



## HANS TUPPY LECTURE

# NEUROBIOLOGY OF SOCIAL AND SICKNESS BEHAVIORS

## CATHERINE DULAC

*Samuel W. Morris University Professor at Harvard University and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator*

## Welcome &amp; Introduction

**Heinz Faßmann** | President of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

**Sebastian Schütze** | Rector of the University of Vienna and full member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

**Elly Tanaka** | Senior Scientist at the Research Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP) and full member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

**NOVEMBER 09, 2023**

**18:00**

**AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, FESTIVE HALL  
DR. IGNAZ SEIPEL-PLATZ 2, 1010 VIENNA**

Social interactions are essential for animals to survive, reproduce, raise their young. Over the years, my lab has attempted to decipher the unique characteristics of social recognition: what are the unique cues that trigger distinct social behaviors, what is the nature and identity of social behavior circuits, how is the function of these circuits different in males and females and how are they modulated by the animal physiological status? In this lecture, I will describe our recent progress in understanding how different parts of the brain as well as discrete, molecularly defined neuronal populations participate in the positive and negative control of social interactions, providing a new framework to understand the regulation of social behaviors in health and disease. Finally, I will describe our recent work uncovering how specific brain circuits and cell types are able to direct adaptive changes in behavior during sickness episodes in mice.

**Catherine Dulac** is the Samuel W. Morris University Professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology at Harvard University and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator.

Dr. Dulac's work focuses on understanding brain mechanisms underlying the control of social behaviors in mammals. Her work combines cutting edge genetics, transcriptomics, physiology and imaging approaches to uncover the neural basis underlying instinctive social behaviors, a set of brain functions that are typically highly impaired in mental illness. She is a member of the US and French Academy of Sciences, and the American Philosophical Society. She is an Officer of the Legion d'Honneur and a recipient of multiple awards including the Karl Spencer Lashley Award, the Ralph W. Gerard Prize and the Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences.

The *Hans Tuppy Lectures* are a joint lecture series of the University of Vienna and the Austrian Academy of Sciences in honor of this well-known Austrian biochemist who has significantly shaped the Austrian science and research landscape. This series of lectures brings excellent researchers to Austria who have contributed significantly to biochemistry or molecular biology research.

Please register at: [www.oeaw.ac.at/anmeldung/tuppy-lecture](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/anmeldung/tuppy-lecture)

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