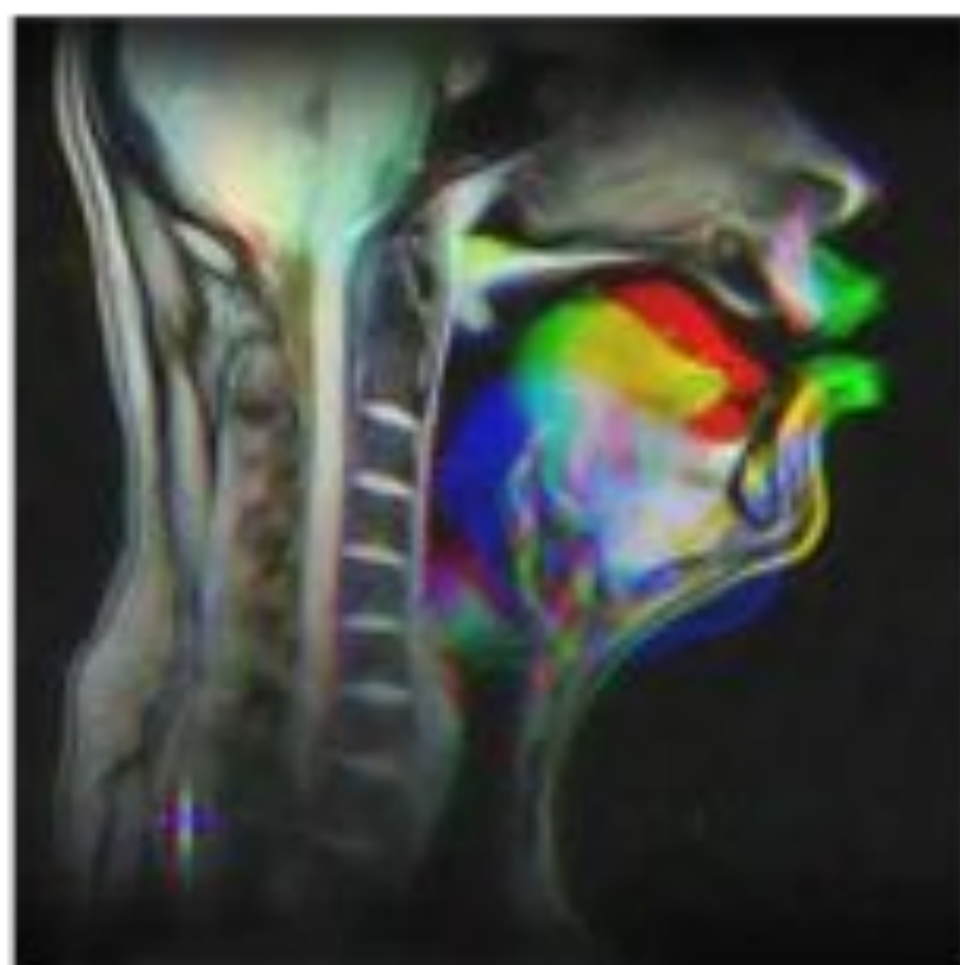


NEUROPLASTICITY

IN THE ADULT BRAIN

We frequently think of neuroplasticity in the brain only in the context of the developmental and maturational changes that occur in the brain and behavior during childhood. Luckily, for those of us that are no longer children, the adult human brain remains remarkably plastic. A facet of this plasticity that has important clinical applications is that changes occur in both



sensory and motor systems of the brain. With surprisingly brief periods of training, I will tell you about a series of recent studies in my laboratory, where we see that the effects of motor learning on lower-level sensory systems, and the perceptual learning that provide us with a back door to the motor system that can be exploited in therapeutic interventions.

PRESENTED BY DR. DAVID J. OSTRY MCGILL PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

Dr. Ostry's research focuses on understanding the biological mechanisms of voluntary movement and deals equally with speech production and human arm motion. His lab uses mathematical models, robots and behavioral and physiological techniques to assess motor function and the characteristics of motor learning. The overall goals are to understand the interplay of sensory and motor function and most recently, to understand how motor learning and adaptation affects sensory function in speech and limb movement. Dr. Ostry is also a senior scientist at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Connecticut.

THURSDAY
MARCH **13** ADMISSION
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recorded for



Initiated in 2003 with the explicit purpose of fostering communication between scientists of diverse disciplines as well as between scientists and the public, Learning Edge Centers for Science can now be made possible through the generous support of Faculty of Medical Sciences Professor Barbara Stricker, Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Professor Charles Mulvaney, Dean, Faculty of Science Professor Martin Green, Dean, Faculty of Arts/Chair, Student Chair and the Center for Applied Mathematics in Bioscience and Medicine (C.A.M.B.A.M.). For more information, please call 514-393-6999.



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