



Research study: Musical chills

Information for participants

We would like to invite you to be part of this research project, if you would like to. You should only agree to take part if you want to, it is entirely up to you. If you choose not to take part there won't be any disadvantages for you and you will hear no more about it. Please read the following information carefully before you decide to take part; this will tell you why the research is being done and what you will be asked to do if you take part. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information, by emailing the researcher at r.defleurian@qmul.ac.uk. If you decide to take part you will be asked to complete a consent form to say that you agree. You are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason.

The purpose of this research is to better understand pleasurable moments in music, what causes them, and what they lead to, with particular consideration for the phenomenon of musical chills, defined as shivers, goosebumps, or a tingling sensation experienced in response to music listening. This study consists in four distinct phases:

1. This online test, in which you will be asked to report some basic demographic information, some details about the extent of your musical training, some pieces of music during which you often experience chills, and your familiarity and liking for the genre of various short musical excerpts. **Duration: ~30 min.**
2. A lab session at Queen Mary University of London, in which you will be asked to listen to some pieces of music while a wearable device films a small area of the skin on your forearm in order to detect goosebumps. **Duration: ~60 min.**
3. A phase away from the lab, in which you will be given a playlist to listen to several times over the course of two weeks, occasionally reporting whether you experienced chills or not in response to pieces of music within the playlist.
4. A final lab session at Queen Mary University of London, in which you will be asked to listen to the playlist one last time, while a small area of the skin on your forearm is filmed by the same device as in the first lab session. **Duration: ~60 min.**

Please note that to be eligible as a participant for this study, you need to be able to identify specific instants at which you often experience chills within pieces of music.

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given the opportunity to download this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you have any questions or concerns about the manner in which the study was conducted please, in the first instance, contact the researcher responsible for the study. If this is unsuccessful, or not appropriate, please contact the Secretary at the Queen Mary Ethics of Research Committee, Room W104, Queen's Building, Mile End Campus, Mile End Road, London or research-ethics@qmul.ac.uk.