Dr. David Pitcher

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Employment History

2021 Onwards	Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of York
2015 – 2021	Lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of York
2011 – 2015	NIMH Visiting Research Fellowship, Laboratory of Brain and Cognition, National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), U.S.A. Section Chief: Professor Leslie Ungerleider
2009 – 2011	BBSRC funded Postdoc, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), U.S.A. Mentor: Professor Nancy Kanwisher

Education

2006 - 2009	PhD, Dept of Psychology, University College London, U.K. PhD Supervisor: Professor Vincent Walsh
2005 - 2006	MSc, Dept of Psychology, University of York, U.K
1991 - 1994	BSc, Dept of Psychology, University of York, U.K

Research Grants and Secured Funding

Leverhulme Trust Project Grant RPG-2024-389 (£261,622): "Disrupting the emergence of social perception from visual motion cues" (2025-2029). Role: Principal Investigator.

German Research Foundation (DfG) Grant KA 4683/5-1 (€409,195): "Probing prefrontal influences on visual category representations" (2023-2026). Role: Mercator Fellow (Principal Investigator: Professor Daniel Kaiser).

ESRC White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership Studentship Ref: 2280616: "From Unfamiliar Face Processing to Familiar Face Recognition" (2019-2023). Role: PhD Supervisor for Lydia Searle.

BBSRC Flexible Talent Mobility Account (FTMA) (£3,849): "Enhancing a skill set of the current BBSRC funded early career researcher" (2018). Role: Mentor for Dr. Magdalena Sliwinska.

BBSRC New Investigator Grant BB/P006981 (£407,253): "Causal Connections of the cortical face network studied with TMS and fMRI" (2017-2021). Role: Principal Investigator.

Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI) Award (#392150, $58,036): "Measuring the size of face-selective regions using fMRI and TMS" (2016-2017). Role: Principal Investigator.

BBSRC Grant BB/F022875/1 (£329,842): "Investigation of the role and cortico-cortical interactions of the OFA" (2008-2011). Role: Named Postdoctoral Researcher (Principal Investigator: Dr. Brad Duchaine).

Awards and Fellowships

NIMH Visiting Research Fellowship	2011 to 2015
Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience at Lake Tahoe Fellowship	June 2013
Cognitive Neuropsychology Student Travel Award	October 2012
European Summer School in Visual Neuroscience Fellowship	July 2010
Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience at UCSB Fellowship	June 2009
Brain Travel Award	May 2008

Professional Service

Faculty member for IBRO African School on Neuroimaging in Cape Town
Instructor on Brain Stimulation Methods for the Magstim Company

Reviewer for the following Funding Bodies: European Research Council (EU), BBSRC (U.K.), ESRC (U.K), Wellcome Trust (U.K), Fund for Scientific Research (Belgium), FWF Austrian Science Fund (Austria), Leverhulme Trust (U.K), National Science Foundation (U.S.A), Flanders Research Foundation (Belgium), Swiss National Science Foundation (Switzerland), BeNeFIT (Netherlands / Belgium), Israel Science Foundation (Israel)

Reviewer for the following Journals: Science, Nature Neuroscience, Current Biology, PNAS, Brain, Cerebral Cortex, eLife, Science Advances, Journal of Neuroscience, Trends in Cognitive Sciences, Attention Perception & Psychophysics, Brain and Cognition, Brain Research, Brain Stimulation, Brain Structure & Function, Cognition, Cognitive Neuropsychology, Cortex, European Journal of Neuroscience, Experimental Brain Research, Frontiers in Neuroscience, Frontiers in Perception Science, Human Brain Mapping, Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience, Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, Journal of Neurophysiology, Journal of Vision, Journal of Visualized Experiments, Neurocase, NeuroImage, Neuropsychologia, Neuroscience, Open Mind: Discoveries in Cognitive Science, Perception, PLoS One, Psychological Science, Psychonomic Bulletin & Review

Teaching Experience (All at the University of York)

Co-created and co- run a new MSc on The Neuroscience of Mental Health	2024 - Present
Advanced Module on The Neurobiology of Depression	2018 – Present
2nd Year Lecture block on Clinical Neuroscience	2016 - 2021
2nd Year Lecture block on Visual Neuroscience	2015 – 2021

Invited Talks

Department of Psychology – Leeds Trinity University, U.K
Department of Psychology - Bangor University, U.K
Department of Psychology, Nottingham University, U.K.
Department of Psychology, University of East Anglia, U.K.
Department of Psychology, Royal Holloway, University of London, U.K.
Department of Human Biology, University of Cape Town, South Africa
Department of Psychology, Sussex University, U.K.
Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, University College London, U.K.
Psychology Department, University of Hull, U.K.
Vision Seminar - Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, U.S.A
Cognition Seminar - Ichan School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, NY, U.S.A.
Brain & Consciousness Lab - Duke NUS Medical School, Singapore
Current Works in Behavior, Genetics, and Neuroscience Series - Yale University, CT, U.S.A
Center for Cognitive Neuroscience Seminar – Duke University, NC, U.S.A
Neuroscience of Social Decision Making Seminar – Princeton University, NJ, U.S.A
CMB Seminar - University of California at Davis, CA, U.S.A

CBB Seminar – University of California at Berkeley, CA, U.S.A
Vision Group – Stanford University, CA, U.S.A
Department of Psychology – York University, ON, Canada
Department of Psychology – University of Western Ontario, ON, Canada
Psychology Department - Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany
Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences - Dartmouth College, NH, U.S.A
Department of Psychology - University of York, U.K
Department of Psychology - Bangor University, U.K
MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit - Cambridge University, U.K
Department of Neurology - Johns Hopkins University, MD, U.S.A
Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience - University College London, U.K
Department of Psychology - University of Exeter, U.K
Department of Psychology - University of Birmingham, U.K
Center for Advanced Brain Imaging - Georgia Institute of Technology, GA, U.S.A
Laboratory of Brain and Cognition - NIMH, MD, U.S.A
Department of Psychology - Bangor University, U.K
Department of Psychology - Bar Ilan University, Israel
Department of Psychology - Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
Department of Psychology - Tel Aviv University, Israel
Department of Psychology - Yale University, CT, U.S.A
Department of Psychology – University of Southern California, CA, U.S.A
Department of Psychology - University of Western Australia, Australia
Department of Psychology - Glasgow University, U.K

Conference Talks (Invited / Keynote Speaker in BOLD)

Pitcher, D. Bilateral TMS disruption of the DLFPC demonstrates a causal dissociation in brain networks for emotion processing. Experimental Psychology Society, London, U.K. 2025

Pitcher, D. Measuring the remote effects of TMS with fMRI. Plenary Talk. International Brain Stimulation Conference. Barcelona, Spain. 2017

Pitcher, D. Mapping the effects of transient cortical disruption across the brain: combining TMS and fMRI. Experimental Psychology Society. Reading. 2017.

Pitcher, D., Ianni, G., & Ungerleider, L. G. Lateral and ventral category-selective areas show a differential response to moving and static visual stimuli. European Conference on Visual Perception, Berlin, Germany, 2017.

Pitcher, D., Ianni, G., & Ungerleider, L. G. Lateral and ventral category-selective areas show a differential response to moving and static visual stimuli. Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC. U.S.A, 2017.

Pitcher, D. How to (temporarily) break the face perception network: combining TMS and fMRI. Person Perception Recognition Conference. Jerusalem, Israel. 2015

Pitcher, D. Comparing the effects of stroke with the effects of TMS on resting state fMRI networks. Magstim TMS Conference. Oxford University, U.K. 2015

Pitcher, D. TMS advances in Cognitive Neuroscience. International Brain Stimulation Conference. Singapore. 2015

Pitcher, D. Dissociable pathways for dynamic and static face perception begin in early visual cortex. Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA. U.S.A. 2015

Pitcher, D. How to (temporarily) break the face perception network: combining TMS and fMRI. Vision Sciences Society, Florida, U.S.A. 2015

Pitcher, D. Combined TMS / fMRI reveals dissociable cortical pathways for dynamic and static face perception. European Conference on Visual Perception, Belgrade, Serbia. 2014

Pitcher, D., Walsh, V., & Ungerleider, L. Disrupting the cortical face network with TMS. Experimental Psychology Society, London, U.K. 2013

Pitcher, D. TMS evidence for category-selective cortical regions in human extrastriate cortex. Cognitive Neuroscience Society, San Francisco, CA. U.S.A. 2013

Pitcher, D. "Who's that?" - Combining TMS with neuroimaging to study disruption in the cortical face perception network. Magstim TMS Conference. Oxford University, U.K. 2012

Pitcher, D. TMS studies of the cortical face network. Workshop on non-invasive brain stimulation. Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative, New York, NY. U.S.A. 2013

Pitcher, D., Duchaine, B., Walsh, V., Kanwisher, N. TMS reveals two functionally distinct time periods for early face and body perception. British Neuropsychological Society, London, U.K 2011

Pitcher, D., Duchaine, B., Walsh, V., Kanwisher, N. Two critical and functionally distinct time periods for early face and body perception. SfN, Washington, DC. U.S.A 2011

Pitcher, D. TMS studies of the face perception network. Magstim TMS Conference. University College London, U.K. 2009

Pitcher, D., Walsh, V., & Duchaine, B. TMS studies of the occipital face area. Experimental Psychology Society, London, U.K. 2008

Pitcher, D., & Walsh, V. TMS studies of face perception. International Conference on TMS and tDCS. University of Gottingen, Gottingen, Germany. 2008

Publications

Alam, T.R.G., Krieger-Redwood, K., Varga, D., Gao, Z., Horner, A., Hartley, T., Schotten, M.T., Sliwinska, M, **Pitcher, D.,** Margulies, D.S., Smallwood, J., & Jeffries, E. (2025). Visual to default network pathways: A double dissociation between semantic and spatial cognition. *eLife*, 94902.

Küçük, E., Foxwell, M., Kaiser, D., & **Pitcher, D**. (2024). Moving and Static Faces, Bodies, Objects, and Scenes Are Differentially Represented across the Three Visual Pathways. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience,* 36(12), 2639–2651.

Wang, G., Foxwell, M., Cichy, R. M., **Pitcher, D. &** Kaiser, D. (2024). Individual differences in internal models explain idiosyncrasies in scene perception. *Cognition,* 245, 105723.

Pitcher, D., Sliwinska, M. W., & Kaiser, D. (2023). TMS disruption of the lateral prefrontal cortex increases neural activity in the default mode network when naming facial expressions. *Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience,* 18(1), nsad072.

Pitcher, D., Caulfield, B., & A. M., Burton **(**2023). Provoked overt recognition in acquired prosopagnosia using multiple different images of famous faces. *Cognitive Neuropsychology*, 40(3-4), 167-185.

Nikel, L., Sliwinska, M. W., Küçük, E., Ungerleider, L. G. & **Pitcher, D.** (2022). Measuring the response to visually presented faces in the human lateral prefrontal cortex. *Cerebral Cortex Communications,* 3(3),1-9.

Sliwinska, M. W., Brown, L., Earl., M., O'Gorman, D., Pollicina, G., Burton, A. M., & **Pitcher, D.** (2022). Familiar face learning in real-world social interactions induces changes in face-selective brain areas and the hippocampus. *Perception*, 51(8), 521-538.

Pitcher, D., Parkin, B., & Walsh, V. (2021). Transcranial magnetic stimulation and the understanding of behaviour. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 72, 97-121.

Sliwinska, M. W., Elson, R. & **Pitcher, D.** (2021). Stimulating parietal regions of the multiple-demand cortex impairs novel vocabulary learning. *Neuropsychologia,* 162, 108047.

Groen, I. A., Silson, E. H., **Pitcher, D.**, & Baker, C. I. (2021). TMS of lateral occipital cortex reduces BOLD responses across category-selective areas in ventral temporal cortex. *NeuroImage* 230, 117790.

Pitcher, D., & Ungerleider, L. G. (2021). Evidence for a third visual pathway specialized for social perception. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences,* 25(2), 100-110.

Handwerker, D. A., Ianni, G., Gutierrez, B., Roopchansingh, V., Gonzalez-Castillo, J., Chen, G., Bandettini, P. A., Ungerleider, L. G., & **Pitcher, D.** (2020). Thetaburst TMS to the human posterior superior temporal sulcus disrupts resting-state fMRI connectivity across the face processing network. *Network Neuroscience,* 4(3),746-760.

Sliwinska, M. W., Bearpark, C., Corkhill, J., McPhillips, A., & **Pitcher, D.** (2020). Dissociable pathways for moving and static face perception begin in early visual cortex: evidence from an acquired prosopagnosic. *Cortex,* 130, 327-339.

Sliwinska, M. W., Elson, R., & **Pitcher, D.** (2020). TMS demonstrates causal functional connectivity between the left and right posterior temporal sulci during facial expression recognition. *Brain Stimulation*, 13(4), 1008-1013.

Pitcher, D., Pilkington, A., Rauth, L., Baker, C. I., Kravitz, D. J., & Ungerleider, L. G. (2020). The human posterior superior temporal sulcus (pSTS) samples visual space differently from other face-selective regions. *Cerebral Cortex*, 30(2), 778–785.

Pitcher, D., Ianni, G., & Ungerleider, L. G. (2019). A functional dissociation of face-, body- and scene-selective brain areas based on their response to moving and static stimuli. *Scientific Reports*, 9(1), 8242.

Sliwinska, M. W., & **Pitcher, D.** (2018). TMS demonstrates that both right and left superior temporal sulci are important for facial expression recognition. *NeuroImage*, 183, 394-400.

Pitcher, D., Japee, S., Rauth, L., & Ungerleider, L. G. (2017). The superior temporal sulcus is causally connected to the amygdala: A combined TBS-fMRI study. *Journal of Neuroscience,* 37(5), 1156-1161.

Pitcher, D., Duchaine, B., & Walsh, V. (2014). Combined TMS and fMRI reveals dissociable cortical pathways for dynamic and static face perception. *Current Biology,* 24(17), 2066-2070.

Rezlescu, C., Barton, J. J., **Pitcher, D**., & Duchaine, B. (2014). Normal acquisition of expertise with a novel object class in two cases of acquired prosopagnosia.
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 111(14), 5123-5128.
Commentary in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences,* 111(28), 10023.

Pitcher, D. (2014). Discriminating facial expressions takes longer in the posterior superior temporal sulcus than in the occipital face area. *Journal of Neuroscience,* 34(27), 9173-9177.

Pitcher, D., Goldhaber, T., Duchaine, B., Walsh, V., & Kanwisher, N. (2012). Two critical and functionally distinct stages of face and body perception. *Journal of Neuroscience,* 32(45), 15877-15885.

Rezlescu, C., **Pitcher, D**., & Duchaine, B. (2012). Acquired prosopagnosia with spared within-class object recognition but impaired recognition of basic-level objects. *Cognitive Neuropsychology,* 29(4), 325-347.

Pitcher, D., Dilks, D., Saxe, R., Triantafyllou, C., & Kanwisher, N. (2011). Differential selectivity for dynamic versus static information in face selective cortical regions. *NeuroImage,* 56*,* 2356-2363.

Sadeh, B., **Pitcher, D**., Brandman, T., Eisen, A., Thaler, A., & Yovel, G. (2011). Stimulation of object-category selective areas modulates ERP to their preferred categories. *Current Biology,* 21(22), 1894-1899.

Pitcher, D., Duchaine, B., Walsh, V., Yovel, G., & Kanwisher, N. (2011). The role of the occipital face area and lateral occipital area in the face inversion effect. *Neuropsychologia*, 49, 3448-3453.

Pitcher, D., Walsh, V., & Duchaine, B. (2011). The role of the occipital face area in the cortical face perception network. *Experimental Brain Research*, 209, 481-493.

Pitcher, D., Charles, L., Devlin, J. T., Walsh, V., & Duchaine, B. (2009). Triple Dissociation of Faces, Bodies, and Objects in Extrastriate Cortex. *Current Biology*, 19(4), 319-324.
Commentary in *Current Biology* – doi: 10.1016/j.cub.2008.12.037

Pitcher, D., Garrido, L., Walsh, V., & Duchaine, B. (2008). TMS disrupts the perception and embodiment of facial expressions. *Journal of Neuroscience,* 28(36), 8929-8933.
Commentary in *Science,* 321, 1606.
Commentary in *Journal of Neuroscience* - doi: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5205-08.2009

Pitcher, D., Walsh, V., Yovel, G., & Duchaine, B. (2007). TMS evidence for the involvement of the right occipital face area in early face processing. *Current Biology,* 17(18), 1568-1573.
Commentary in *Current Biology* – doi: 10.1016/j.cub.2007.08.00

Chapters and Commentaries

Pitcher, D. (2024). Face Processing and TMS. *The Oxford Handbook of Transcranial Stimulation (2nd Edition), pp 781-799*. *Oxford University Press.*

Küçük, E., & **Pitcher, D**. (2024). Visual Neuroscience: A brain area tuned for processing social interactions. *Current Biology* 34(2), R53-R55.

Pitcher, D. (2023). Visual Neuroscience: A specialised neural pathway for social perception. *Current Biology* 33(23), R1222-R1224.

Pitcher, D. (2022). Visual Motion: Asymmetrical processing differences between the cerebral hemispheres. *Current Biology,* 32(18), R597-R600.

Pitcher, D. (2021). Characterising the third visual pathway for social perception. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences,* 25(7), 18-19.

Lander, K., & **Pitcher, D.** (2017). Moving faces and moving bodies: Behavioural and neural correlates of person recognition. Face Processing: Systems, Disorders and Cultural Differences.

Arzi, A., Banerjee, S., Cox, J., D'Souza, D., De Brigard, F., Doll, B., Fairley, J., Fleming, S., Herholz, S., King, D., Libby, L., Myers, J., Neta, M., **Pitcher, D.,** Power, J., Rass, O., Ritchey, M., Rosales Jubal, E., Royston, A., Wagner, D., Wang, W., Waring, J., Williams, J., & Wood, S. (2014). The significance of cognitive neuroscience: Findings, applications, and challenges. In M.S. Gazzaniga (Ed.), *The Cognitive Neurosciences* (5th ed.). Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.

Pitcher, D., Walsh, V., & Duchaine, B. (2011). Transcranial magnetic stimulation studies of face processing. *The Oxford Handbook of Face Perception*. *Oxford University Press.*