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OKINAWA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
沖縄科学技術大学院大学

THEORETICAL SCIENCES VISITING PROGRAM

TSVP TALK

Investigating the Mysteries of Body Language

How Do Our Posture and Actions Reflect on Our Internal States?

2025
FRI.

Feb. 21

15:00–16:00

HYBRID L4F01, ZOOM



For zoom and other details scan QR code or visit groups.oist.jp/tsvp

Body language reflects on the ability to infer the state of a person, whether they are bored, sick, in love, depressed in a glimpse. The neural basis for this has emerged in the last few years as a very interesting field, explaining how sensory information from the external world and the body itself are integrated via neuromodulation of conserved circuits for posture and voluntary movement. I will present the main questions that can be tackled and combine comparative studies in diverse animal vertebrate species and humans.

INSERM

Claire Wyart

Dr. Claire Wyart is a INSERM director of research and led the team since 2011. In 2003, she completed a PhD in a physics laboratory at the University of Strasbourg where she developed fluorescent recordings of neuronal network activity. Moving to UC Berkeley for her postdoc in 2005, she was one of the first to use light to manipulate the activity of neurons in vivo. As a pioneer in the emerging field of optogenetics. In 2011, Claire starts her team at the Paris Brain Institute: her interdisciplinary group shows that the sensory system she discovered in the spinal cord detects curvature of the spine to optimize the speed and posture during movements. Leveraging the transparency of larval zebrafish, her signature lies in deploying cutting-edge optical technologies to investigate neural activity throughout the body during movement, yielding insights into the structure of sensory and motor circuits in vertebrates. Claire is deeply committed to science outreach and training of young researchers in science: zenith-etn.com. Claire Wyart's contributions have earned her international recognition, including the Robertson Prize from the New York Stem Cell Foundation (NYSCF, 2016), membership of the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO, 2019) and the Richard Lounsbery Prize awarded by the French and American National Academies of Sciences (2022).



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