Elio Balestrieri

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About me

Born in Italy and grew up in San Marino, the oldest (and smallest) Republic in the world. Now travelling around the world, to keep discovering every day how cool the brain is. I love brain waves, as much as I love analyzing them. M-EEG nerd. Annoying linux enthusiast. The stereotype that Italians are gourmets forced me to become a good cook. When I do not work or cook, I love bouldering, swimming, running and hiking.

Current employment

Institute for Biomagnetism and Biosignalanalysis

2023 - Now

Post-Doc Fellow.

Principal Investigator: Joachim Gross.

Education

University of Münster

2018 - 2022

PhD in Neuroscience. Supervisor: Niko Busch.

University of Trento

2015 - 2017

Master in Neuroscience. Final Grade: 110/110 with Honors.

MSc Thesis Supervisor: David Melcher.

University of Bologna

2012 - 2015

BA in Psychology. Final Grade: 108/110. BA Thesis Supervisor: Elisa Ciaramelli.

Publications and Preprints

Balestrieri, E., Ronconi, L. and Melcher, D. (2021). Shared resources between visual attention and visual working memory are allocated through rhythmic sampling. *European Journal of Neuroscience*. doi.org/10.1111/ejn.15264

Kluger, D.S., **Balestrieri, E.**, Busch, N.A., Gross, J. (2021). Respiration aligns perception with neural excitability. *eLife*. doi.org/10.7554/eLife.70907

Balestrieri, E., Busch, N.A. (2022). Spontaneous alpha-band oscillations bias subjective contrast perception. *Journal of Neuroscience*. doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1972-21.2022

Broers, N., Bainbridge, W., Michel, R., **Balestrieri, E.**, Busch, N.A. (2022). The extent and specificity of visual exploration determines the formation of recollected memories in complex scenes. *Journal of Vision*. doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/ypm5q

Liu, X., **Balestrieri, E.**, Melcher, D. (2022). Evidence for a Theta-Band Behavioral Oscillation in Rapid Face Detection. *European Journal of Neuroscience*. doi.org/10.1111/ejn.15790

Ronconi, L., **Balestrieri, E.**, Baldauf, D., Melcher, D. (2022). Distinct cortical networks subserve spatio-temporal sampling in vision through different oscillatory rhythms. Link to *bioRxiv* preprint: doi.org/10.1101/2022.05.09.491140

Scholarships & Awards

Merit Scholarship 2019

Awarded from University of Trento for excellent academic achievements.

StudieRete Scholarship 2018

Awarded from "Rete" for young excellent researchers in Republic of San Marino.

Painter Award 2018

For best poster presentation at Cognitive Science Arena (Brixen).

Erasmus+ Scholarship 2016-2017

For a semester of study at Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Merit scholarship 2014-2017

Awarded each year from San Marino for excellent academic achievements.

Conference Contributions

Balestrieri, E., Ronconi, L. and Melcher, D. Temporal Dynamics of Perceptual and Attentional Oscillations in a Visual Working Memory Task. Poster session presented at: *Cognitive Science Arena*; 2018 Feb 23-24; Bressanone, Italy.

Balestrieri, E., Ronconi, L. and Melcher, D. Shared resources between visual attention and visual working memory are allocated through rhythmic sampling. Talk presented at: *Society for Neuroscience*; 2019 Oct 19-23; Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Balestrieri, E., Busch, N.A. Spontaneous alpha-band oscillations bias subjective contrast perception: *Vision Science Society*; 2021 May 21-26; Virtual Meeting.

Balestrieri, E., Schweitzer, R., Kroell, L., Rolfs, M., Busch, N.A. Spontaneous alpha-band oscillations modulate stimulus-specific features representation. Poster at: *Vision Science Society*; 2022 May 13-18; St. Pete, Florida, USA.

Programming, Computing & Data Visualization

Languages MATLAB, python Statistical JASP, SPSS

Softwares

Image manipulation Inkscape, GIMP Additional HTML, MT-X

Languages

Italian mother tongue.

English fluent (C2).

German conversational (B1).

Teaching Experience

Tutor Winter Semester 2019-20

For a Bachelor seminar on Working Memory, Department of Psychology, University of Münster.

"Judgment and Decision Making"

Winter Semester 2021-22

Bachelor seminar, Department of Psychology, University of Münster.

Volunteering

Web designer for Refugio, a non-profit organization providing psychological help to refugees and torture survivors.

References

Niko Busch Professor University of Münster

David Melcher Professor NYU Abu Dhabi

Joachim Gross Professor University of Münster