

Infants relax in response
to unfamiliar foreign
lullabies



Series of seminar



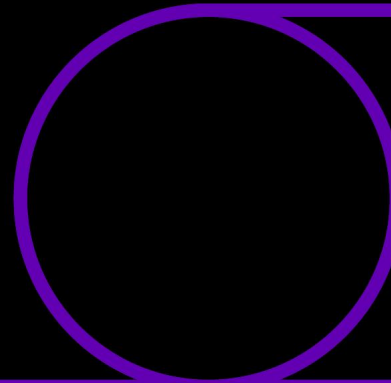
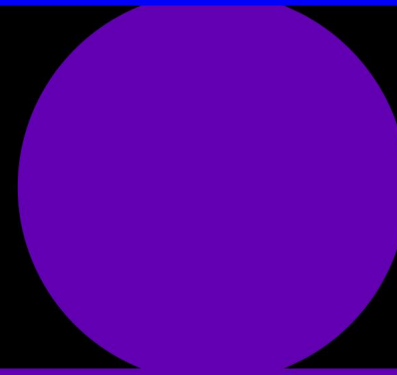
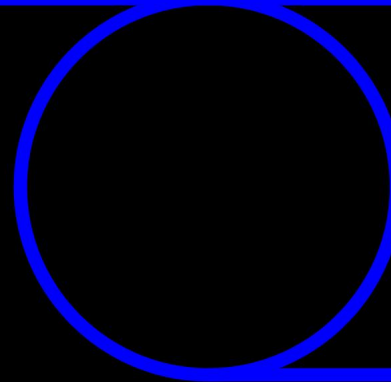
→ Mila Bertolo
(PhD student at McGill University)

→ Save the date and join at
the link inside our website news

→ May 3, 6pm CET

→ Speaker Biography

Mila Bertolo is a PhD student of Neuroscience at McGill University. She works on questions of how and why we understand music, drawing on developmental psychology, cross-cultural corpus work, and cross-species studies.



→ Abstract

In this talk, I will present a recent paper (Bainbridge & Bertolo et al., 2020, Nature Human Behaviour) that finds that infants are sensitive to the cross-culturally consistent features of lullabies, in that they relax to them even when the songs are drawn from unfamiliar cultures and sung in unfamiliar languages by unfamiliar voices. Such findings highlight the importance of previous and continuing work done on building corpora of culturally diverse music. These findings speak to broader theories concerning the possible evolutionary basis of music.