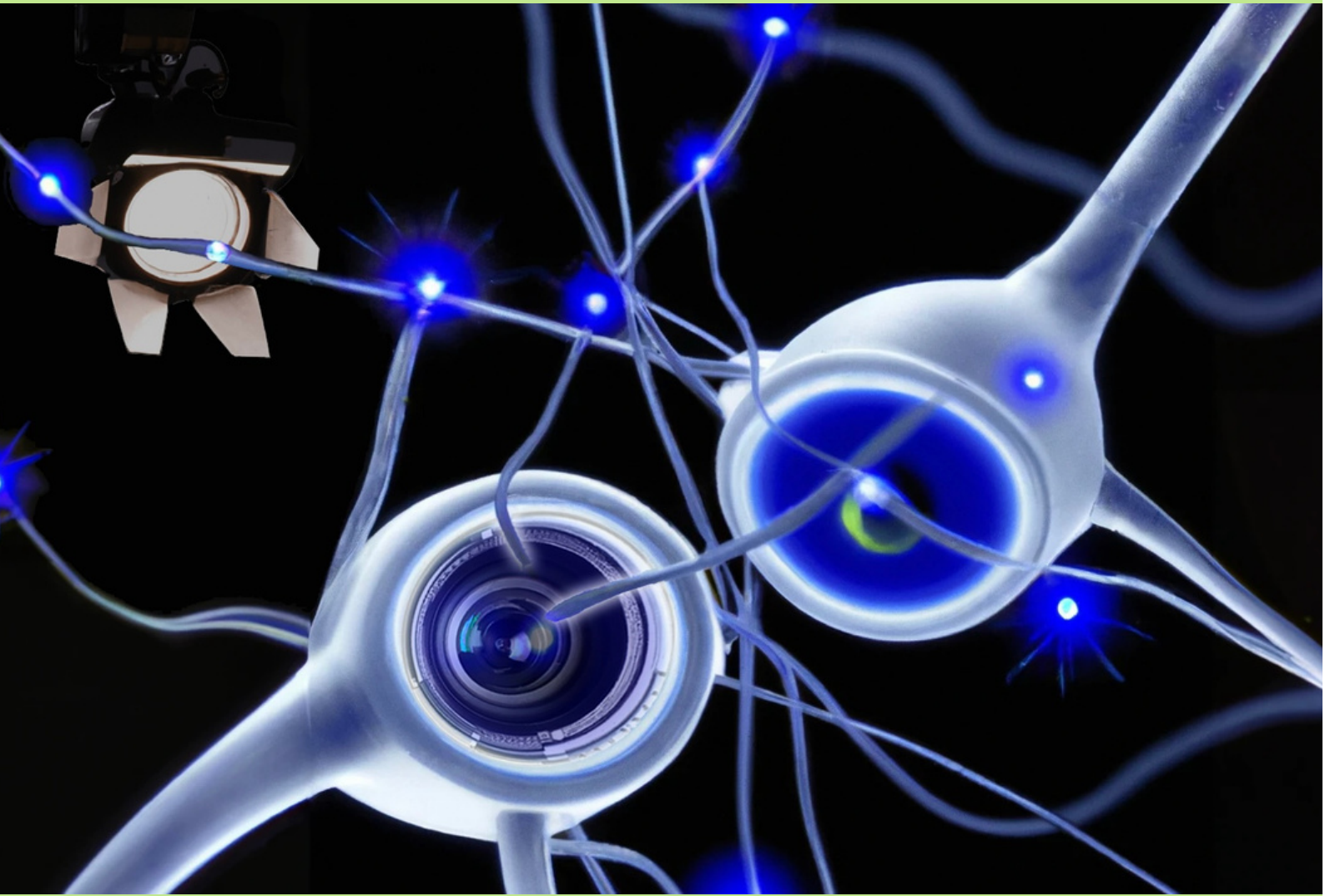


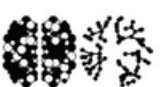
Empathies, Brain, and the Moving Image

Tel-Aviv University
March 14-16, 2023

Research Workshop of the
Israel Science Foundation



The Steve Tisch
School of Film and Television
The Yolanda and David Katz
Faculty of the Arts
Tel Aviv University



Sagol School
of Neuroscience
Tel Aviv University



Sagol Brain
Institute
Tel-Aviv



THE SAGOL NETWORK



Sammy Ofer School
of Communications

האוניברסיטה הפתוחה
THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF ISRAEL
الجامعة المفتوحة



ARL
ADVANCED
REALITY
LAB



הקרן הלאומית למדע

Day 1 (March 14, 2023)

Social Cognition and Audiovisual Fiction

9:00 - 9:20 Welcome

9:20 - 10:00 Opening session and greetings

Seeding phase

10:00:11:25 Session I

Murray Smith

School of Arts, University of Kent, UK

Triangulating empathy: Integrating humanistic and neuroscientific tools to decipher engagement in films

Uri Hasson

Neuroscience Institute & Department of Psychology, Princeton University, US

Artificial social cognition: Are we smart and creative as we firmly believe, or are we just looking smart and creative as ChatGPT is?

Simon Shamay-Tsoory

Haifa University, Israel

Brain to brain synchrony during empathic interactions

11:25-11:40 Break

11:40:12:55 Session II

Katalin Eva Balint

Department of Communication Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The effects of shot scale and film aesthetics on cinematic absorption

Michael Gilead

School of Psychological Sciences & Sagol School of Neuroscience, Tel-Aviv University, Israel

Neural mechanisms of mental simulation

Yaara Yeshurun

School of Psychological Sciences & Sagol School of Neuroscience, Tel-Aviv University, Israel

Interpretive frameworks of narratives

12:55-13:55 Lunch

13:55-15:10 Session III

Mark A. Thornton

Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Dartmouth University, US

The predictive social mind in naturalistic contexts

Vittorio Gallese

Department of Medicine and Surgery, Unit of Neuroscience, University of Parma, Italy

The embodiment of moving images

Avi Mendelsohn

Sagol Department of Neurobiology, University of Haifa Israel

Auditory drama: The effects of music on memory formation

15:10-15:30 Break

15:30-16:20 **Irrigation & Pollination Phase**

16:20-17:10 **Early Harvest Phase**

17:10-17:40 **Guided tour in the university gallery exhibition: *In the Mind's Eye***

18:00-19:00 Open event

Christian Keyzers

Brain and Cognition, Department of Psychology, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

A cross-species approach to the construct of empathy

Location: After Hall. Naftali Building

Day 2 (March 15, 2023)

Empathic affordances of cinematic techniques

9:15-09:30 Welcome

Seeding phase

9:30-10:45 Session I

Gal Raz

The Steve Tisch School of Film and Television & Sagol School of Neuroscience, Tel-Aviv University, Israel

Point-of-view editing and empathy– an fMRI study

Moran Ovadia

The Steve Tisch School of Film and Television, Tel-Aviv University, Israel

Point of view editing in cinematic representation of sexual violence

Alessandra Umiltà

Lab of Neuroscience & Humanities, University of Parma, Italy; Italian Academy Fellow, 2022-2023, Columbia University

The embodied camera movements

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-11:50 Session II

Jane Stadler

School of Communication and Arts, The University of Queensland, Australia

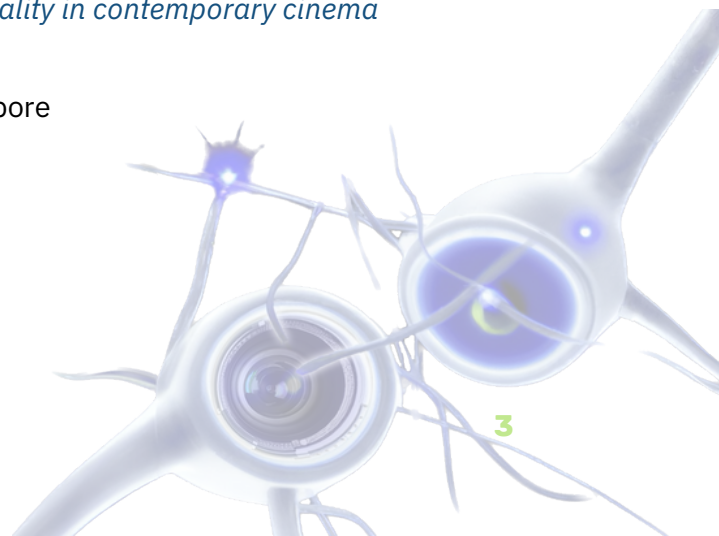
Empathic imagination and intercorporeality in contemporary cinema

Jonathan Frome

National University of Singapore, Singapore

Sadness in films and digital games

11:50-12:00 Break



12:00-13:15 Session III: Translational Perspectives



Tim J. Smith

Department of Psychological Sciences, Birkbeck University of London, UK
Developmental account of joint attention in children's reception of television content

Talma Hendler

School of Psychological Sciences & Sagol School of Neuroscience, Tel-Aviv University, Israel
Probing affective disturbances through network dynamics during film viewing

Roy Salomon

Department of Cognitive Sciences, University of Haifa
Reality check: Virtual Reality for studying neuroscience of the self and hallucinations

13:15-14:15 Lunch

14:15-15:15 **Irrigation & Pollination Phase**

15:15-16:15 **Early Harvest Phase**

17:00 Social event in Jaffa (for invited guests)

Day 3 (March 16, 2023)

Virtual reality, embodiment, and novel empathic horizons

9:00 - 9:30 Welcome

Seeding phase

9:30-10:20 **Session I**

Hava Aldouby

Department of Literature, Language, and the Arts, The Open University of Israel
Virtual presence and sensory engagement in avant-garde virtual reality art

Beatrice Hasler

Reichman University, Israel
Empathy with the enemy - The potential of VR for conflict resolution

11:50-12:00 Break

10:30-11:45 Session I

Doron Friedman

Reichman University, Israel

Behavioral realism in responses to virtual humans

Beatrice de Gelder

Maastricht University, The Netherlands; University College London, UK

Exploring the neural basis of embodiment via virtual reality

Mel Slater

Event Lab, Institute of Neurosciences, University of Barcelona, Spain

Embodiment and prosociality in virtual reality

11:45-11:55 Break

11:55-12:30 **Irrigation & Pollination Phase**

12:30-13:10 **Early Harvest Phase**

13:10-14:30 Lunch

14:30-15:00 **AR-51**

A real-time markerless full body tracking for VR experiments with multiple participants - a commercial demo

15:00-17:15 **Open Exhibition: Empathy and Embodiment in Virtual Reality**

A special exhibition featuring projects that exploit the unique potential of virtual reality to elicit presence and empathy through immersion and empathy and experiment with embodiment. The projects include artistic and experimental works created by scholars and students from the Digital Media Track at Tel-Aviv University and the Reichman University Advanced Reality Lab.

Esen Küçüktütüncü (Universitat de Barcelona) will present VR content designed to study conflict resolution. The artist Loukia Alavanou presents a short preview excerpt from 360° film *On the Way to Colonus* [2021], featured at the Venice Biennale.

17:15-17:45 **Artist talk: Loukia Alavanou**

18:00-19:45 **Open event**

Views in Conflict and Crossing Gazes:

Empathies, Cognition, and Ethics in Our Boys

Creators meet scholars

Film scholars and social neuroscientists meet Hagai Levi, Joseph Cedar, and Tawfik Abu-Wael, the creators of the HBO television drama *Our Boys* (2019) about the murder of the Palestinian boy Mohammed Abu Khdeir to discuss empathies and empathic complexities in the series

20:00 Farewell dinner (for invited guests)

Seedling Phase:

Scholars from all fields introduce their methods and theoretical models in 30 min presentations

Irrigation & Pollination Phase:

Speakers from the previous stage join roundtable brainstorming where refined insights from the fields of film and VR, experimental psychology, and neuroscience are integrated to yield elaborated research ideas based on their presentations

Early Harvest Phase:

Brief presentations of integrative research ideas & feedback

Organizing committee: Hava Aldouby, Udi Ben-Arie, Michael Gilad, Jonathan Giron, Doron Friedman, Talma Hendler, Moran Ovadia and Gal Raz

Coordinator: Einat Rubinstein

