

# CHIARA VERGA



## PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Residence address: Via Italia, 3 24040 Madone (BG)
- Domicile address: Viale Regina Margherita 192, 00198 Roma
- Email: chiara.verga@uniroma1.it
- Phone: +39 3337808026
- Skype contact: chiara.verga93
- Date of birth: 11/10/1993

## QUALIFICATION

### **Psychologist**

Enrolled to *Ordine degli Psicologi della Lombardia*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **PhD Student in Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience** *November 2019 - Ongoing*  
Social Neuroscience Lab IRCCS Fondazione Santa Lucia and Sapienza University,  
Department of Psychology (Rome)
- **Student Research Fellow** *November 2018 - June 2019*  
University of Milano-Bicocca, Department of Psychology (Milan)  
Project "Interactive motor predictions: assessing the role of ventral premotor cortex through a neuromodulation paradigm".
- **Student Research Fellow** *March- June 2019*  
Psychiatry and Clinical Psychobiology Unit, Ville Turro IRCCS San Raffaele Hospital (Milan)  
Structural and functional neuroimaging and imaging genetic studies on psychiatric patients.
- **Postgraduate Internship-2nd Semester** *September 2018 - March 2019*  
Psychiatry and Clinical Psychobiology Unit, Ville Turro IRCCS San Raffaele Hospital (Milan)  
Collaboration to multimodal neuroimaging studies on psychiatric patients.
- **Postgraduate Internship-1st Semester** *March – September 2018*  
fMRI Unit, IRCCS Orthopaedic Institute Galeazzi (Milan)  
Neuroimaging project aimed to investigate the cognitive processes and neural organisation related to food perception in the obsessive food research in obese patients.
- **M.SC. Curricular Internship** *November 2017 - February 2018*  
fMRI Unit, IRCCS Orthopaedic Institute Galeazzi and University of Milano-Bicocca (Milan)  
Project "Motor predictions in the aging brain: neurofunctional evidences"
- **B.SC. Curricular Internship** *February - May 2015*  
University of Milano-Bicocca, Department of Psychology (Milan)  
Experimental paradigms and research methods in Cognitive Neuroscience: collaboration on tDCS studies on visual perceptions and motor learning.

## EDUCATION

- **M.SC. Clinical, Developmental and Neuropsychology**  
University of Milano-Bicocca (Milan)  
October 2015 - March 2018  
Thesis "Visuo-motor interference in an interactive context: neurofunctional evidences" Supervisor: Prof. Paulesu E.
- **B.SC. Psychological Sciences and Techniques**  
University of Milano-Bicocca (Milan)  
October 2012 - October 2015  
Thesis "Empathy in neurological patients" Supervisor: Prof.ssa Bolognini N.
- **Erasmus Project**  
University of Aberdeen, School of Psychology (Scotland)  
February - June 2014

## PUBLICATIONS

- Vai, B., Cazzetta, S., Ghiglino, D., Parenti, L., Saibene, G., Toti, M.F., **Verga, C.**, Wykowska., A. & Benedetti, F. (2020). Risk perception and media in shaping protective behaviors: insights from the early phase of COVID-19 Italian outbreak. *Frontiers in Psychology*, *accepted*.  
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.563426>
- Zapparoli, L., Seghezzi, S., Sacheli, L.M., **Verga, C.**, Banfi, G. & Paulesu, E. (2020). Eyes wide shut: how visual cues affect brain patterns of simulated gait. *Human Brain Mapping*, 41(15), 4248-4263, ISSN: 1065-9471.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/hbm.25123>
- Vai, B., Parenti, L., Bollettini, I., Cara, C., **Verga, C.**, Melloni, E., Mazza, E., Poletti, S., Colombo, C. & Benedetti, F. (2020). Predicting differential diagnosis between bipolar and unipolar depression with multiple kernel learning on multimodal structural neuroimaging. *European Neuropsychopharmacology*, Vol.34, 28-38, ISSN: 0924-977X,  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroneuro.2020.03.008>
- Sacheli, L. M., **Verga, C.**, Arcangeli, E., Banfi, G., Tettamanti, M., & Paulesu, E. (2019). How Task Interactivity Shapes Action Observation. *Cerebral cortex* (New York, NY: 1991), Vol.29, 5302-5315, ISSN: 1065-9471,  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor/bhz205>
- **Verga, C.**, Frezza, M., Cara, C., Vai, B., Poletti, S., & Benedetti, F. (2019). Amygdala functional connectivity in depressed bipolar patients as possible predictor of antidepressant response to chronobiological treatment. *European Neuropsychopharmacology*, Vol 29, S432, ISSN: 0924-977X,  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroneuro.2019.09.613>
- Cara, C., **Verga, C.**, Frezza, M. R., Parenti, L., Vai, B., Poletti, S., & Benedetti, F. (2019). Mood congruent helplessness associates with prefrontal Intrinsic connectivity in major depression. *European Neuropsychopharmacology*, Vol.29, S441-S442, ISSN: 0924-977X,  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroneuro.2019.09.626>
- Vai, B., Parenti, L., Cara, C., **Verga, C.**, Bollettini, I., Poletti, S., Colombo, C. & Benedetti, F. (2019). Classifying mood disorders using multiple kernel learning on multimodal neuroimaging data: translating biological data into a diagnostic tool for depression. *European Neuropsychopharmacology*, Vol.29, S40-S41, ISSN: 0924-977X, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroneuro.2019.09.095>
- Devoto, F., Ferrulli, A., Zapparoli, L., Massarini, S., **Verga, C.**, Banfi, G., Paulesu, E. & Luzi, L. (2019). High frequency Deep TMS over the bilateral insula is associated with increased degree centrality in the prefrontal cortex of obese subjects: preliminary evidence. *Brain Stimulation: Basic, Translational, and Clinical Research in Neuromodulation*, Vol.12(2), 499, ISSN: 1935-861X, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.brs.2018.12.633>

## **POSTERS AND ABSTRACTS**

- Amygdala functional connectivity in depressed bipolar patients as possible predictor of antidepressant response to chronobiological treatment.  
European Congress of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), Copenhagen - September 2019.
- Motor predictions in the aging brain: neurofunctional evidence.  
Joint Action Meeting. (JAM), Genoa - July 2019.
- Motor predictions in the aging brain: neurofunctional evidence.  
Cognitive Science Arena (CSA), Brixen (BZ) - February 2019.
- Predizioni motorie ed invecchiamento: evidenze neurofunzionali.  
National Congress of the Italian Society of Neuropsychology (SINP), Rome - November 2018.

## **GRANTS**

- Progetti di Avvio alla Ricerca, tipo 1- Sapienza University of Rome  
*"L'elaborazione neurofunzionale del tocco vicario: evidenze neurofunzionali dell'esistenza di un homunculus vicario somatosensoriale"*

## **EDITORIAL ACTIVITY**

- I served as reviewer for the following Journals: Adaptive Behavior, Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience.

## **IT SKILLS**

- Neuroimaging toolboxes: SPM 8, SPM 12, CAT 12, CONN, PANDA, dcm2nii, Sleuth, some experience with FSL.
- Machine-learning toolbox: PRoNTTo
- Data analysis: SPSS, Statistica, some experience with R.
- Data visualization: MRICro, MRICron, MRICroGL, TrackVis.
- Operative system: MacOS, Windows and Microsoft Office Package.
- Other softwares: EPrime, Softaxic, SoSci, Adobe Photoshop.

## **LANGUAGES**

- Italian: mother tongue.
- English: IELTS- C1.
- German: Goethe Zertifikat B2.
- French: DELF-B2.

## **VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCES**

- Red Cross Volunteer, CRI Roma Comitato 13-14 *January 2021 - Ongoing*
- Voluntary ambulance rescuer- Chief Rescuer *January 2013 - November 2018*  
"Croce Bianca Milan ONLUS" (Calusco d'Adda - BG).