

IRENA ARSLANOVA

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APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Researcher, Royal Holloway, University of London (Apr 2021 – ongoing)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Cognitive Neuroscience, University College London, 2017 – 2021, [Thesis](#)

– Research visit to NTT Communication Science Laboratories, Japan (Sep 2019 – Dec 2019)

B.Sc. Psychology, City, University of London, 2014 - 2017, Grade: First Class Honours

PUBLICATIONS

Arslanova I, Meletaki V, Calvo-Merino B, & Forster B (2023) Perception of facial expressions involves emotion specific somatosensory cortex activations which are shaped by alexithymia. *Cortex*. [Manuscript](#)

Arslanova I, Kotsaris V, & Tsakiris M (2023) Perceived time expands and contracts within each heartbeat. *Current Biology*. [Manuscript](#)

Arslanova I, Galvez-Pol A, Kilner J, Finotti G, & Tsakiris M (2022) Seeing through each other's hearts: Inferring others' heart rate as a function of own heart rate perception and perceived social intelligence. *Affective Science*. [Manuscript](#)

Arslanova I, Takamuku S, Gomi H, & Haggard P (2022) Multi-digit tactile perception I: motion integration benefits for tactile trajectories presented bimanually. *Journal of Neurophysiology*. [Manuscript](#)

Arslanova I, Wang K, Gomi H, & Haggard P (2020) Somatosensory evoked potentials that index lateral inhibition are modulated according to the mode of perceptual processing: comparing or combining multi-digit tactile motion. *Cognitive Neuroscience*. [Manuscript](#)

Arslanova I, Galvez-Pol A, Calvo-Merino B, & Forster B (2019) Searching for bodies: ERP evidence for independent somatosensory processing during visual search for body-related information. *Neuroimage*. [Manuscript](#)

GRANT & AWARDS

Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship (2024-27) – In search of experienced time: how the heart-brain coupling supports time perception

Guarantors of Brain Travel Grant (2023) – to attend Timing Research Forum in Lisbon, Portugal, £500

BIAL Foundation Grant (2023; co-PI) – investigating the electrophysiological components of heart-brain coupling in time perception, €54,000

Mind-Body-Brain (MBB) Young Investigator Award (2022) – funded 3-month research visit to Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences

Sully Scholarship for best PhD Upgrade (2018) awarded by University College London

Best Psychology Undergraduate Student Award (2017) awarded by British Psychology Society

Undergraduate Project Prize (2017) awarded by Experimental Psychology Society

Undergraduate Research Bursary (2016) – funded 3-month research project awarded by Experimental Psychology Society, £3000

SELECTED TALKS

The heart as a subjective pacemaker: how experienced time expands and contracts within each heartbeat. Momentary Emotion Elicitation and Capture (MEEC) workshop, virtual (Oct 2022 – invited speaker)

Heart's role in visual and auditory duration perception, modulated by emotional content. European Society for Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience (ESCAN) Vienna, Austria (Jul 2022)

Cardiac effects on auditory and visual duration perception. 9th MindBrainBody (MBB) Symposium, virtual (Mar 2022)

Modulation of somatosensory interneural inhibition according to the goal of tactile multi-digit perceptual processing: going for the overall gist or the subtle detail. European Workshop on Cognitive Neuropsychology (EWCN), Bressanone, Italy (Jan 2020)

Searching for bodies: Electrophysiological evidence for independent somatosensory processing during attentional selection of body postures. Experimental Psychology Society (EPS) annual meeting, University of Leicester, UK (Apr 2018; EPS/BSA Undergraduate Project Prize winner talk)

SELECTED SERVICE & EXPERIENCE

Reviewing

Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology, Psychophysiology, Experimental Brain Research, iScience, Cognition

Teaching

Demonstrator for Undergraduate Research Methods (Introductory, Level 1, & Level 2) at Birkbeck, University of London (Sept 2021 – May 2023)

Tutor for Year 3 Academic Tutorials, University College London (Sept 2021 – March 2023)

Tutor for UCL Writing Lab, University College London (Sept 2020 – April 2021)

Student project supervision: Gertheeka Sritharan (UCL, 3rd year med student, 2019); Keying Wang (UCL, 3rd year psychology student, 2019)

COMPUTING & TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Experimental design and execution: Matlab and Gorilla/Qualtrics for online experiments
- Data analysis: Python, R, SPSS
- EEG data acquisition and processing (EEGLAB/Fieldtrip/BrainVision)
- Physiological measurement (ECG, EMG)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & IMPACT

Invited to a podcast – *Brain Space Time Podcast* (August 2023). [Episode](#)

Featured on the CBS Primetime (July 2023). [Episode](#)

Organiser, speaker, and host at the *Pint of Science Egham* events (May 2023). [Website](#)

Invited to a podcast – *the Encourager* (May 2023). [Episode](#)

Invited keynote for the *Undergraduate Psychology conference* at City, University of London (Feb 2022)

Performing science experiments with the public at *Self-impressions with the Institute of Philosophy, University of London* (Tate Exchange/Tate Modern - Mar 2018)

Volunteer mentor at *IntoUniversity*, London (2014 - 2017)