

6TH JULESZ LECTURE ON BRAIN RESEARCH

"PERCEPTION, ART, AND ILLUSION" » PROFESSOR BRIAN ROGERS

Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK



Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 1:00PM via Zoom EST

Zoom Preregistration: tinyurl.com/akzyzbws

This lecture is sponsored by Rutgers Center for Cognitive Science (RuCCS) and is part of the Béla Julesz Lectures on Brain Research series. Previous lectures in this series may be accessed at ruccs.rutgers.edu/talks/julesz-lectures. This lecture is part of a year-long engagement with the arts and sciences with programs organized by the Office of Research and Innovation in the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Research and Academic Affairs and the Zimmerli Art Museum.

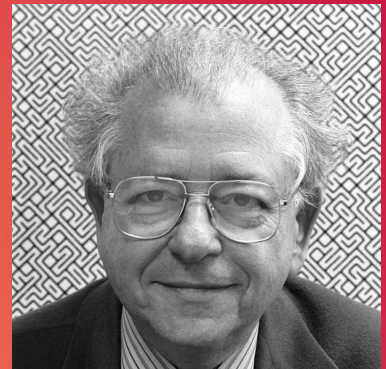
BIOSKETCH

Brian Rogers is Emeritus Professor of Experimental Psychology at the University of Oxford and also Professor of Psychology at the State University of St Petersburg. He started his career as an undergraduate and post-graduate student at Bristol University where he was supervised by Stuart Anstis and the late Richard Gregory. After leaving Bristol, he was appointed to a Lectureship and subsequently a Readership at St Andrews University in Scotland before moving to the University of Oxford in 1984. His main research interests are in 3-D vision, illusions and motion perception as well as the role of perception in the control of action. He has co-authored three books: "Binocular Vision and Stereopsis", "Seeing in Depth" and "Perceiving in Depth" with the late Ian Howard and in 2017 he wrote "Perception - A Very Short Introduction" published by Oxford University Press.

ABSTRACT

What is 'perception'? What does it mean to perceive? What are the similarities and differences between our everyday perception of the surrounding world and our perception of artworks? How can perceptual research help us to understand art and, conversely, how can the study of art help us to understand the processes of perception? And what is an 'illusion'? Are all our perceptions 'illusions'? These are some of the questions that I would like to address in the 2021 Sixth Julesz Lecture. Much of what has been written about relevance of perceptual research to art has focused on low-level mechanisms such as seeing edges, contrast and colour but these aspects of perception are of little interest to artists. Instead, I would like to argue that we need to think about perception as an ability to extract meaning - what the world offers us - from sensory stimulation, and that this is just as relevant to the perception of art as it is to our everyday perception of the surrounding world.

Béla Julesz (1928-2003)



- State of NJ Professor (Rutgers Psychology)
- US National Academy of Sciences
- Heineken Prize, Dutch Academy
- MacArthur "Genius" Award
- Julesz's *Foundations of Cyclopean Perception* was selected among the top 100 influential works on cognitive science in 20th century

Organizing Committee

- Thomas Papathomas
- Alan Gilchrist
- Eileen Kowler
- Elizabeth Torres
- Brian McLaughlin
- Troy Shinbrot
- Bruce Tesar

Co-Sponsors in addition to RuCCS

- Office of Research and Innovation
- Zimmerli Art Museum
- Institute of Research on Women
- Mason Gross School of the Arts
- Center for Cultural Analysis
- Dept. of Psych, Piscataway
- Dept. of Psych, Newark
- Dept. of Biomedical Engrg.
- Laboratory of Vision Research
- NeuroConnections Club
- American Medical Student Assoc.
- Cognitive Science Club