

Curriculum Vitae Sébastien Ballesta



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French, born on February, 13th 1986

I am interested in the biological bases of social cognition, especially in primates. Thanks to unique experimental methods, I demonstrated that macaques value others' welfare. Results suggest that prosocial decision-making is driven by an intrinsic motivation for social affiliation and controlled though positive and negative vicarious reinforcement.

ACADEMIC DEGREES

- Nov 2010* European “**Master**” at **Ecole Normale Supérieure** (ENS, Lyon, France), Biosciences
- Nov 2008* European “**Licence**” at **Université Versailles Saint-Quentin** (UVSQ, Versailles, France), Biology
- June 2005* French **Scientific Baccalauréat**, Lycée La Bruyère (Versailles, France)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Nov 2010- Dec 2014* **PhD thesis** at **Cognitive Neuroscience Centre, Bron, France:** *Emotions and social decisions in macaques*
- Feb-May 2010* **Internship** at the Neurophysiological Max Planck institute, **University of Gottingen, Germany:** *The endothelin system in the olfactory organs of *Xenopus laevis**
- Sept-Dec 2009* **Internship** at the zoology department, **University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada:** *The effect of adrenaline on the temperature dependency of cardiac potentials in pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*)*
- Aug-sept 2009* **Internship** at the NOPA, **INRA, Jouy-en-josas, France:** *Effects of endothelin on the electro-olfactogram of rats olfactory mucosa*
- Jan-May 2009* **Internship** at the LRDP, **ENS, Lyon, France:** *Transcriptional regulation of *miR164* by *CUC2* in *Arabidopsis thaliana**
- Jun-July 2008* **Internship** at NOPA , **INRA, Jouy-en-josas, France:** *Communication between fibroblast and ensheating cells of rats (*Rattus norvegicus*)*
- Jun-July 2007* **Internship** at LGBC , **University of Versailles, France:** *Ubiquitin-proteasome pathway in the *Bax* and *Debl* induced apoptosis in *Drosophila melanogaster**

PUBLICATIONS

International peer-reviewed journals:

- **Ballesta S**, Reymond G, Duhamel JR: Macaque diplomacy: tit-for-tat as a potential but not dominant strategy in social decision-making. **In preparation.**
- **Ballesta S**, Reymond G, Pozzobon M, Duhamel JR: Social behaviors modulation by MDMA in young male long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*). **In preparation.**
- **Ballesta S**, Reymond G, Pozzobon M, Duhamel JR: Compete to play: trade-off with social contact in long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*). **PloS One.**
- **Ballesta S**, Duhamel JR: Behavioral mechanism of kindness in macaques. **Under review.**
- **Ballesta S**, Reymond G, Pozzobon M, Duhamel JR: A real-time 3D video tracking system for monitoring primate groups. **Journal of neuroscience methods.**
- **Ballesta S**, Hanson LM, Farrell AP (2012): The effect of adrenaline on the temperature dependency of cardiac action potentials in pink salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*). **Journal of fish biology**, 80, 876–885.

COMMUNICATIONS

Contributed talks

- *Oct 2012, Society for Neuroscience annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana , USA*
- *Oct 2012, Society for Social Neuroscience annual meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana , USA*
- *May 2012, Neuroscience and Cognition Doctoral school annual meeting, Lyon, France*

Posters

- *Nov 2014, Society for Neuroscience annual meeting, Washington, DC , USA*
- *June 2013, International Labex Cortex meeting, Lyon, France*
- *May 2013, Society for French neuroscience meeting, Lyon, France*
- *Apr 2013, Doctoral school Neuroscience and Cognition annual scientific meeting, Lyon, France*
- *Apr 2013, "New frontiers in social neuroscience", IPSEN, Paris, France*
- *May 2011, Doctoral school Neuroscience and Cognition annual scientific meeting, Lyon, France*

SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

- *Apr 2013, **Best poster** at the Doctoral school Neuroscience and Cognition annual meeting, Lyon, France*
- *May 2011, **Best poster** at the Doctoral school Neuroscience and Cognition annual meeting, Lyon, France*

TRAINEESHIPS

- *2014 Driving licence*
- *2012 Animal experimentation, CNRS, Marseille, France*
- *2011 Primatology, CNRS, Marseille, France*
- *2009 Radioactive waste management, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada*
- *2007 First aid (PCS1), Lyon, France*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- *2010-2014 Supervising of 1 graduate and 3 undergraduates students*
- *2010-2013 Teaching in Genetic at the University of Lyon (180h)*
- *2007-2008 Private tuitions in Biology to two high school students*

SCIENTIFIC SKILLS

- **Programming:** Matlab, Presentation, Basic.
- **Psychology:** Social cognition, gazes analyses.
- **Biology:** Electrophysiology (intra and extra cellular recording), Calcium imaging (on cell cultures and slices), Confocal microscopy, Immunohistochemistry, Cell biology (cell culture, cloning), Molecular biology (Western/Southern blots, PCR, Protein purification, ELISA assay), Biodiversity (Mediterranean ecosystems)
- **Animal handling:** Non-human primates, Rodents, Arthropods, Batrachians
- **Office skills:** Zotero, Inkscape, Microsoft Office, LaTeX.
- **Mathematics:** Non-parametric statistics, bootstrapping.
- **Multimedia:** Cametasia.
- **Languages:** English (good level), Spanish (beginner).

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- Two years as **Doctoral delegate** at doctoral school of neuroscience and cognition (ED 476)
- Several **hiking traveling** through Europe
- **Music:** bass guitar
- Four months as an actor in a semi-professional **theater play**