

**CURRICULUM VITAE**  
**DANILO SPADA**



**Danilo Spada**

Date and place of birth: 19th June 1969, Italy  
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**Profile**

Lecturer and researcher in Psychology and Neuroscience of Music, with teaching experience in Italy, France and Finland. To date he is focusing on the embodied music cognition, empathy, on special education for blind and deaf people and on re-habilitation, in particular in the context of the Alzheimer's disease. Willing to commit himself into the promotion of performing disciplines and their values to a new generation. Consultant for scientific and cultural events, developing through music, dance and drama. Professional musician (saxophonist and composer).

**Education**

- PhD (Psychobiology) 2004 from University of Milan  
and (Psychology of Music) 2004 from University of Paris X
- MA (Philosophy and Psychology) 1999 from University of Milan
- Inferior bachelor's degree in Saxophone, 2000 from Conservatorio of Milan
- Bachelor in Composition for Big Band, 1994 from CDM of Milan

**Thesis**

- Doctoral thesis: *The music perception: three experimental points of view.* (in French and Italian)  
Grade: magna cum laude.
- Master's thesis: *The historical lineage of the melody: deepening the affective and cognitive aspects.* (in Italian). Grade: magna cum laude.

## Professional experience

- Lecturer in "Evolutionary Psychology": Bachelor in Psychology (2015-today), University of Dijon
- Lecturer in "Psychology of the musical performance": Master in Musicology (2014-2016), University of Dijon
- Lecturer in "Neurosciences of Music": Bachelor in Musicology (2015-2016), University of Dijon
- Lecturer in "Neuroscience of Performing Arts" (2010-today): Academies of Performing Arts (*Conservatori* of Milan and of Fermo, *La Scala* of Milan, *West Finland College* of Huittinen, *Teatro Sociale* of Como)
- Consultant for AIGAM (Edwin Gordon Italian Association)
- Researcher in Neuroscience of Music; (2006-today): University of Dijon, Universities of Milan (San Raffaele, Cattolica, Università degli Studi) and University of Siena, and for the *Brain Tuning* European project.
- Editor for the Italian scientific review *Ricerche di Psicologia* (2005-2011) FrancoAngeli, PsycINFO
- Saxophonist and composer in various ensembles, from duo to big-band and orchestra (1989-today); Jazz, Blues and Gospel, Classical and Contemporary Music. Performer for recording studios and television.
- Teacher: Music, jazz saxophone, ensemble music, improvisation (1990-2004)
- Director of marching band (1986-1988)
- Singer as treble voice and tenor (1977-1985)

## Conferences

- 2015 - 30th Conference of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (SOFMER), communication, Montpellier, *Music and rehabilitation: the importance of auditory motor coupling*.
- 2015 - Conference of Music-therapy, communication, Torino, *Music, dance and virtual reality for the rehabilitation*.

- 2012 - 16th World Congress of Psychophysiology, communication, Pisa IOP, *The development of language neural networks*.
- 2011 - Festival della Scienza of Genova, communication, *Mind, Music and Children*.
- 2010 - SINC (Società italiana di Neurofisiologia clinica), Siena, Congress, communication, *The brain and the music: innateness and learning*.
- 2009 - SIPF (Società italiana di Psicofisiologia), Siena, Congress, communication, Rilevanza del feedback audio-visivo per la modulazione cortico-spinale durante motor imagery in pianisti professionisti
- 2002 - AIP (Associazione italiana di psicologia), National congress, communication, L'ascolto musicale: prospettiva percettiva versus emozionale

### **Publications**

- Spada, D. & Bigand, E. (2017). Coupling Music And Motion: From Special Education To Rehabilitation. In *The Routledge Companion to Embodied Music Interaction* (in press)
- Canette, L.-H., Spada, D., Pineau, M., Tillmann, B., & Bigand, E. (2016). Transfer Effects between Musical Training and Linguistic Skills in Deaf Children with Cochlear Implants. *Ann Otolaryngol Rhinol*, 3(12).
- Spada, D., Verga, L., Iadanza, A., Tettamanti, M., & Perani, D. (2014). The auditory scene: an fMRI study on melody and accompaniment in professional pianists. *NeuroImage*, 102 Pt 2, 764–75.
- Babiloni, C., Buffo, P., Vecchio, F., Marzano, N., Del Percio, C., Spada, D., ... Perani, D. (2012). Brains “in concert”: frontal oscillatory alpha rhythms and empathy in professional musicians. *NeuroImage*, 60(1), 105–16.
- Perani, D., Saccuman, M. C., Scifo, P., Awander, A., Spada, D., Baldoli, C., ... Friederici, A. D. (2011). Neural language networks at birth. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 108(38), 16056–61.
- Babiloni, C., Vecchio, F., Infarinato, F., Buffo, P., Marzano, N., Spada, D., ... Perani, D. (2011). *Simultaneous recording of electroencephalographic data in musicians playing in ensemble. Cortex; a Journal Devoted to the Study of the Nervous System and Behavior*, 47(9), 1082–90.

- Perani, D., Saccuman, M. C., Scifo, P., Spada, D., Andreolli, G., Rovelli, R., ... Koelsch, S. (2010). *Functional specializations for music processing in the human newborn brain. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 107(10), 4758–4763.*
- Spada, D. (2009) Guardare il suono del saxofono. In *Il Saxofono*, Varese, Zecchini Editore
- Perani, D., Saccuman, M. C., Scifo, P., Spada, D., Andreolli, G., Rovelli, R., ... Koelsch, S. (2008). Music in the first days of life. *Nature Precedings.*
- Poli, M. & Spada, D. (2007) Musica e Neuropsicologia, punti d'incontro, in "Musica e Immagini", Milano, Cortina

### **Language skills**

- Italian: native language
- French: native language
- English: fluent

### **Interests and hobbies**

- Guide in sporting activities for the Italian Association of blind people (UICI, GSCL)
- Runner (in particular sky-running), mountaineer