

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Family name, First name: Caruana Fausto

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Researcher unique identifier: 23984362400, orcid.org/0000-0002-4631-7543

ResearcherID: J-5274-2018

CURRENT POSITION

Italian National Research Council (CNR) – Institute of Neuroscience, Parma, Italy

EDUCATION

March 6, 2009: PhD in Neuroscience, University of Parma, supervisor Prof. Vittorio Gallese

June 30, 2004: Degree in Philosophy (110/110) at the University of Parma, supervisor Prof. Marco Santambrogio

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

07/2018 – 11/2019 Post-doc, CNR, Institute of Neuroscience, Parma, Italy

01/2017 – 06/2018 Post-doc, University of Parma, Italy

01/2015 – 1/2016 Post-doc, CNR, Institute of Neuroscience, Parma, Italy

06/2010 – 12/2015 Post-Doc Italian Institute of Technology (IIT), Brain Center for Social and Motor Cognition, Parma, Italy

02/2009 – 02/2010 Post-Doctoral fellow at the Dept. Neuroscience, University of Parma. Supervisor Prof. Giacomo Rizzolatti (EU Contract 027017, Neuroprobes).

01/2010 – 06/2010 Visiting Research Fellow, Italian Institute of Technology, Neuroscience and Brain Technology, via Morego, Genova. Lab: Prof. Fabio Benfenati

01/2005 – 03/2009 PhD program in Neuroscience, University of Parma, Supervisor Prof. Vittorio Gallese

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC QUALIFICATION

2015 – Associate Professor of “General Psychology, Psychobiology and Psychometry” (11/E1), from Jan 29, 2015 to Jan 29, 2021, and from Nov 5, 2018 to Nov 5, 2024.

2017 – Associate Professor of “Physiology” (05/D1), from July 25, 2017 to July 25, 2023.

2017 – Associate Professor of “Aesthetics and Philosophy of Language” (11/C4), from Dec 5, 2017 to Dec 5, 2023.

2019 – Associate Professor of “Logic, History and Philosophy of Science” (11/C2), from July 15, 2019 to July 15, 2025.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Now: Contract professor: “Philosophy of Science” (M-FIL/02), Department DUSIC, University of Parma

09/04/2019 – 30/09/2019: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department DUSIC, University of Parma

16/04/2018 – 30/09/2018: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department DUSIC, University of Parma

11/04/2017 – 30/09/2017: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department DUSIC, University of Parma

01/04/2016 – 30/09/2016: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department ALEF, University of Parma

20/03/2015 – 31/10/2015: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department ALEF, University of Parma

17/02/2014 – 30/09/2014: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department ALEF, University of Parma

08/04/2013 – 30/09/2013: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department ALEF, University of Parma

10/04/2012 – 30/09/2012: Contract professor: “Neuroscience” (BIO/09), Department ALEF, University of Parma

SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS AND POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

- 2012 to date: thesis supervisor at the Department ALEF and DUSIC of (about) 20 graduate students. Main topics: philosophy of mind, philosophy of language and cognitive science.
- 2009 to date: supervision and training of two doctoral students enrolled in PhD program of Neuroscience of the University of Parma.

ORGANISATION OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

May 26-28, 2020 (scheduled). *Cognitive Science meets the Humanities*. AISC mid-term conference, co-organized with Marco Viola and Valentina Petrolini, DUSIC, Parma

March 16, 2019 – *Giuseppe Moruzzi. Il grande neuroscienziato*. Workshop co-organized with Giacomo Rizzolatti and Paolo Moruzzi, supported by Comune di Parma. Casa della Musica, Parma

April 5-7, 2017 – *The Pragmatist Turn. Habit and Experience at the crossroads between Pragmatism, Neurosciences, and Social Ontology*. International conference, co-organized with Italo Testa. University of Parma

June 18-19, 2014 – *NeuroSeeker*. Workshop co-organized with Guy Orban. Department of Neuroscience of the

University of Parma

EUROPEAN PROJECTS

Participant/Supervisor (awarded)

- RIDT/Malta Neuroscience Network (MNN) Brain Campaign 2016 “DeepMotionBMI. Intracranial stereo-EEG analysis during grasping movement and intent: a neuroscientific and brain-machine interface study”

Collaborator (awarded)

- IST-FET launches Integrated Project: ‘Neurobotics’ (PI: P. Dario) 2004-2008
- IST-FET Neuroprobes, 6th Framework Program (PI: P. Ruther) 2006-2010
- ERC Advanced Grant 2009: CogSystem (PI: G Rizzolatti)
- IST-FET Neuroseeker, 7th Framework Program (PI: P. Ruther), 2013-2017
- ERC Advanced Grant 2013: ParietalAction (PI: GA Orban), 2013-2018

Application as PI for the following grants (not funded):

- ERC-2016-STG: “BrainLaughter” (715552). Ranking range: 36%-45% (score: B)
- SIR grant: “The Mirror Mechanism for Human Tool Use” (RBSI14WMGA)

MEMBERSHIPS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

- Associazione Italiana di Scienze Cognitive (AISC)
- University Center for Bioethics, University of Parma (section Neuroscience)
- Società Italiana di Filosofia Analitica (SIFA)
- Society for Neuroscience, ID 100052113

AWARDS

- The book COME FUNZIONANO LE EMOZIONI. DA DARWIN ALLE NEUROSCIENZE, Il Mulino, has been awarded with the “Sante de Sanctis” prize as the best volume in psychology.

EDITORIAL AND REVIEWER ACTIVITY

Grant Reviewer:

- FWO Research Foundation – Flanders (Belgium);
- Remote referee for ERC SH4 panel “The Human Mind and Its Complexity”

Editorial Board:

- *Sistemi Intelligenti*, Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science Four-monthly Review, il Mulino Ed., (Editorial Board and Section Editor for “Neuroscience”)
- *Topoi*, An International Review of Philosophy (Springer)
- *Mind & Society*, Cognitive Studies in Economics and Social Sciences (Springer)
- *Frontiers in Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology* (Frontiers in Psychology), Associate Editor

Scientific Committee:

- *Le Scienze. Storia-teorie-metodo-etica*, Ed. Rosenberg&Sellier
- *La mente e i sistemi cognitivi*, Ed. Aracne
- *Embodied Cognitive Science*, Ed. Nuova Cultura

Review Editor:

- Frontiers in Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology (Frontiers in Psychology); Frontiers in Movement Science and Sport Psychology (Frontiers in Psychology)

Reviewer:

- PNAS, Cerebral Cortex, SCAN, Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews, Cortex, Neuroimage, Neuropsychologia, Journal of Consciousness Studies, Mind & Society, Biological Reviews, Frontiers in Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology (Frontiers in Psychology), Frontiers in Movement Science and Sport Psychology (Frontiers in Psychology), Perspectives on Psychological Science, Sistemi Intelligenti, Rivista Italiana di Filosofia del Linguaggio, Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane.

MAJOR COLLABORATIONS

- Collaboration with **Centro Munari** of the Ospedale Niguarda Ca' Granda, Milano (Prof Giorgio Lo Russo): study of the cognitive functions by means of intracranial EEG. The collaboration is demonstrated by 2 signed Agreement where FC appears as collaborator for IIT (first Agreement: 2013/2018) and for the Neuroscience Unit of the Department of Medicine and Surgery, for the University of Parma (new Agreement: 2018/2023).
- Collaboration with **Italo Testa, Pierre Steiner, Roberto Frega**: joint research program on Pragmatism and the 4E Cognitive Science. The collaboration is witnessed by the organization of 3 international conferences: Paris (December 2016, December 2017) and Parma (April 2017).
- Collaboration with **Anna Borghi**: the theoretical aspects of Embodied Cognition.

- Collaboration with **Massimo Marraffa**: philosophy of psychology and theoretical aspects of emotion science.
- Collaboration with **Telmo Pievani** and **Andrea Parravicini**: Evolution and Exaptation.
- Collaboration with **Andrea Parravicini**, **Guido Baggio**, **Marco Viola**: Pragmatism and Emotions

RESEARCH INTERESTS

System neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience, cognitive science, emotions and emotional expression, social cognition, motor cognition, embodied cognition, mirror neurons, pragmatism, affective neuroscience and philosophy of mind.

BOOKS:

- **Caruana F.**, Testa I. (Ed.; *in preparation*): HABITS. PRAGMATIST APPROACHES FROM COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE TO SOCIAL SCIENCE. Cambridge University Press
- Baggio G., **Caruana F.**, Parravicini A. Viola M. (Ed.; 2019): EMOZIONI. DA DARWIN AL PRAGMATISMO. ANTOLOGIA DI SCRITTI DI C. DARWIN, W. JAMES, J. DEWEY E G.H. MEAD. Rosenberg & Sellier.
- **Caruana F.** 2019: IL CERVELLO EMPATICO. DALLA TEORIA DELLA MENTE AL MECCANISMO MIRROR, Hachette. ISBN: 978-84-17506-76-6
- **Caruana F.**, Viola M. 2018: COME FUNZIONANO LE EMOZIONI. DA DARWIN ALLE NEUROSCIENZE, Il Mulino, Bologna. ISBN: 978-88-15-27523-3
- **Caruana F.**, Borghi A. 2016: IL CERVELLO IN AZIONE, Il Mulino, Bologna. ISBN: 978-88-15-26363-6

EDITOR:

- **Caruana F.**, Parravicini A., Pievani T. (2019). Continuità e discontinuità tra intelligenza umana e animale. Sistemi intelligenti, n°1/2019, (Ed.).
- **Caruana F.**, Marraffa M. 2016. *Basic Emotions: Still Necessary After All These Years?* Frontiers in Psychology, section Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology.
- **Caruana F.**, Marraffa M. 2014. *Il corpo viene alla mente: azioni, emozioni, pensieri* (Ed.). Sistemi intelligenti, n°1/2014, (Ed.).
- Borghi A., **Caruana F.** 2011: *La Cognizione Sociale*, Sistemi Intelligenti, n°2/2011 (Ed.).
- **Caruana F.** 2010: *Scienze Cognitive e Diritto*, Sistemi Intelligenti, n°2/2010 (Ed.).

PUBLICATIONS:

* Equal contribution

2020

- Caruana F.**, Avanzini P., Pelliccia V., Mariani V., Zauli F., Sartori I., Del Vecchio M., Lo Russo G., Rizzolatti G. Mirroring other's laughter. Cingulate, opercular and temporal contributions to laughter expression and observation, *Cortex* 2020.
- Caruana F.** Laughter. Social bonding and Habit formation through Emotional Mirroring. In "Habits. Pragmatist Approaches from Cognitive Science, Neuroscience, and Social Theory" Caruana F., Testa I (ed.). Cambridge University Press, 2020.
- Caruana F.** Riflessioni pragmatiste sull'evoluzione della cultura umana: un commento a "Dai Batteri a Bach" di Daniel Dennett. *Iride* 2020.
- Del Vecchio M., **Caruana F.**, Sartori I., Pelliccia V., Zauli F.M., Lo Russo G., Rizzolatti G., Avanzini P. Action execution and action observation elicit mirror responses with the same temporal profile in human SII. *Communication Biology*. 2020

2019

- Caruana F.**, Paolucci C. (2019) Per un'etologia semiotica del riso di superiorità: un'ipotesi pragmatista ed evolucionista. *Reti Saperi Linguaggi*, 2/2019.
- Caruana F.**, (2019) Stat scienza cognitiva pristina nomine, nomina nuda tenemus. *Sistemi Intelligenti*, 3/2019.
- Caruana F.**, (2019). Ridere e veder ridere. Il mirroring emozionale tra natura e cultura. *Biblioteca della Fondazione*, Vol.14. Atti del Convegno Intercultura 2019.
- Cuccio V., **Caruana F.** (2019). Rethinking the abstract/concrete concepts dichotomy. Comment on "Words as social tools: Language, sociality and inner grounding in abstract concepts" by Anna M. Borghi et al. *Physics of Life Reviews*, S1571-0645(19)30070-3.
- Caruana F.**, Viola M. (2019). Ritorno al futuro. traiettorie pragmatiste contemporanee in psicologia, filosofia e neuroscienze. In: Caruana F., Baggio G., Parravicini A. Viola M. (Ed), *Antologia Di Scritti Pragmatisti Sulle Emozioni*. Rosenberg & Sellier. 2019

- Caruana F.** (2019). The Integration of Emotional Expression and Experience: A Pragmatist Review of Recent Evidence from Brain Stimulation. *Emotion Review*. 11(1), 27-38. 10.1177/1754073917723461
- Gerbella M., **Caruana F.**, Rizzolatti G. (2019). Pathways for smiling, disgust and fear recognition in blindsight patients, *Neuropsychologia*, 128:6-13.

2018

- Caruana F.**, Gerbella M., Avanzini P., Gozzo F., Pelliccia V., Mai R., Abdollahi R. O., Cardinale F., Sartori I., Lo Russo G., Rizzolatti G. (2018). Motor and Emotional Behaviors Elicited by Electrical Stimulation of the Human Cingulate Cortex. *Brain* 141(10):3035-3051 (10.1093/brain/awy219).
- Del Vecchio M., **Caruana F.**, Sartori I., Pelliccia V., Lo Russo G., Rizzolatti G., Avanzini P. (2018). Ipsilateral somatosensory responses in humans: the tonic activity of SII and posterior insular cortex, 224(1):9-18. *Brain Structure and Function* 10.1007/s00429-018-1754-6.
- Rizzolatti G., **Caruana F.** (2018). Le Basi dell'empatia. In: Europa Vol. II. La Mente. Le frontiere europee delle neuroscienze. Ed. Caporale, De Martin, Maffei, Marchis. Istituto Enciclopedia Treccani.
- Di Cesare C, Pinardi C, Carapelli C, **Caruana F.**, Marchi M, Gerbella M, Rizzolatti G. (2018). Insula connections with lateral parieto-frontal circuit for arm movements in humans and macaque monkeys. *Cerebral Cortex* (10.1093/cercor/bhy095).
- Rizzolatti G., Fabbri-Destro M., **Caruana F.**, Avanzini P. (2018). System Neuroscience: past, present and future. *CNS Neuroscience & Therapeutics*. 24(8):685-693, 10.1111/cns.12997

2017

- Caruana F.** (2017). La Teoria dell'Interazione Sociale. Una Prospettiva Neuro-Pragmatista sul Riso. I Castelli di Yale. *Quaderni di Filosofia*. 2/V 367-397.
- Rizzolatti G., **Caruana F.** (2017). Some considerations on de Waal and Preston review, *Nat Rev Neurosci*, 18, 769.
- Caruana F.** (2017). Laughter as a neurochemical mechanism aimed at reinforcing social bonds: integrating evidence from opioidergic activity and brain stimulation. *J Neurosci*. 37(36):8581-8582
- Rizzolatti G., **Caruana F.** (2017). How do we feel the emotions of others? *Frontiers for Young Minds*. 5:36. doi: 10.3389/frym.2017.00036.
- Caruana F.**, Avanzini P., Mai R., Pelliccia V., LoRusso G., Rizzolatti G., Orban GA. (2017). Decomposing tool action observation: a stereo-EEG study. *Cerebral Cortex* doi: 10.1093/cercor/bhx124.
- Caruana F.** (2017). What is missing in the "Basic Emotion vs. Constructionist" debate? Pragmatist insights into the radical translation from the emotional brain. *Pragmatism Today*. 8(1):87-103.
- Caruana F.** (2017). Dal Costruzionismo Alla Teoria Motoria Delle Emozioni, *Sistemi Intelligenti*, 1/2017: 145-168.

2016

- Caruana F.**, Avanzini P., Gozzo F., Pelliccia V., Casaceli G., Rizzolatti G. (2016). A mirror mechanism for smiling in the anterior cingulate cortex. *Emotion*, 17(2):187-190. doi: 10.1037/emo0000237.
- Caruana F.**, Gozzo F., Pelliccia V., Cossu M., Avanzini P. (2016). Smile and Laughter Elicited by Electrical Stimulation of the Frontal Operculum, *Neuropsychologia*, 89:364-370.
- Caruana F.**, Cuccio V., (2016). Overcoming the acting/reasoning dualism in intelligent behavior, 20(6):397-8. *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Science*. doi:10.1007/s11097-016-9471-1
- Gallese V., **Caruana F.** (2016). Embodied Simulation. Beyond the expression/experience dualism of emotions. *Trends in Cognitive Science* DOI: 10.1016/j.tics.2016.03.010.
- Cuccio V., **Caruana F.** (2016). Peirce e il Neuropsicologo. Dall'abduzione sensorimotoria all'abduzione cognitiva, *Sistemi Intelligenti* 2-3/2016, 363-384.
- Avanzini P., Abdollahi R., Sartori I., **Caruana F.**, Pelliccia V., Casaceli G., Mai R., Lo Russo G., Rizzolatti G., Orban G. (2016). Four dimensional maps of the human somatosensory system. 113(13): E1936-43. DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1601889113 PNAS.

2015

- Caruana F.**, Cuccio V., (2015). Types of abduction in tool behavior, *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Science*. DOI. 10.1007/s11097-015-9450-y. First Online 11/12/2015 p.1-19.
- Borghi A., **Caruana F.** (2015). Embodiment theories. *International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd. Edition (editor James Wright), Section of Cognitive Neuroscience (editor Stefano Cappa). Elsevier. ISBN: 9780080970868.
- Cuccio V., **Caruana F.** (2015). Il corpo come icona. Abduzione, strumenti e Embodied Simulation, Versus (VS) – *Quaderni di Studi Semiotici*, 120:93-101.
- Caruana F.**, Avanzini P., Gozzo F., Francione S., Cardinale F., Rizzolatti G. (2015). Mirth and laughter elicited by electrical stimulation of the human anterior cingulate cortex. *Cortex*, 71, 323-331.
- Jezzini A., Rozzi S., Borra E., Gallese V., **Caruana F.***, Gerbella M.* (2015). A shared neural network for emotional expression and perception: An anatomical study in the macaque monkey. *Front Behav Neurosci*, 9:243.

Caruana F. (2015). «Ancora Neuro-Mania? Ma Basta!» La Contrapposizione Tra Impianti Interpretativi È Più Interessante Della Contrapposizione Tra Settori Disciplinari. *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, 1-2, p. 95-104
 Meletti S., Vaudano A.E., Tassi L., **Caruana F.**, Avanzini P. (2015): Intracranial time-frequency correlates of seizure-related negative BOLD response in the sensory-motor network, *Clin Neurophys.*

2014

Orban GA, **Caruana F.** (2014): The neural basis of human tool use. Hypothesis & Theory Article. *Frontiers in Psychology*. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.
Caruana F., Uithol S, Cantalupo G, Sartori I, Lo Russo G and Avanzini P (2014). How action selection can be embodied: intracranial gamma band recording shows response competition during the Eriksen flankers test. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* 8:668. doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2014.00668
Caruana F., Cantalupo G., Lo Russo G., Mai R., Sartori I., Avanzini P., (2014): Human cortical activity evoked by gaze shift observation: an intracranial EEG study. *Human Brain Mapping*, 35(4):1515-28.
Caruana F., Sartori I., Lo Russo G., Avanzini P., (2014): Sequencing biological and physical events affects specific frequency bands within the human premotor cortex. An intracerebral EEG Study, *PlosOne*.

2013

Caruana F. (2013): La traduzione radicale dal cervello: Quine e il neuroscienziato, *Rivista di Filosofia*, n°1/2013. ISSN : 0035-6239
Caruana F., Borghi A. (2013): Embodied Cognition. Una nuova psicologia, (target article), *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*.
Caruana F., Borghi A. (2013): No Embodied Cognition. No Party, *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*.

2012

Caruana F., Gallese V., 2012: Overcoming the emotion experience/expression dichotomy, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, (2012). ISSN: 0140-525X
 Jezzini A.*, **Caruana F.***, Stoianov I., Gallese V., Rizzolatti G., (2012): The Functional Organization of the Insula and of Inner Perisylvian Regions, *PNAS*. ISSN: 0027-8424
Caruana F. 2012: Strumenti Incarnati. Che cosa accade nel cervello quando estendiamo il corpo, *Sistemi Intelligenti*, n°1/2012. ISSN : 1120-9550

2011

Caruana F., Gallese V., 2011: Sentire, esprimere, comprendere le emozioni: Una nuova prospettiva neuroscientifica, *Sistemi Intelligenti*, n°2/2011. ISSN: 1120-9550
Caruana F.*, Jezzini A.*, Sbriscia Fioretti B., Rizzolatti G., Gallese V. 2011: Emotional and Social Behaviors Elicited by Electrical Stimulation of the Insula in the Macaque Monkey, *Current Biology*, Feb 8; 21(3):195-9. ISSN. 0960-9822
Caruana F. 2011: Esiste una Agnosia Enterocettiva? L'insula e l'interruzione della dipendenza, *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia*, n°3/2011. ISSN: 0390-5349
 Cattaneo L., Fasanelli M., Andreatta O., Bonifati D.M., Barchiesi G., **Caruana F.**, 2011: Your actions in my cerebellum: subclinical deficits in action observation in patients with unilateral chronic cerebellar stroke, *Cerebellum*, 2011, Aug (13). ISSN: 1473-4222. DOI 10.1007/s12311-011-0307-9.

2010

Caruana F. 2010: «Imparare a vedere» La funzione del sistema dei neuroni specchio, tra neuroscienze della percezione e analisi del linguaggio ordinario, *Rivista di Filosofia*, n°3/2010. ISSN: 0035-6239
 Rochat M., **Caruana F.**, Jezzini A, Escola L, Intskirveli I, Grammont F, Gallese V, Rizzolatti G., Umiltà MA, 2010: Responses of mirror neurons in area F5 to hand and tool grasping observation. *Exp Brain Res*, 204:605-616. ISSN: 0014-4819.
 Kruger J., **Caruana F.**, Dalla Volta R., Rizzolatti G., 2010: Seven years of recording from monkey cortex with a chronically implanted multiple microelectrode, *Frontiers in Neuroengineering*, Vol.3, 6:1-9. ISSN: 1662-6443.
Caruana F. 2010: Due problemi sull'utilizzo delle Neuroscienze in Giurisprudenza, *Sistemi Intelligenti*, n°2/2010. ISSN: 1120-9550

2009

Cattaneo L., **Caruana F.**, Jezzini A., Rizzolatti G., 2009: Representation of goal and movements without overt motor behavior: a TMS study, *J Neurosci* 29(36), 11134-8. ISSN 0270-6474.

2008

Caruana F. 2008: Review of "Il Filosofo e i Sensi" di A. Paternoster, 2R: *Rivista di Recensioni Filosofiche*; Vol.8: 129-139. ISSN 1126-4780.
 Umiltà MA, Escola L, Intskirveli I, Grammont F, Rochat M, **Caruana F.**, Jezzini A, Gallese V, Rizzolatti G., 2008: When pliers become fingers in the monkey motor system, *PNAS*, Feb 12;105(6). ISSN: 0027-8424.

2006

Caruana F. 2006: In Principio era l’Azione. Un’analisi normativa dei concetti nell’embodied simulation, Sistemi Intelligenti, n° 2/2006. ISSN: 1120-9550

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIAOral presentations

- “Emozioni. Da Darwin al Pragmatismo” Darwin Day 2020, Roma La Sapienza, 13 Feb 2020.
- “I Neuroni Specchio ed il Cervello Empatico” ACP Italia, Venezia, 11 Oct 2019.
- “Come funzionano le emozioni. Da Darwin alle Neuroscienze”, Parolario, Villa Olmo, Como, 28 June 2019.
- “The reuse of laughter, between evolution, neuroscience and semiotics” (with Claudio Paolucci). Invited speaker, PRIN international conference on Embodied Creativity: the role of performativity. Bologna, 24-26 June 2019.
- “The Double Life of Facial Expressions: From Emotional Displays to Communicative Gestures”, Beauty and embodiment in arts, NewHums Research Centre, Catania, 24–25 May 2019
- “La doppia vita delle espressioni emozionali”. Invited speaker. Convegno “Tabula Rasa? Neuroscienze e Cultura”. Fondazione Intercultura, April 4-6, 2019, Palazzo Vecchio, Firenze.
- “The reuse of laughter, between evolution and semiotics” (with Claudio Paolucci). Invited speaker, Workshop on “Exaptation, between Biology and the Cognitive Science”, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Milan, February, 19, 2019, Milano.
- “Il *logos* oltre il linguaggio. Una prospettiva neopragmatista sul riso tra semiotica e scienze cognitive” (with Claudio Paolucci). Keynote speaker, XXV Convegno Nazionale della Società Italiana di Filosofia del Linguaggio, January 23-25, 2019, Cagliari.
- “Overcoming the expression/emotion dualism in the brain. Some insights from Electrical Stimulation” Invited speaker, Workshop on “Action and Emotion. A door to understand the will and its disorders”. Università La Sapienza, December 7, 2018, Roma.
- “Emozione, Comunicazione, Legame Sociale: una prospettiva neuro-pragmatista sul Riso”, Università Roma Tre, Seminario S.I.BIL., November 22, 2018, Roma.
- “The Double Life of Facial Expressions: A Pragmatist Neuroscience View on Emotional Displays and Communicative Gestures”, Between Past And Present Interdisciplinary Perspective On Emotions, Zagreb, 18–19 October 2018
- “Role of the premotor cortex in motor processing” Invited speaker, 7th North America Training Course on StereoElectroencephalography, September 16-20, 2018, Saint-Alexis-Des-Monts, QC, Canada.
- “The language of emotional displays”, Shanghai Tech Summer School “Science and Art in Italian culture: from history to modern times”, 5 September 2018, Centro Studi Linguistici, Padova.
- “Brain Functions through the lens of Electrical Stimulation”, Neurotechnologies and Computational Methods to Interact with the Brain, School of Neuroengineering Massimo Grattarola, June 18-22 2018, Genova.
- “La storia scientifica delle emozioni: da Darwin alla 4E Cognitive Science”, Università Roma Tre, Dipartimento di Filosofia, Comunicazione e Spettacolo, May 21st, 2018
- “Il linguaggio del volto. L’espressione delle emozioni, dal pragmatismo alla stimolazione elettrica”, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Dipartimento di Lettere e Filosofia, Firenze, February, 28, 2018.
- “Structure-Function mappings in Cognitive Neuroscience”, AISC Annual meeting on The Science of Cognition. Brain, Body, Language, and Technologies, Bologna, December 14-16, 2017.
- “La Metafora, dalla Poetica alle Scienze della Mente” (with Messori R.), Università di Parma, Dec 4, 2017
- “Emotional Experience in the Cartesian Theatre”, IUSS, Pavia, November 15, 2017.
- “Gesti espressivi nel Teatro Cartesiano”, Roma Tre, May 18, 2017
- “Affective Enactivism through the Lens of Brain Stimulation”, The Pragmatist Turn. Habit and Experience at the crossroads between Pragmatism, Neurosciences, and Social Ontology, University of Parma, April 5/7, 2017.
- “Dalle Scimmie all’Uomo”, 24° Corso in Epilettologia Clinica ed Elettroencefalografia, Palazzo Feltrinelli, Gargnano (BS), March 15, 2017.
- “Le Rappresentazioni in formato corporeo. Il cambio di prospettiva in scienze cognitive, dal cognitivismo rappresentazionalista alle teorie embodied ed enattive.” Seminario di Studio nell’ambito del Corso di Dottorato in Human Sciences, Università di Macerata, March 8, 2017
- “Il Riso. Dalla stimolazione elettrica alla fenomenologia”, Convegno “Animal Ridents. Filosofia e scienza del riso”, Ferrara, Feb 24-25, 2017.
- “The perisylvian networks through the lens of brain stimulation and connectivity”, 8th European SEEG Course, Venice, Feb 7-11, 2017.
- “Emotional expressions: from brain stimulation to pragmatism”, Pragmatism, 4E cognitive science, and the sociality of human conduct, Paris, EHESS, December 7-9, 2016.
- “A shared neural network for emotional expression and experience”, Workshop on Animal and Human Emotions, School of Neuroscience at the “Ettore Majorana” Erice Centre, Erice (TP), May 17-22, 2016.
- “Dall’Embodied Simulation alla Prevaricazione”, Workshop at the Department of Humanities, University of L’Aquila, May 13, 2016.

- "Shared neural network for emotional expression and perception", University of Trieste, Department of Life Science, April 1, 2016.
- "Quale Cartesio. Questioni di metodo. Il mind-body problem al crocevia tra storia della filosofia, filosofia della mente e scienze cognitive", Presentation of the Book "L'invenzione di Cartesio" by Ferrini, University of Trieste, March 31, 2016.
- "A brain architecture for imitating and empathizing", TEDx Lake Como, November 14, 2015.
- "The Embodied Cognitive Basis of Human Tool Use", AISC-CODISCO Annual meeting on Bodies, Tools and Cognition", Roma, December 2-5, 2014.
- "Abduzione, iconismo ed Embodied Simulation" (with Cuccio V.), Workshop on Philosophy of Language, Semiotic and Philosophy of Mind in C.S. Peirce, XXI national workshop, Società Italiana di Filosofia del Linguaggio, Bologna, October 2-4, 2014.
- "Usare strumenti. Un modello concettuale, funzionale, neuroscientifico" Seminario Interdottorale "Un lessico per le scienze umane", Scuola Superiore di Studi Umanistici, Università di Bologna, March 12, 2015.
- "Il mappaggio funzionale multimodale dei circuiti cortico-corticali può aiutarci a capire lo sviluppo elettro-clinico delle crisi?" XXXVI congresso nazionale LICE (Lega Italiano Contro l'Epilessia), Roma, 12-14 Giugno 2013.
- "Dalla Scimmia all'Uomo", 23° Corso in Epilettologia Clinica ed Elettroencefalografia, Gargnano, 14 11 2012
- "Neuroscienze delle Emozioni", Istituto S. Raffaele, Milano, 18 04 2012
- "Due problemi sull'utilizzo delle neuroscienze in giurisprudenza". Neuroetica, le neuroscienze incontrano le altre discipline, III Edizione, Padova, 6 05 2011
- "Neurobiologia dell'Empatia". Dipartimento di Filosofia, Università degli studi di Padova, Padova, 30 05 2011.
- "Una panoramica sull'Isola: aspetti funzionali dell'Insula di Reil". Università degli Studi di Chieti, Dip. di Scienze Cliniche e Bioimmagini, 17 12 2009.
- "Sentieri Neurobiologici dell'Empatia". Università degli Studi di Urbino, 7 11 2009
- "Tool use and goal-centered representation in the vPM cortex of the Macaque Monkey". First B.A.S.I.C. Workshop, Borupgaard, Denmark, 9-12 05 2007
- "The Direct Matching Hypothesis and Its role in Intersubjectivity". Roots of Intersubjectivity, Scuola Superiore Santa Chiara, Siena, 5 03 2007
- "Goal representation in the Ventral Premotor Cortex". Neurobotics Meeting Agenda, NTUA Campus, Atene, 6-7 10 2006