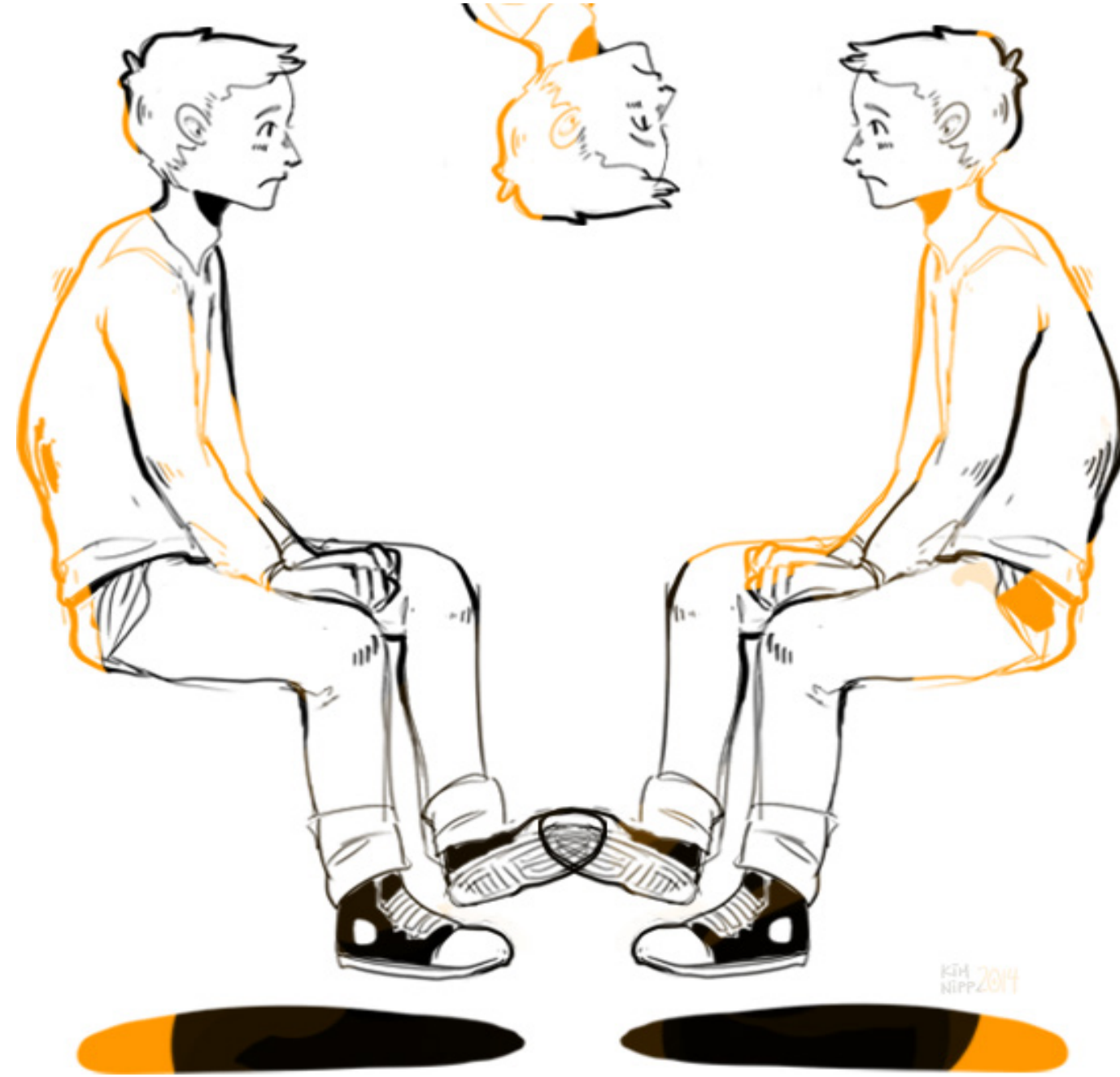


# Face Perception



- Explain what is special about face perception.
- Prosopagnosia: Describe the disorder, and summarize relevant research.
- Name those brain regions that have been implicated in face perception.

# Learning Goals

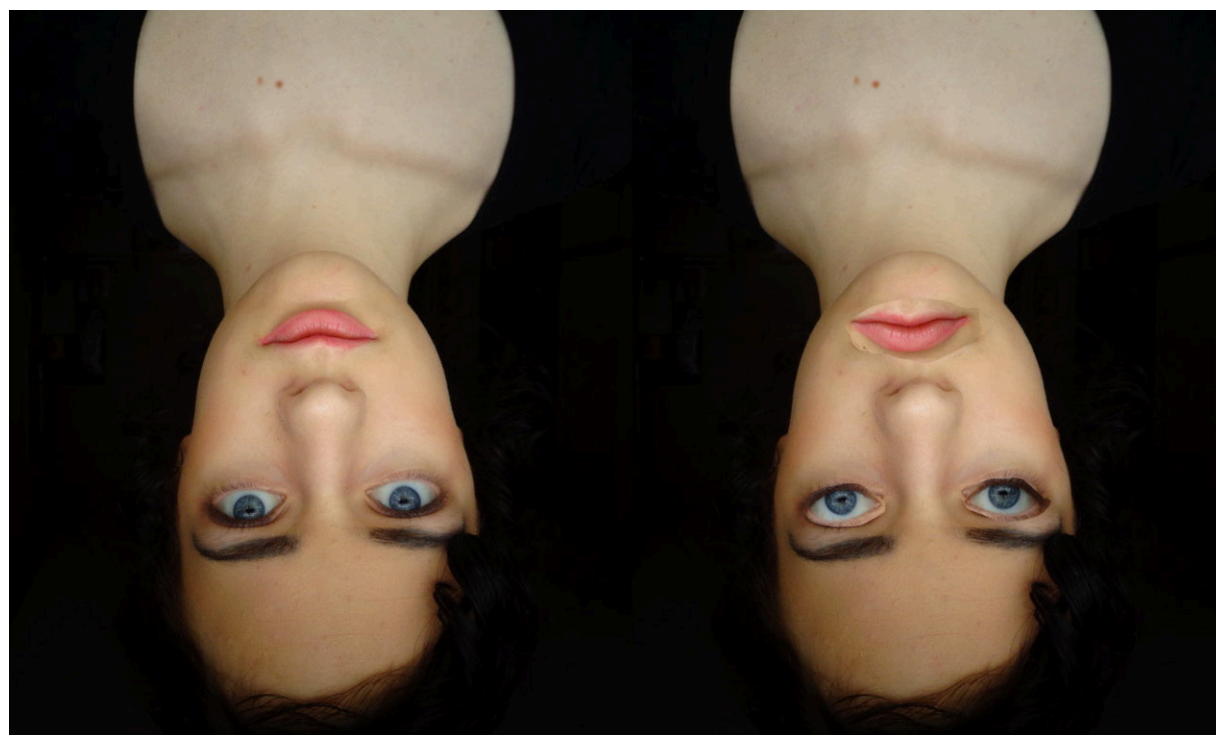
People are very good at reading faces for information about age, gender, and emotional state.

# Face Perception

People are very good at reading faces for information about age, gender, and emotional state.

An inverted face is very difficult to recognize, supporting the idea that we process faces in a global, holistic fashion.

# Face Perception



# Face Perception

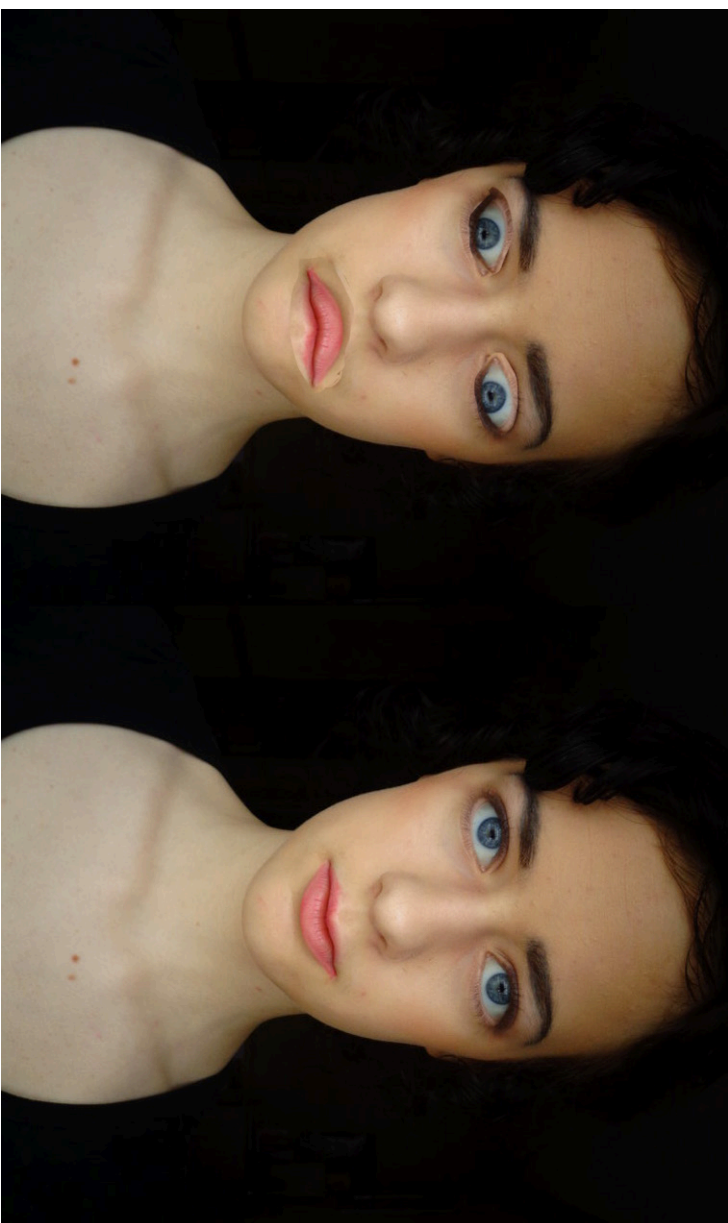


# Face Perception



# Face Perception





# Face Perception

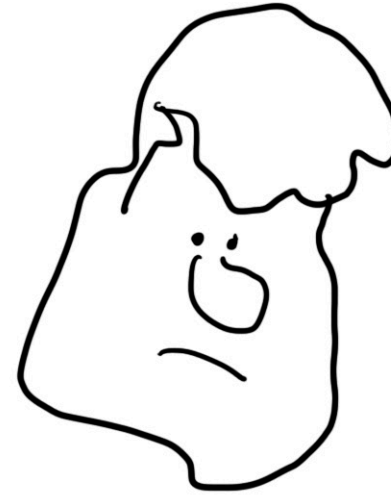


What is special about faces as objects?

1. They show a high degree of visual similarity.
2. They are evolutionary significant signs.

# Face Perception

What is special about faces as objects?



Face Perception

Prosopagnosia is a failure of face recognition.



Prosopagnosia

Prosopagnosia is a failure of face recognition.

Prosopagnosics can describe the characteristics of a face, but they cannot recognize whose face it is

Affects previously familiar faces (retrograde component) as well as newly experienced faces (anterograde component).

Patients can still recognize people by their voice, distinctive clothing, hairstyle etc.

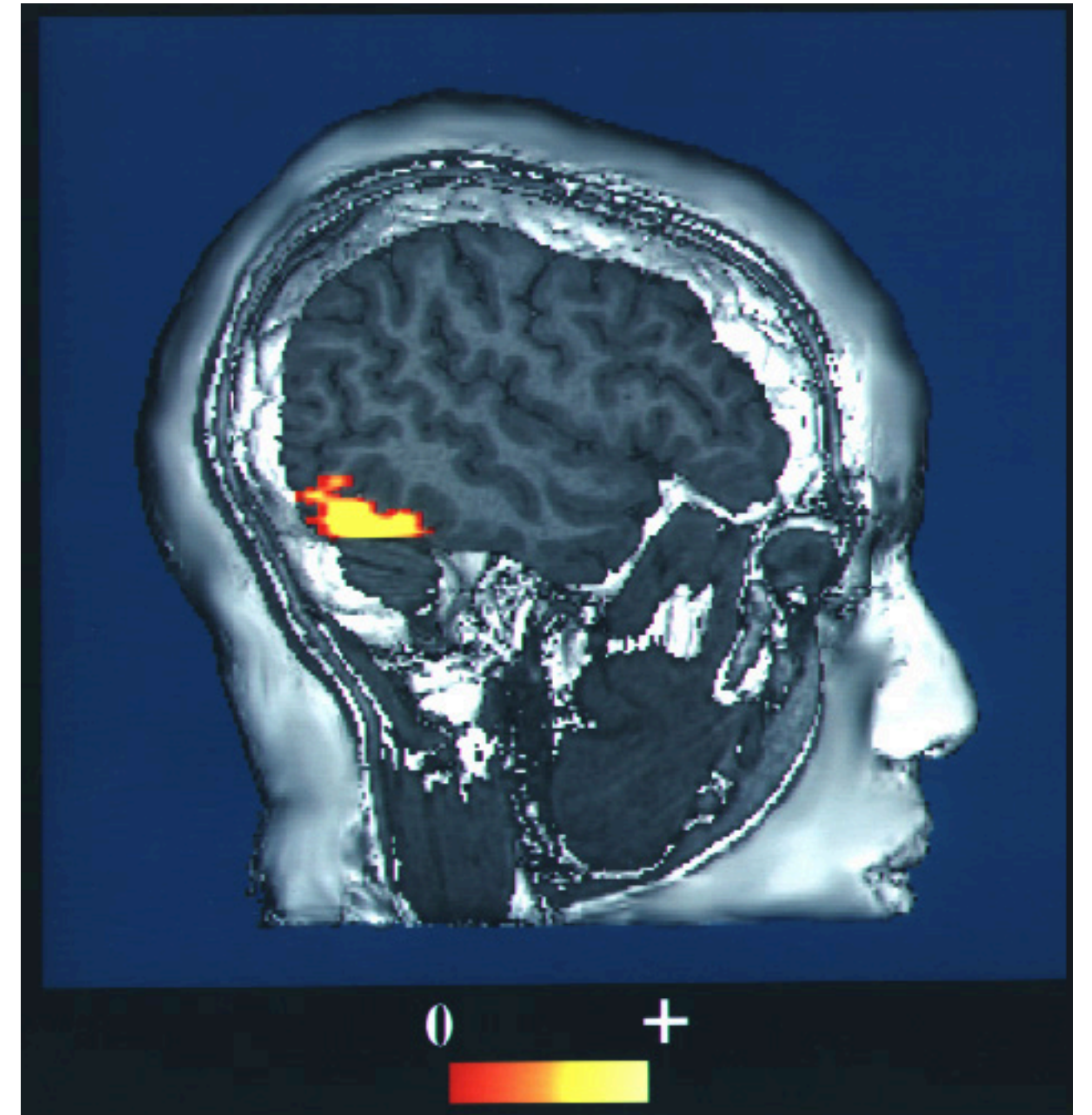
# Prosopagnosia

Prosopagnosia is a selective visual deficit and usually occurs in the absence of any other visual impairment, cognitive deficit, and psychiatric illness.

# Prosopagnosia



Early functional imaging studies (PET and fMRI) highlighted the importance of a particular region of the human ventral temporal lobe in processing of faces--known as the fusiform gyrus or fusiform face area (FFA).



# Fusiform Face Area

More recent imaging work has emphasized the importance of the occipital face area (OFA) as being critical for face processing. The FFA is now thought to be important only for discriminating faces from other objects.

# Fusiform Face Area