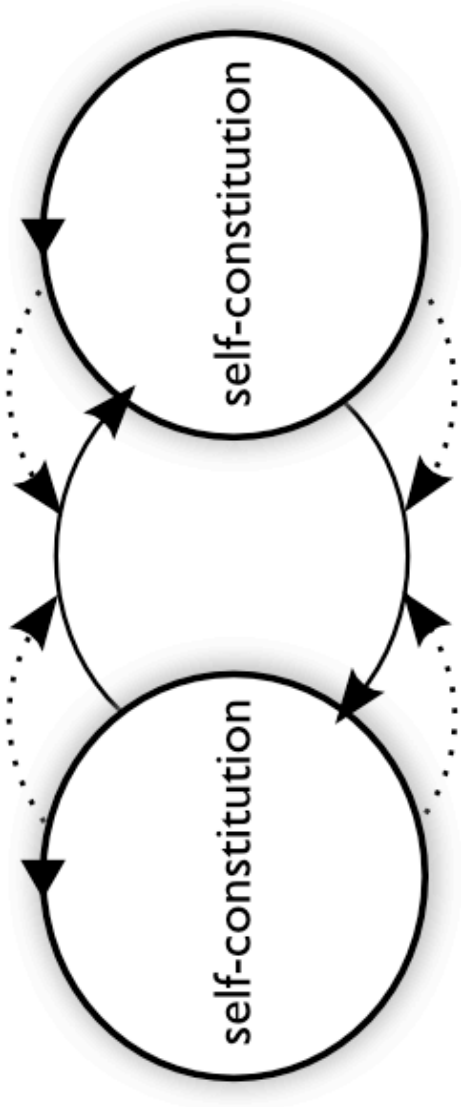


The mind in-between: can social interaction constitute social cognition?



EZEQUIEL DI PAOLO

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4pm Wednesday 16th February

Ben Pimlott Lecture Theatre,
Ben Pimlott Building,
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All Welcome

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Recent empirical work in social cognition, both in psychology and neuroscience, has gradually started to focus on situations involving various degrees of social interaction. Such situations are notably difficult to manage in controlled settings. This is one reason behind the prevailing attention to individual cognitive mechanisms for social understanding. However, the "experimental quarantine" is

being lifted and the focus of empirical studies is increasingly concerned with individuals in interactive situations. In this talk, I argue that this move must be followed by a lifting of the "conceptual quarantine", which still in effect and puts the weight of social cognitive performance solely on individual mechanisms (e.g., mirror neurons).

Professor di Paolo is currently research Professor at Ikerbasque, the Basque Foundation for Science, Bilbao, Spain. Ezequiel studied Physics and Mathematics at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and did an MSc in a Nuclear Engineering at the Instituto Balseiro (National Atomic Energy Agency and University of Cuyo). Ezequiel remains in closely connected with COGS research at Sussex where he is also affiliated with the Centre for Computational Neuroscience and Robotics and the Centre for Research on Cognitive Science.