, Technology and Musical Practice
- Backdrop for the SDU-IKV Research Program

