

14th SYMPOSIUM OF
BIAL FOUNDATION



BEHIND AND BEYOND THE BRAIN

Aquém e Além do Cérebro
Creativity

Casa do Médico - Porto
April 3 to 6, 2024



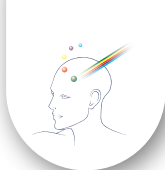
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FOUNDATION

FIRST **ANNOUNCEMENT**

14th SYMPOSIUM OF
BIAL FOUNDATION

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Creativity



Creativity - our ability to imagine and bring into existence something new - is probably the most remarkable feature of human cognition. It is at the core of scientific innovation and drives art in all its forms; it is what explains progress, revolutions, crises and their resolution. But how does it work? What do we know about what creativity is, who has it, and what we can do to enhance it? With its 14th “Beyond and Behind the Brain” Symposium, the BIAL Foundation will seek to address such questions by gathering prominent neuroscientists, psychologists, philosophers, and artists and engage them in a profoundly interdisciplinary dialogue over the course of a rich program extending over three days.

The Symposium will open on April 3rd with an **evening lecture** by Mark Runco (Ashland, US), who will overview the scientific study of creativity and introduce the question what (if any) parts of creativity are “beyond the brain?”

The **first session** (“**The foundations of creativity**”), will take place on the morning of April 4th. Moderated by Caroline Watt (Edinburgh, UK), it will be dedicated to the foundations of creativity. Nicola Clayton & Mark Baldwin (Cambridge, UK) will first explore how movement, for instance through dance, enables creativity. Next, Christine Simmonds-Moore (West Georgia, US) and Amory Danek (Heidelberg, DE) will respectively overview the cognitive mechanisms and neural basis of creativity. The session will close with a keynote lecture by Anna Abraham (Georgia, US), who will address fundamental aspects of creativity by debunking some myths we entertain about it.

The **second session** (“**The expressions of creativity**”), taking place on the morning of April 5th, will explore different expressions of creativity and different ways in which creativity can be stimulated. It will be moderated by Rainer Goebel (Maastricht, NL). Todd Lubart (Paris, FR) will focus on the effects of the environment on creative endeavours. Lucia Melloni (Frankfurt, DE) will report on creative approaches to science. Marilyn Schlitz (Palo Alto, US) will explore the links between psi phenomena and the creative mind. Finally, in the closing keynote lecture, Morten Kringelbach (Oxford, UK) will overview how “the improvising brain” as it expresses itself through music leads to meaning making and thriving.

The **third session** (“**The edges of creativity**”), which will take place on the morning of April 6th, takes creativity to the edges and beyond. Sergio Neuenschwander (Rio Grande do Norte, BR) will focus on cinema as a disruptive art form that makes it possible to invent reality. Frederick Barrett (Baltimore, US) will explore how psychedelic drugs can enhance creativity in musical improvisation. And Marcus du Sautoy (Oxford, UK) asks a crucial question: Can an artificial intelligence be creative? Edward Kelly (Virginia, US) will close the session with a keynote lecture aimed at understanding creative experiences in extreme contexts such as near-death or situations involving paranormal phenomena. The session will be moderated by Stefan Schmidt (Freiburg, DE).

In addition to organizing its biannual symposium, the BIAL Foundation also supports fundamental research relevant to the study of the mind. On the afternoon of April 4th, the recipients of BIAL Foundation grants will have an opportunity to present their work in a **blitz oral session** during which they will give a 2m overview of their research poster, exhibited throughout the symposium. This exciting session will be moderated by Mário Simões (Lisbon, PT).

The symposium will further be greatly enhanced by an outstanding set of four **participatory workshops** taking place in parallel on the afternoon of April 5th. In **Workshop 1**, Penousal Machado (Coimbra, PT) will invite participants to explore artificial intelligence in subtyping creativity in art and science. **Workshop 2**, animated by Nicola Clayton and Mark Baldwin, is focused on creative movement (“Come prepared to move your body!”). Led by Christine Simmonds-Moore and Etzel Cardeña (Lund, SE), **Workshop 3** will explore the wonders of the merging of the senses through synesthetic creativity between sound and drawing. Finally, in **Workshop 4**, organized by the renowned Portuguese musician and author Pedro Abrunhosa (Porto, PT), we will allow ourselves to be immersed in sounds, harmony, rhythm, or silence, so that everyone can say what they perceive in the invisible.

The symposium will close on the afternoon of April 6th with a **final roundtable** moderated by Axel Cleeremans (Brussels, BE) and featuring Pedro Abrunhosa, Mark Baldwin & Nicola Clayton, Marilyn Schlitz, and Sergio Neuenschwander. This will be an opportunity to further reflect upon and share the core findings from the symposium, and to offer a final opportunity for the audience to interact with representative speakers.

With its 14th Symposium, the BIAL Foundation hopes to engage speakers and the audience around a deep, interdisciplinary reflection about what is perhaps the defining characteristic of the human mind: Its astounding ability to creatively envision novel solutions to problems, to imagine possible worlds and futures, to share beauty, and to transcend itself.

Organizing Committee:

President
AXEL CLEEREMANS (Brussels)
ETZEL CARDEÑA (Lund)
MIGUEL CASTELO-BRANCO (Coimbra)
RUI COSTA (Seattle, WA)
RAINER GOEBEL (Maastricht)
STEFAN SCHMIDT (Freiburg)
CAROLINE WATT (Edinburgh)

Participants:

ANNA ABRAHAM (Athens, GA)
PEDRO ABRUNHOSA (Porto)
MARK BALDWIN (Cambridge)
FREDERICK BARRETT (Baltimore, MD)
ETZEL CARDEÑA (Lund)
MIGUEL CASTELO-BRANCO (Coimbra)
NICOLA CLAYTON (Cambridge)
AXEL CLEEREMANS (Brussels)
RUI COSTA (Seattle, WA)
AMORY DANЕК (Heidelberg)
MARCUS DU SAUTOY (Oxford)
RAINER GOEBEL (Maastricht)
EDWARD KELLY (Virginia, VA)
MORTEN KRINGELBACH (Oxford)
TODD LUBART (Paris)
PENOUSAL MACHADO (Coimbra)
LUCIA MELLONI (Frankfurt)
SERGIO NEUENSCHWANDER (Rio Grande do Norte)
MARK RUNCO (Ashland, OR)
MARILYN SCHLITZ (Palo Alto, CA)
STEFAN SCHMIDT (Freiburg)
CHRISTINE SIMMONDS-MOORE (Carrollton, GA)
MÁRIO SIMÕES (Lisbon)
NUNO SOUSA (Minho)
CAROLINE WATT (Edinburgh)

1st Symposium - March 29 to 30, 1996 | Eugénia Cunha, José R. Delgado, Adolf Dittrich, Peter Fenwick, Stanley Krippner, Deolinda Lima, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Robert Morris, René Peoc'h, Pedro Polónio, Carlos Fernandes da Silva, Carlos Henrique Silva

2nd Symposium - April 2 to 4, 1998 | António Damásio, Hanna Damásio, Maria de Sousa, Patrick Dondelinger, Fernando Gil, Nuno Grande, Francesca Happé, Jerome Kagan, Edwin May, Robert Morris, Dean Radin, Emilio Salgueiro, Fiona Steinkamp

3rd Symposium - April 6 to 8, 2000 – Exceptional Experiences | Martina Belz-Merk, Richard Bentall, Richard Broughton, Deborah Delanoy, Hoyt Edge, Peter Fenwick, John Gruzelier, Erlendur Haraldsson, Dietrich Lehmann, Fernando Lopes da Silva, David Marks, António Martins da Silva, Edwin May, Robert Morris, Teresa Paiva, Luís Sobrinho, Richard Wiseman

4th Symposium - April 4 to 6, 2002 – Exceptional Interpersonal Relationships I | Michael Argyle, Daryl Bem, Richard Broughton, James Carpenter, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, António Coimbra, Suzanne Crater, Kathy Dalton, David Fontana, John Gruzelier, Jerome Kagan, Stanley Krippner, Mitchell Krucoff, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Robert Morris, Rui Mota Cardoso, Rodrigo Saraiva, Isabel Soares, Ian Stevenson, Colwyn Trevarthen, Harald Walach, Caroline Watt

5th Symposium - March 31 to April 3, 2004 – Consciousness and Brain I | Thomas Benke, Dick Bierman, Olaf Blanke, Adrian Burgess, Etzel Cardeña, Miguel Castelo-Branco, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, Patricia Churchland, Stanislas Dehaene, Sergio Della Sala, Dominic Flytche, Nuno Grande, Stephen Kosslyn, Victor Lamme, Dietrich Lehmann, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Pierre Maquet, Robert Morris, Rui Mota Cardoso, Geraint Rees, Mário Simões, Pim Van Lommel, Jiri Wackermann

6th Symposium - March 29 to April 1, 2006 – Memory I | John Aggleton, Stephen Braude, Richard Broughton, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, Patrick Chauvel, Howard Eichenbaum, Mitchell Eisen, Guillén Fernández, Christopher French, Nuno Grande, Lia Kvavilashvili, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Rui Mota Cardoso, John Palmer, Alcino Silva, Mário Simões, Rex Stanford, Caroline Watt, Menno Witter

7th Symposium - March 26 to 29, 2008 – Emotions I | Ralph Adolphs, Daryl Bem, Dick Bierman, Etzel Cardeña, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, Ray Dolan, Paul Ekman, Sophia Frangou, Nico Frijda, Christian Keysers, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Marta Moita, Rui Mota Cardoso, Roger Nelson, Dean Radin, Stefan Schmidt, Mário Simões, Tania Singer, Caroline Watt

8th Symposium - April 7 to 10, 2010 – Intuition and Decision-making I | Dick Bierman, Richard Broughton, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, Axel Cleeremans, Nuno Crato, Seymour Epstein, Thomas Goschke, John-Dylan Haynes, Hauke Heekeren, Eva Lobach, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Rui Mota Cardoso, David Myers, Eugene Sadler-Smith, Marilyn Schlitz, Mário Simões, Caroline Watt, Cilia Witterman

9th Symposium - March 28 to 31, 2012 – Sleep and Dreams I | Carlos Alvarado, Dick Bierman, Miguel Castelo-Branco, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, Axel Cleeremans, Sally Rhine Feather, Péter Halász, Allan Hobson, Stephen LaBerge, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Teresa Paiva, Christopher A. Roe, Michael Schredl, Sophie Schwartz, Mário Simões, Kai Spiegelhalter, Robert Stickgold, Eus van Someren, Caroline Watt

10th Symposium - March 26 to 29, 2014 – Mind-Matter Interactions I | Peter Bancel, Dick Bierman, Miguel Castelo-Branco, Alexandre Castro-Caldas, Vanessa Charland-Verville, Axel Cleeremans, Rui Costa, Eberhard Fetz, Rainer Goebel, Patrick Haggard, Stuart Hameroff, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Rui Mota Cardoso, Dean Radin, Ander Ramos-Murguialday, Nick Ramsey, Mário Simões, Adolf Tobeña, Harald Walach, Caroline Watt

11th Symposium - March 30 to April 2, 2016 – Placebo Effects, Healing and Meditation I | Fabrizio Benedetti, Dick Bierman, Miguel Castelo-Branco, Axel Cleeremans, Larry Dossey, Paul Enck, Damien Finniss, Rainer Goebel, Antonio Guerri, Ted Kaptchuk, Irving Kirsch, Fernando Lopes da Silva, Amir Raz, Tania Re, Manfred Schedlowski, Stefan Schmidt, Mário Simões, Jessica Utts, Tor Wager, Caroline Watt, Jon-Kar Zubieta

12th Symposium - April 4 to 7, 2018 – Enhancing the Mind I | Mattia Bergomi, Etzel Cardeña, Jose Carmena, Miguel Castelo-Branco, Christopher Chabris, Anjan Chatterjee, Axel Cleeremans, Lorenza Colzato, Rui Costa, Gonzalo de Polavieja, Rainer Goebel, Torkel Klingberg, Antoine Lutz, Jean-Noël Missa, Rui Oliveira, Tania Re, Jordi Riba, Alexander Sack, Olga Silva, Mário Simões, Nuno Sousa, Yulia Ustinova, Caroline Watt

13th Symposium - April 6 to 9, 2022 - The mystery of time | Orfeu Bertolami, Michael Brecht, Dean Buonomano, Jimena Canales, Etzel Cardeña, Bernard Carr, Miguel Castelo-Branco, Axel Cleeremans, Rui Costa, Jennifer Coull, Patricia Cyrus, Teresa Firmino, Rainer Goebel, Julia Mossbridge, Chris Roe, Stefan Schmidt, Anil Seth, Daniel Sheehan, Mário Simões, Wolf Singer, Joseph S. Takahashi, Caroline Watt, Marc Wittmann

Registration Fee

The 14th Symposium will be organized only for in-person audience.

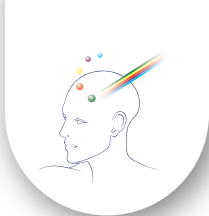
€200
€80 - for university students under the age of 25 and PhD students (please enclose copy of your student card and/or university/supervisor declaration).

These amounts include access to all Symposium sessions, coffee breaks and certificate of attendance. It does not include meals. Limited number of registrations.

Hotels	Single/Double	Location
Ipanema Porto****	Rate: 10% discount guarantee	Boavista
Fénix Porto****		15 min. by taxi

Make your reservation directly with the Hotel (do refer Fundação BIAL and the Symposium)
Tel: +351 22 619 4100 | <https://14simposiofundacaobial.hfhotels.com>

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The BIAL Foundation was established in May 1994 by the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities and the pharmaceutical company BIAL, with the patronage of the President of the Portuguese Republic. It aims at encouraging the scientific study of the human being from both the physical and spiritual perspectives.

Among its activities the BIAL Foundation manages awards in the scope of health sciences, namely the Prémio BIAL de Medicina Clínica, created in 1984, the BIAL Award in Biomedicine, awarded for the first time in 2019, and the Maria de Sousa Award, originated in 2020 in partnership with the Portuguese Medical Association.

The Foundation also promotes a Grants Programme for Scientific Research, focusing on Psychophysiology and Parapsychology as research areas. To date the BIAL Foundation has approved for funding 865 projects, involving more than 1.700 researchers from 30 countries, resulting globally in the publication of 1.874 articles in indexed journals (in Scopus or Web of Science), 1.658 of which in journals with an average impact factor of 4.2 and 372 in journals with an impact factor greater than or equal to 5. By August 2023, there had been a substantial number of citations (43.246), with 560 publications being cited more than 20 times.