Giorgia Silani & Christian Gold
Music for Autism: New ways to foster communication skills in children

Workshop:
Friday 20 May 2022, 2-6 pm
Outpatient Unit (Forschungs-, Lehr- und Praxisambulanz)
Renngasse 6–8 (access via Wächtergasse 1), 1010 Wien
Workshop at the Outpatient Unit of the Faculty of Psychology, University of Vienna

Audience: Clinical psychologists and related professionals working with autistic people. No musical skills are required.

Language: As this is based on an international project, some presentations will be in English. However, discussions can take place in either English or German.

Facilitators: Christian Gold, Giorgia Silani and others

Description: While autistic behaviour has received increasing recognition in recent years, options for adequate services are still limited. Every autistic child has different needs, but communication is among the core areas that require attention. Children and adolescents use music (making and listening) to communicate. This workshop will discuss how music can be used in the work with autistic children. Participants will learn how joint music-making is used by music therapists to foster communication skills, and how they can use music themselves when working with autistic children.

Programme: Researchers on the “Music for Autism” (M4A) project will give an introduction to the functioning of the autistic brain and predictive processing of action and music in autism. An autistic adult will share his views on the needs of autistic people. Clinical psychologists and music therapists will give an overview over approaches to therapy; current clinical guidelines and evidence base for music therapy; and vocal communication development in music therapy. Music therapists working on the M4A project will present selected case vignettes. In the practical part (small groups/breakout rooms), workshop participants will have the opportunity to explore ways to facilitate communicative behaviour through music.

Short biography
Assoz. Prof. Giorgia Silani, Privatdoz. PhD
Giorgia Silani is associate professor at the Department of Clinical and Health Psychology, University of Vienna. She obtained her PhD in cognitive neuroscience at the University of Milano and worked, among others, at the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, London, under the supervision of Prof. Uta Frith and Prof. Tania Singer. Her research interests cover the neurobiological basis of social cognition, emotions, and behaviors, with a specific focus on autism.

Short biography
Mag. Christian Gold, PhD
Research Professor at NORCE Norwegian Research Centre AS, Bergen, Norway; Adjunct Professor at the University of Bergen and at Aalborg University, Denmark; Professorial Research Fellow at the University of Vienna. Editor of the Cochrane Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems Group. Training in music therapy and biostatistics. Research interests: randomised trials and systematic reviews of psychosocial interventions in mental health, process-outcome research, mechanisms of change.

Cost: € 50.- per person (VAT exempt)
Limited number of participants: 20

Binding registration until 06.05.2022 at the latest under: https://flpa-psy.univie.ac.at/weiterbildung-lehre/fortbildungsveranstaltung-music-for-autism/

The event can be submitted in the extent of 4 units as continuing education according to the „Psychologengesetz 2013, BGBl. I 182/2013“.

According to the guideline for continuing education of the Federal Ministry of Health based on a resolution of the Psychologists’ Advisory Board, the Outpatient Unit as a university institution offering psychology-relevant content is entitled to offer continuing education according to the „Psychologengesetz 2013“.

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