# Music Therapy & Neuroscience: Opportunities & Challenges Julian O'Kelly PhD

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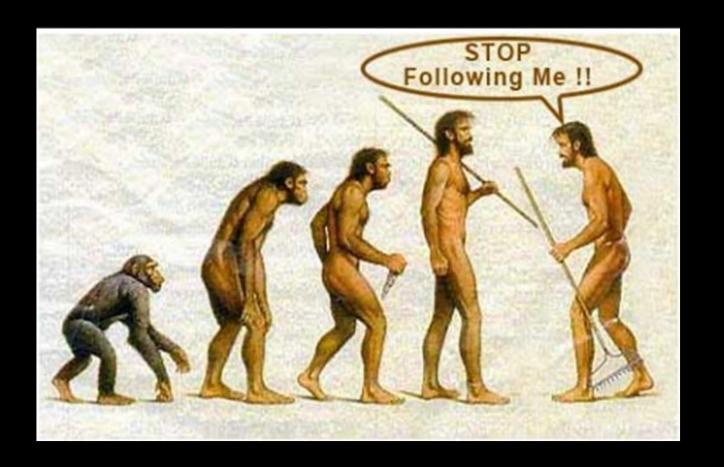


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J O'Kelly RHN Open Lecture 2017

#### Modern Neuroscience

- study of the nervous system at a molecular, cellular and systems level
- Drawing on cellular and systems models, neuropsychology, cognitive, behavioural & social neuroscience are disciplines of particular interest to music therapists
- E.g. how neural systems relate to each other to generate a range of behaviours or cognitive functions such as memory, attention and language





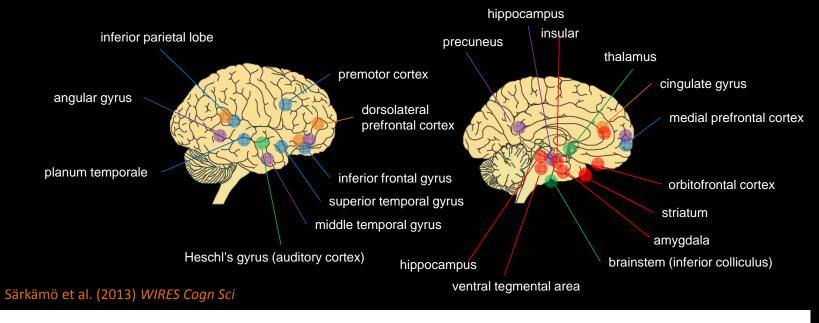
### **Music Therapy**

- NHS registered profession under HCPC governance
- Improvisation, song writing, receptive, functionally oriented techniques (gait, aphasia etc)
- +ve Cochrane reviews for neuro-rehabilitation, schizophrenia, depression..



## Music Medicine





- Perception of basic acoustic cues (e.g., pitch, intensity, temporal variation, motion, location)
- Perception of higher-order musical features (e.g., melody, harmony, tonality, rhythm)
- Focusing and keeping track of music in time (attention, working memory)
- Recognizing music and recalling associated memories (episodic and semantic memory)
- Music evoked emotions and experiencing pleasure and reward

Ford et al. (2011) Neuropsychologia, Groussard et al. (2010) Neurolmage, Janata (2009) Cereb Cortex, Peretz et al. (2009) Ann N Y Acad Sci, Plailly et al. (2007) Cereb Cortex Platel et al. (2003) Neurolmage, Saito et al. (2012) PLoS One, Satoh et al. (2006) Am J Neuroradiol,

## The Neurochemistry of music

Chanda & Leviten 2013

reward, motivation and pleasure	dopamine and opioids
stress and arousal	cortisol
immunity	serotonin
social affiliation	oxytocin



## Structural change in the musician brain

Brain areas found to be enlarged in musicians in MRI studies (Münte et al 2002)

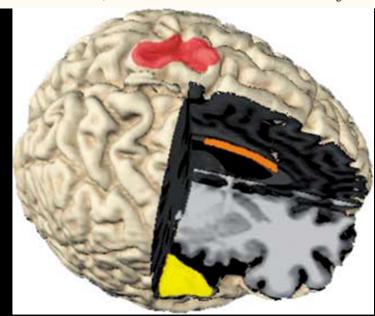
**Red:** primary motor cortex

Yellow: planum temporale

**Orange:** anterior part of the corpus callosum

The musician's brain as a model of neuroplasticity

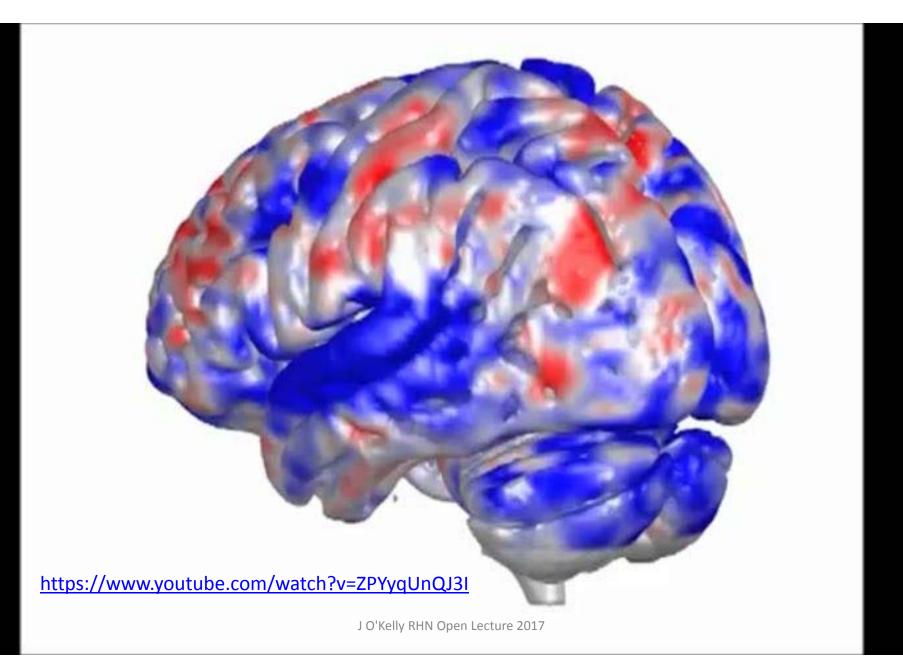
Thomas F. Münte, Eckart Altenmüller and Lutz Jäncke



Alluri V, Toiviainen P, Jääskeläinen IP, Glerean E, Sams M & Brattico E.

Large-scale brain networks emerge from dynamic processing of musical timbre, key and rhythm

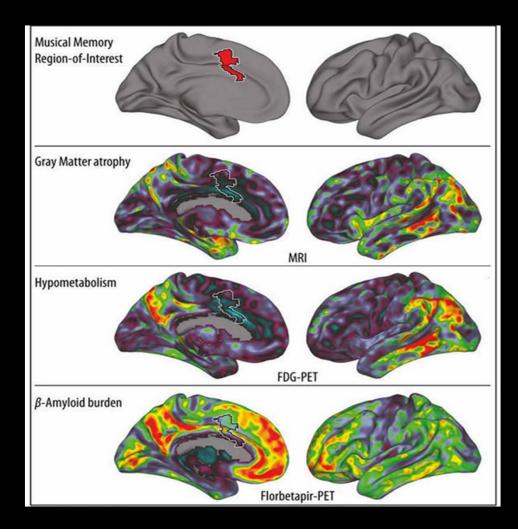
NeuroImage (2012), doi:10.1016/j.ne uroimage.2011. 11.019 (



## Musical memory preservation in Dementia

Jacobson et al. 2015

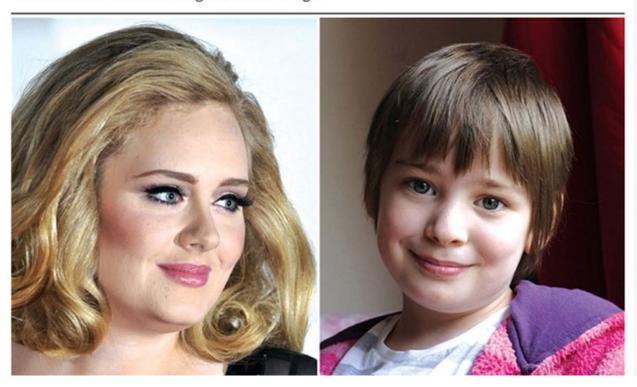
Objective scientific evidence for musical interventions that could enhance the well-being of dementia sufferers by engaging the 'healthy' part of the brain, where strong connections between music and meaningful autobiographical moments, identity and self-expression may lie.



## The Telegraph

#### Girl woken from coma after listening to Adele

A seven year old girl suffering from a brain haemorrhage woke up from a week-long coma after her mother sang her Adele songs.

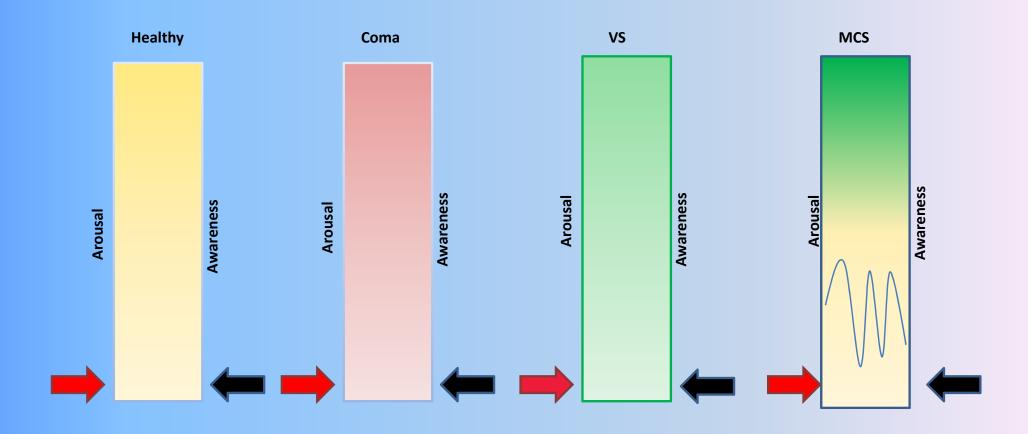


#### Drolonged DOC // weeks /

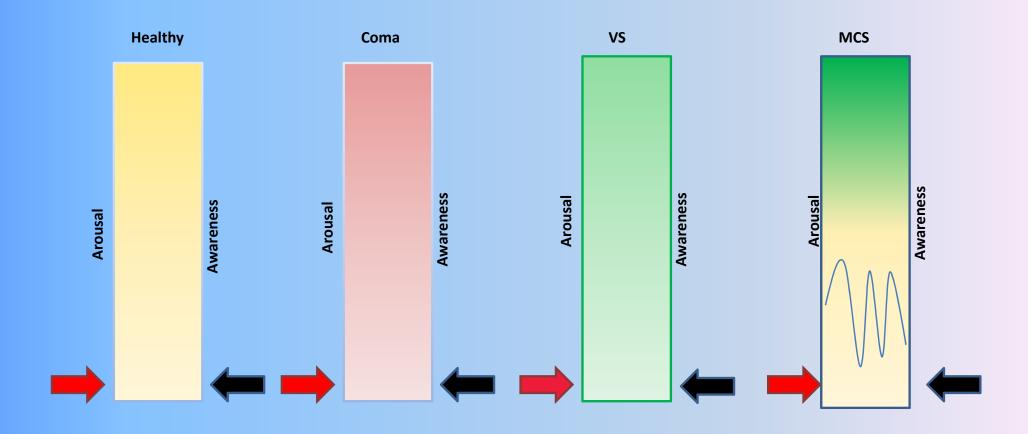
Table 1.2. Definitions of disorders of consciousness.

Coma	
(Absent wakefulness and	A state of unrousable unresponsiveness, lasting more than 6 hours in which a person:
absent awareness)	cannot be awakened
	<ul> <li>fails to respond normally to painful stimuli, light or sound</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>lacks a normal sleep—wake cycle, and</li> </ul>
	does not initiate voluntary actions.
Vegetative state (VS)	A state of wakefulness without awareness in which there is preserved capacity for
(Wakefulness with absent	spontaneous or stimulus-induced arousal, evidenced by sleep-wake cycles and a range
awareness)	of reflexive and spontaneous behaviours.
	VS is characterised by complete absence of behavioural evidence for self- or
	environmental awareness.
Minimally conscious	A state of severely altered consciousness in which minimal but clearly discernible
state (MCS)	behavioural evidence of self- or environmental awareness is demonstrated. <sup>5</sup>
(Wakefulness with minimal	
awareness)	MCS is characterised by inconsistent, but reproducible, responses above the level of
	spontaneous or reflexive behaviour, which indicate some degree of interaction with their surroundings.

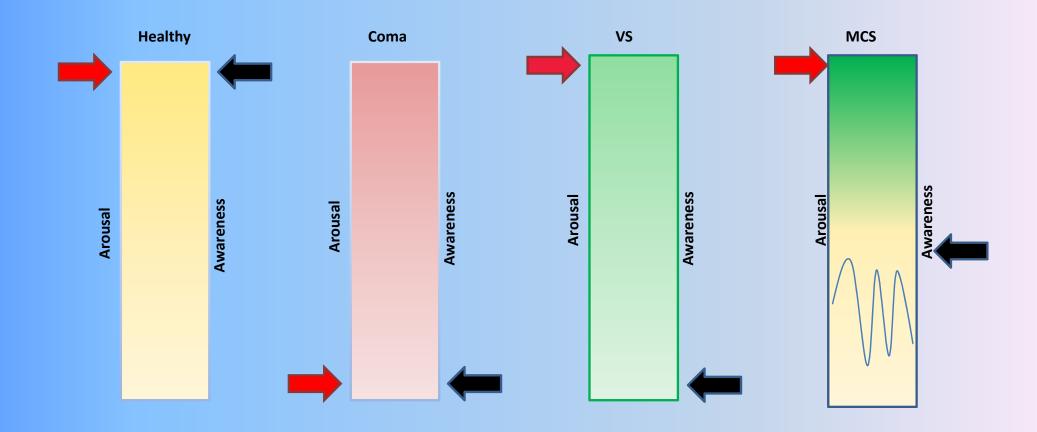
#### Relationship between arousal and awareness



#### Relationship between arousal and awareness



#### Relationship between arousal and awareness



## Music Therapy Rehabilitation with Disorders of Consciousness

- Using behavioural, EEG and ANS measures to explore potential of music therapy to support the rehabilitation process for PDOC patients and provide prognostic indicators
- Rappich, R., Palani, R. James, L., O'Kelly, J. (2017) A neurophysiological and behavioural pilot investigation of music therapy in rehabilitation with prolonged disorders of consciousness. Manuscript In preparation

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### Further reading...



Open Access Web Links:

To the paper version of this presentation, with all references:

https://voices.no/index.php/voices/article/view/87 2/720

To the main O'Kelly et al. study on Music Therapy & Disorders of Consciousness

http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fnhum.2013.00884/full

To Melbourne Uni Mooc '6 ways music can change your life'

https://www.coursera.org/learn/music-life

To the E book 'Dialogues in Music Therapy and Music Neuroscience

http://journal.frontiersin.org/researchtopic/3049/dialogues-in-music-therapy-and-music-neuroscience-collaborative-understanding-driving-clinical-advan

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Associate Director of Research
Dr Sophie Duport





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