

ISHN Monthly Virtual Programs in History of the Neurosciences

Organized and hosted for ISHN (International Society for the History of the Neurosciences; www.ishn.org) by Peter Koehler.

The Zoom link for the virtual program is distributed to ISHN members through the society's listserv, ISHN-L. Other interested attendees should contact Peter Koehler by email at: pkoehler AT neurohistory.nl

The Zoom link will be active starting 15 minutes before the scheduled program time. When the presentation starts, please mute your microphone. Questions and answers can be done after the presentation using the "Raise Your Hand" function, but may also be written in Zoom's chat window during the presentation.

Attendance is limited, so please do not post the Zoom link on listservs, websites, chat, etc.

Note that times may experience sudden changes from one month to the next, according to a location's observance of Standard, Daylight, Summer, or Mean time.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 41 – Note date change!

9 April 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (BST) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) / 11:00 PM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK)

10 April 2025

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Diane Friedman

The Invisible Story of the Near Demise of the New York Neurological Institute in 1947

Diane Friedman is Treasurer of the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 42

21 May 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (BST) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) / 11:00 PM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK)

22 May 2025

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Francesca Brittan

The Neural Orchestra: Cognitive Instrumentalities

Francesca Britten is a scholar of music and sound cultures 1800-present. She is Associate Professor of Music, Head of Musicology, and an affiliated faculty member of the Department of Cognitive Sciences at Case Western Reserve University (<https://case.edu/artsci/music/about/people/faculty/francesca-brittan>).

Summer Recess (June, July, August)

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 43

17 September 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (BST) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) / 11:00 PM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK)

18 September 2025

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Andrew Larner and Michael Swash

Hughlings Jackson's Second Thoughts on Mental States in Epilepsy

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 44

22 October 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (BST) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) / 11:00 PM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK)

23 October 2025

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 7:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Richard Leblanc

Against Vivisection: Charcot and Pitres' Discovery of the Human Motor Cortex and the Birth of Modern Neurosurgery

Richard Leblanc, MD, a neurosurgeon at the Montreal Neurological Institute, serves at the McGill University Health Centre as director of the Brain Tumour Program and the Brain Tumour Clinic, and as co-director of the Skull Base Tumour Program and Clinic.

(<https://www.mcgill.ca/neurology-neurosurgery/richard-leblanc-md>)

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 45

19 November 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CES) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

20 November 2025

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Spencer Weig

The Coming of Age of Neurology in 19th-century America, as Viewed through the Lens of One Family

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 46

17 December 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT)

18 December 2025

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Larry Zeidman

Robert Wartenberg and the Hallervorden Affair

Interested speakers are encouraged to contact:

Peter Koehler (pkoehler AT neurohistory,nl)

Past Programs

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 40

19 March 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 5:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 3:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT)

20 March 2025

12:00 AM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Doreen Huppert

Senses, Vertigo, and Nystagmus in Antiquity

Doreen Huppert is a Professor of Neurology at Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, Germany.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 39

19 February 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

20 February 2025

12:00 AM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Jess Keiser

On his book: *Nervous Fictions: Literary Form and the Enlightenment Origins of Neuroscience*

Jess Keiser is Assistant Professor of English at Tufts University. He will discuss his book, *Nervous Fictions* (University of Virginia Press, 2020, <https://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/5381/>), which is described by his publisher: “*Nervous Fictions* is the first account of the Enlightenment origins of neuroscience and the ‘active fancies’ it generated. By surveying the work of scientists (Willis, Newton, Cheyne), philosophers (Descartes, Cavendish, Locke), satirists (Swift, Pope), and novelists (Haywood, Fielding, Sterne), Keiser shows how attempts to understand the brain’s relationship to the mind produced in turn new literary forms. Early brain anatomists turned to tropes to explicate psyche and cerebrum, just as poets and novelists found themselves exploring new kinds of mental and physical interiority. In this respect, literary language became a tool to aid scientific investigation, while science spurred literary invention.”

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 38

15 January 2025

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

16 January 2025

12:00 AM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Nadeem Toodayan

‘A divine right to photograph’: Edward Graeme Robertson’s (1903-1975) Historical Cinematography

Nadeem Toodayan is at the Neurology Department, Monash Medical Centre, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. See his recent paper on this work in *Journal of the History of the Neurosciences*

(<https://doi.org/10.1080/0964704X.2024.2371801>).

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 37

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Natasha Ruiz-Gómez

Pathology and Visual Culture: The Scientific Artworks of Dr. Jean-Martin Charcot and the Salpêtrière School

Natasha Ruiz-Gómez is Senior Lecturer at the School of Philosophical, Historical, and Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Essex. The talk also is the title of her recent book

(<https://www.psupress.org/books/titles/978-0-271-09680-3.html>), published by Penn State University Press in 2024.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 36

20 November 2024

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

21 November 2024

12:00 AM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Cornelius Borck

The Reception of the EEG: On the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Its Discovery by Hans Berger

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 35

16 October 2024

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (BST) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) / 11:00 PM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK)

17 October 2024

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 7:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Lydia van der Sman

Suppression of Epileptic Seizures through/by Sensory Stimulation: A Historical Overview and Assessment

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 34

18 September 2024

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19 September 2024

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Andrew Lerner

The Trial of David Ferrier, November 1881: Context, Proceedings, and Aftermath

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 33

15 May 2024

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CEST) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (BST) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) / 11:00 PM Wednesday in Moscow (MSK)

16 May 2024

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Alison Christy

Black Pioneers of Neurology in the United States

Alison Christy MD PhD is a pediatric neurologist/neuroimmunologist in Portland, Oregon. She is recipient of the 2024 Lawrence C. McHenry Award for the History of Neurology of the American Academy of Neurology.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 32

17 April 2024

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18 April 2024

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

cancelled

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 31

20 March 2024

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21 March 2024

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Catherine Storey

Royle's Sympathectomy for Spastic Paralysis: Sorry Saga or Scientific Awakening?

Associate Professor Catherine (Cate) Storey OAM was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the University of Sydney in 2022 for her impacts on the fields of medicine, neurology, education, and the history of medicine. (<https://www.sydney.edu.au/news-opinion/news/2022/12/07/associate-professor-catherine-storey-awarded-honorary-fellowship.html>)

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 30

21 February 2024

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22 February 2024

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Ian Bone

The Advent of Epilepsy Directed Surgery: The Early Pioneers and Who Was First

Ian Bone is Honorary Senior Research fellow at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and in the past was Professor of Neurology at the Institute of Neurological Sciences, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 29

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Céline Cherici

Vincenzo Malacarne (1744-1816): A Cerebellar Localization of the faculties, Between Materialist Imagination and Clinical Observations

Céline Cherici is lecturer in Epistemology and History of Science at the University of Picardie Jules Verne (northern France / Amiens) (<https://www.u-picardie.fr/celine-cherici--302702.kjsp>).

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 28

20 December 2023

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21 December 2023

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Axel Hüntelmann, Uwe Kaminsky, Philipp Rauh, and Max Buschmann
Specimens from Victims of Nazi “Euthanasia”: The Role of the Kaiser Wilhelm-Max Planck Institutes for Brain Research and of Psychiatry

Axel Hüntelmann

(https://medizingeschichte.charite.de/en/metasperson_detail/person/address_detail/dr_axel_c_huentelmann/) is at the Institute of the History of Medicine and Ethics in Medicine

(<https://medizingeschichte.charite.de/en/>) of the Charité University Medicine Berlin. He is a research associate in the project *Hirnforschung an Instituten der Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gesellschaft im Kontext nationalsozialistischer Unrechtstaten (Brain Research at Institutes of the Kaiser Wilhelm Society in the Context of National Socialist Injustice)*. Previously, he worked on the subproject "Accounting" within the ERC research group "Ways of Writing. How Physicians Know 1550-1950" (project outline).

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15 November 2023

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16 November 2023

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Florian Schmaltz

Scientology, the Max Planck Society, and the Legacies of Brain Research on Nazi “Euthanasia” Victims

Florian Schmaltz (<https://www.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/people/schmaltz>) was the Research Program Coordinator of the Research Program History of the Max Planck Society

(Forschungsprogramm Geschichte der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft). The program investigated the history of the Max Planck Society based on primary research and its scientific historical contexts. It encompassed the history of the Society as such as well as its individual institutions including, for example, their academic programs and working methods, structures and results, successes and failures, as well as their links to economy, society, politics and culture. In his research, Florian Schmaltz focuses on the historical epistemology of scientific institutions. He investigates the history of the relations between science, the military, and industry.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 26

18 October 2023

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19 October 2023

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Jan van Gijn
Hurdles in the History of Stroke

Jan van Gijn is emeritus professor of neurology at the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands. Stroke was the major interest of his research. Following his retirement he studied Latin language & culture (BA) and History & Philosophy of Science (MA). His recent book is *Stroke. A History of Ideas* (Cambridge University Press, 2021: <https://www.cambridge.org/nl/universitypress/subjects/medicine/neurology-and-clinical-neuroscience/stroke-history-ideas>).

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 25

20 September 2023

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21 September 2023

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Simon Shorvon
The Changing Concept of Epilepsy over the Past 150 Years

Professor Simon Shorvon (<https://simonshorvon.uk/>) is a Consultant Neurologist and Emeritus Professor of Clinical Neurology. His clinical work has been based at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery and his academic work at the UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, both co-located in Queen Square London. His academic research is in the field of epilepsy included work on epidemiology, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics, magnetic resonance imaging, aetiology, status epilepticus and health service policy. He has also written extensively on the history of epilepsy and neurology. His recent book on the history of epilepsy, *The Idea of Epilepsy. A Medical and Social History of Epilepsy in the Modern Era (1860-2020)*, was issued by Cambridge University Press (<https://simonshorvon.uk/2022/11/21/the-idea-of-epilepsy-a-medical-and-social-history-of-the-modern-era-of-epilepsy-1860-2020/>).

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 24

17 May 2023

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18 May 2023

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Richard Leblanc
The Ghost in the Machine: Wilder Penfield and John C. Eccles on Mind and Brain

Richard Leblanc (<https://www.mcgill.ca/neuro/richard-leblanc-md>) is a neurosurgeon at McGill University, where he is Director of the Brain Tumour Program and Brain Tumour Clinic, and Co-Director of the Skull Base Tumour Program and Clinic. He has published many articles in the history of the neurosciences and several books, including (with William Feindel) *The Wounded Brain Healed: The Golden Age of the Montreal Neurological Institute, 1934-1983* and *Radical Treatment: Wilder Penfield's Life in Neuroscience*.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 23

19 April 2023

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20 April 2023

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Diederik F. Janssen

But a 'iape or truffle': Gender in the History of Neurology

Diederik Janssen (<https://www.researchgate.net/scientific-contributions/Diederik-F-Janssen-2163019401>) is a PhD student at the Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences, Maastricht University.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 22

15 March 2023

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 5:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 3:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT)

16 March 2023

12:00 AM in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

William H. (Bill) Schneider

From Rockefeller to NIH Funding of Medical Research: With Examples from Neuropsychiatry

Bill Schneider (<https://liberalarts.iupui.edu/departments/history/directory/william-schneider/>) is Professor of History, Emeritus and Professor Of Medical Humanities and Health Sciences at Indiana University - Perdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 21

15 February 2023

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

16 February 2023

12:00 AM in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Stephen G. Reich

A History of Parkinson's Disease

Stephen Reich (<https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/profiles/Reich-Stephen/>) is Professor of Neurology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, specializing in Movement Disorders. He has served as Chair of the History Section of the American Academy of Neurology.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 20

CANCELLED

18 January 2023

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

19 January 2023

12:00 AM in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 19

21 December 2022

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

22 December 2022

12:00 AM in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Peter J. Koehler

Pieter Bruegel the Elder: The Syndrome and Other Neuropsychiatric Aspects

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 18

16 November 2022

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 12:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 12:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT)

17 November 2022

12:00 AM in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Marco Piccolino

A “Lost Time” Between Science and Literature: The “Temps Perdu” from Hermann von Helmholtz to Marcel Proust

[Marco Piccolino](#) is a former Professor of General Physiology, University of Ferrara, and member of the National Institute of Neurosciences, University of Ferrara, Italy.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 17

19 October 2022

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20 October 2022

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 7:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Francesco Brigo

Voices from the Past: The Pioneering Use of the Phonograph in Neurology

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 16

21 September 2022

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22 September 2022

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Andrew N. Williams

Thomas Willis: The Long Perspective

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 15

18 May 2022

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19 May 2022

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Spencer Weig

Henry Hun and His Use of Algorithm as a Diagnostic and Educational Tool

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 14

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21 April 2022

5:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEST)

Marco Piccolino and Nicholas J. Wade

The Falling Tower of Bologna in the *Divina Commedia*: An Induced-motion Illusion in Dante's Poem

[Marco Piccolino](#) is a former Professor of General Physiology, University of Ferrara, and member of the National Institute of Neurosciences, University of Ferrara, Italy. [Nicholas Wade](#) is Professor emeritus of Psychology at the University of Dundee in Scotland, and author of books and technical articles with a focus on visual perception.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 13

CANCELLED

16 March 2022

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 5:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EDT) / 3:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MDT) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PDT) (Note that Standard Time ends 13 March 2022 in North America, but 27 March 2022 in Europe; it does not change in Russia)

17 March 2022

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT) (Note that Daylight Saving Time ends 3 April 2022 in Australia)

Bart Lutters

Title to be announced

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 12

16 February 2022

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

17 February 2022

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

John Jarrell

Historical Contribution of the Ovary to Hysteria: The Paradox of Ovarian Compression Explored

John Jarrell is Emeritus Professor in the Department of OB/GYN at the Cumming School of Medicine of the University of Calgary.

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19 January 2022

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Stefano Sandrone and Lorenzo Lorusso

The Birth of Modern Neuroscience in Turin

The speakers are co-editors of a new volume by the same title, [*The Birth of Modern Neuroscience in Turin*](#) (Oxford University Press, 2022).

The publisher's website notes: "This book is a journey to discover and rediscover famous and lesser known aspects of the birth of modern neuroscience in Turin, from pre-Enlightenment to the 1980s," with a brief selection of topics covered: Luigi Rolando's neuroanatomical drawings -- Cesare Lombroso's controversial stances on criminal anthropology -- Angelo Mosso's pioneering 'neuroimaging' experiments -- Ernesto Lugaro's contributions to neuroplasticity and psychiatry -- Federico Kiesow and the development of experimental psychology in Europe -- Camillo Negro's first clinical neurological movies -- Giuseppe Levi's histological works and his mentorship -- Rita Levi Montalcini and her Nobel Prize-winning discovery of the Nerve Growth Factor.

Stefano Sandrone is a neuroscientist working at Imperial College London. He is the past Chair of the History of Neurology Section at the American Academy of Neurology. Lorenzo Lorusso is a neurologist and the director of the neurology unit at the neuroscience department of the Azienda Socio-Sanitario Territoriale Lecco in Merate, Italy. He is the past Chair of the History Committee at the Federation of the European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) and the past President of the International Society for the History of the Neuroscience.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 10

15 December 2021

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

16 December 2021

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Edward H. Reynolds

Robert Bentley Todd's Contribution to Neurology and Neuroscience

Edward H. Reynolds is an English neurologist, affiliated to the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, King's College, London. He is specialized in epilepsy. He has written numerous papers on the history of neurology, including articles on epilepsy and on neurologic and psychiatric disorders in Babylon, in which he cooperated with James V. Kinnier Wilson, a well-known Assyriologist who was able to translate the pertinent clay tablets.

Robert Bentley Todd (1809-1860) was born in Dublin, where he trained in medicine. In 1836 he was appointed Professor of Physiology and Morbid Anatomy at King's College London. He founded King's College Hospital in 1840 and became its most distinguished physician. He was a pioneering microscopist, the first to recognize that nerve cell bodies were in continuity with axons and to recognize the insulating properties of myelin. Influenced by his contemporary, Michael Faraday, he initiated the concept of nervous polarity to explain nerve cell conduction, electrical functions of the nervous system, and electrical discharges in epilepsy. He was the first to describe locomotor ataxia. Todd's Paralysis was a minor part of his contributions to neurology and neuroscience.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 9

17 November 2021

10:00 PM Wednesday in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna (CET) / 9:00 PM Wednesday in London (GMT) / 4:00 PM Wednesday in New York (EST) / 2:00 PM Wednesday in Calgary (MST) / 1:00 PM Wednesday in Los Angeles (PST)

18 November 2021

12:00 AM Thursday in Moscow (MSK) / 6:00 AM Thursday in Tokyo (JST) / 8:00 AM Thursday in Sydney (AEDT)

Georgina Lau

The Story of Prosopagnosia: From a Curiosity to a Commonality

Georgina Lau is a neuroscience PhD candidate at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, hoping to graduate at the end of 2022. She graduated with an Honours Bachelor degree in Psychology from the University of Ottawa in 2016, after which she began a Master's degree at Carleton and fast-tracked into the PhD program in 2018. She currently is working as a teaching assistant and contract instructor in the Department of Neuroscience.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 8

20 October 2021

10:00 Wednesday PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 9:00 PM London / 11:00 PM Moscow / 4:00 PM New York / 1:00 PM Los Angeles / 6:00 Thursday AM Sydney

Edward Fine

Origins of Comprehensive Care of Persons with Epilepsy in the USA

Edward J. Fine, MD is Associate Professor of Neurology at the Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, University of Buffalo. He has published articles related to peripheral neuropathy, vitamin B12 deficiency, and motor control. Dr Fine served as President of the ISHN in 2003-2004 and on the editorial board of the *Journal of the History of the Neurosciences* from 2003 to present, and is Chair of the Section of History of Neurology, American Academy of Neurology.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 7

15 September 2021

7:00 Wednesday PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 6:00 PM London / 8:00 PM Moscow / 10:30 PM Ludhiana (Punjab, India) / 1:00 PM New York / 10:00 AM Los Angeles / 3:00 Thursday AM Sydney

Gagandeep Singh

The Visual Aura—Epileptic or Migrainous. A Historical Perspective

Gagandeep Singh, MD, DM is Professor and Head of the Department of Neurology, Dayanand Medical College & Hospital, Ludhiana, India; and, Hon. Associate Professor of Clinical & Experimental Epilepsy, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, London, UK.

Please note that the September program is **3 hours earlier** than previous talks!

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 6

19 May 2021

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York / 6:00 AM Sydney

Frank Stahnisch

A New Field in Mind: A History of Interdisciplinarity in the Early Brain Sciences

Frank Stahnisch, PhD, MSc (<https://hist.ucalgary.ca/profiles/frank-w-stahnisch>) is Professor of History and the Philosophy of Science in the Department of History at University of Calgary, and co-Editor of *Journal of the History of the Neurosciences*.

His talk is based on [his recent book of the same title](#) from McGill-Queens University Press (Associated Medical Services in the History of Medicine, Health, and Society series, no. 52, 2020) :

“In recent decades, developments in research technologies and therapeutic advances have generated immense public recognition for neuroscience. However, its origins as a field, often linked to partnerships and projects at various brain-focused research centres in the United States during the 1960s, can be traced much further back in time.

“In *A New Field in Mind* Frank Stahnisch documents and analyzes the antecedents of the modern neurosciences as an interdisciplinary field. Although postwar American research centres, such as Francis O. Schmitt’s Neuroscience Research Program at MIT, brought the modern field to prominence, Stahnisch reveals the pioneering collaborations in the early brain sciences at centres in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland in the first half of the twentieth century. One of these, Heinrich Obersteiner’s institute in Vienna, began its work in the 1880s. Through case studies and collective biographies, Stahnisch investigates the evolving relationships between disciplines - anatomy, neurology, psychiatry, physiology, serology, and neurosurgery - which created new epistemological and social contexts for brain research. He also shows how changing political conditions in Central Europe affected the development of the neurosciences, ultimately leading to the expulsion of many physicians and researchers under the Nazi regime and their migration to North America.

“An in-depth and innovative study, *A New Field in Mind* tracks the emergence and evolution of neuroscientific research from the late nineteenth century to the postwar period.”

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 5

21 April 2021

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York / 6:00 AM Sydney

Christopher J. Boes

Harry Lee Parker: Games Lost and Won on the Playing Fields of Neurology

Christopher J. Boes, MD is in the Department of Neurology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 4

17 March 2021

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York

Paul Eling (in collaboration with Stanley Finger)

Franz Joseph Gall on God and Religion: “God and Brain, Nothing but God and Brain!”

Paul Eling and Stanley Finger recently published the book, *[Franz Joseph Gall: Naturalist of the Mind, Visionary of the Brain](#)* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019): “Franz Joseph Gall (1758–1828) viewed himself as a cutting-edge scientist, whose broad goals were to understand the mind and brain, and to be able to account for both group and individual behavioral traits in humans and animals. Starting in Vienna during the 1790s, he argued for many independent faculties of mind (e.g., music, calculation), ultimately settling on 27, with 8 being unique to humans. At the same time, he became the first person to provide evidence for cortical localization of function, the idea that the cerebral cortex is composed of specialized functional areas or organs, as he preferred to say. But although he utilized many acceptable methods in his multifaceted research program (e.g., dissections, studying people with brain damage, and observing behaviors over a lifetime), his doctrine was highly controversial from the start. For scientists and physicians, this was largely because he made cranioscopy his primary method, believing cranial bumps and depressions faithfully reflect the cortical organs and could be correlated with specific behaviors. In this book, Gall is shown to be a dedicated scientist with brilliant insights: a free-thinking naturalist of the mind and a visionary of the brain, yet a researcher with faults. Despite being frequently portrayed as a charlatan or comical figure, the authors also show how what others called his ‘phrenology’ (a term he abhorred) helped shape the modern neurosciences and other disciplines. Maintaining that Gall’s impact deserves more recognition today, this book provides a fresh look at the man, his objectives, and his revolutionary doctrine.”

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 3

17 February 2021

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York

Marco Piccolino*

Scientists on the Run at the Rime of the “Racial Laws”: The Case of Giuseppe Levi and Rita Levi-Montalcini**

* Formerly Professor of General Physiology, University of Ferrara. Member of the National Institute of Neurosciences, University of Ferrara. He took his PhD from the Scuola Normale Superiore in Pisa (1970-2).

** For those who wish to prepare: ***Family Lexicon*** (London: Daunt Books, 2018; New York: New York Review Books, 2017), the English translation of ***Lessico Familiare*** (Torino: Giulio Einaudi Editore, 1963) by Natalia Ginzburg, the daughter of Giuseppe Levi, one of the two personages of my talk. Levi is the protagonist of this book, a very enjoyable reading, and a classic of the Novecento. The English edition exists in ebook format for a small price.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 2

20 January 2021

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York

Manon Auffret

John Yerbury Dent, Apomorphine, and Addiction(s): An Unfinished History

Manon Auffret, PharmD, PhD is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Université de Rennes 1, Institut des Neurosciences, Cliniques de Rennes, in France.

ISHN Monthly Virtual Program 1

16 December 2020

10:00 PM Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna / 4:00 PM New York /

8:00 AM Sydney (December 17)

Paul Foley

So Misunderstood: The Story of the Schwann Cell

Paul Foley, BSc(Hons), MA, PhD (History of Medicine, 2001) from Würzburg, is currently Scientific and Research Editor of *Medical Journal of Australia*. His latest book is [Encephalitis Lethargica: The Mind and Brain Virus](#) (New York: Springer, 2018).

Date and Time conversions relative to the host time (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) are calculated using <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html> or <https://dateful.com/time-zone-converter>

Last updated 20 March 2025