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The *Center for Conscious Creativity (c3)* is dedicated to inspiring emergent consciousness through the exploration and synergy of creativity, technology, media, the arts, philosophy, consciousness research, the sciences, and future studies. We support and present work and events that celebrate a more unified and enlightened humanity.

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INSPIRATION

"We cannot escape problems by denying them or running away from the decisions which they require.

There is only one permanent remedy for any critical situation: We must outgrow it. The moment we are bigger than the problem, it ceases, and can never return. If, however, we attempt to evade a problem, it will come back time after time to plague us.

Would it not, then, be wise to make growth our reason for living? Let us master whatever skill or ability is necessary, so that we can do our work well and without fear or worry. As we grow, we also find that increased knowledge and understanding bestow new dimensions upon commonplace activities. Life is more wonderful as we understand it. We experience real joy in doing things well as we become skilful and self-confident." -- Manly Palmer Hall

CURRENT PICKS

WINDOWS ON THE MIND - ASSC11



Written by the founders

Founded in 1994, the ASSC is the only international scholarly, scientific membership organization specifically devoted to the study of consciousness and its related issues. Members are drawn from the disciplines of psychology, philosophy, and neuroscience, but the society welcomes all scholars with a serious academic interest in the study of consciousness.

The ASSC organizes annual scientific meetings in North America, Europe and Asia. For information about the most recent meeting visit

<http://assc2007.neuralcorrelate.com>

As with all ASSC conferences, contributed papers are welcome on all topics relevant to the rigorous study of consciousness.

In addition to the annual meeting, the ASSC publishes the online journal PSYCHE

<http://psyche.cs.monash.edu.au> which

publishes articles, runs email discussion lists on the topic of consciousness, and holds an international competition for the best paper by a new researcher in the field of consciousness studies.

The ASSC has also created the ASSC eprint archive

<http://eprints.assc.caltech.edu> a new electronic archive of consciousness related journal articles, book chapters, conference presentations and other miscellaneous items.

Member and Co-Founder Kate McCallum attended the recent conference which was held in Las Vegas in July and had the opportunity to ask Susana Martinez-Conde, PhD, the Director of the Laboratory of Visual Neuroscience Division of Neurobiology, these questions:

c3: How would you as a scientist describe the term "*Consciousness*?"

Martinez-Conde: It is the first person experience of our lives.

c3: What is science learning about Consciousness?

Martinez-Conde: Science is showing that consciousness is a brain process. It is mediated by circuits in the brain, it takes energy to generate consciousness, and consciousness falls as a function of brain damage. Future work will isolate circuits in the brain that specifically mediate consciousness and determine their exact nature.

c3: What drew you to the study of Consciousness?



**BOOK IDEA**

Martinez-Conde: It is the most important question in human history. It is the very definition of our existence.

c3: What is your specialty in the area of Consciousness Studies?

Martinez-Conde: I study the neural correlates of visual perception and visual awareness.

c3: You had two different tracks at the Conference; science and philosophy. How did that turn out?

Martinez-Conde: The philosophers are outstanding at asking poignant questions. Scientists are better at answering them.

c3: What does the Future of Consciousness look like?

Martinez-Conde: A group (or groups) will isolate a circuit that mediates some form of consciousness and will map it in a replicable manner. Then, those circuits will be manipulated so as to determine the limits of conscious processing, and consciousness itself.

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