Portfolio

The following is a summary of Convergence achievements.

**2016**

[**The Five-Minute Talks**](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/five-minute-talks):

October. Sixteen IPN students presented their five-minute talks to 30 FOFA students and 5 FOFA academics. The activity was followed by questions and discussion.

*Convergence* neuroscience event, [**The Black Box**](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/november-the-black-box)**:**

November. The Centre for Research on Neuroscience (CRN) open its labs for art students. The tour was followed by The Black Box talk were students from the IPN discussed the principles on which the brain works (126 assistants).

*Convergence* arts event, [**The White Box**](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/the-white-box)**:**

December. *Convergence* neuroscience students were invited to explore through guided tours the contemporary art scene of Montreal.

**2017**

January. Launch of Concordia Faculty of Fine Arts (FoFA) course **DART461** 3-credits

**Workshop: Public Speaking for Neuroscientists.**

January. Workshop offered by Ms. Valérie Harvey, MUHC Communications Coordinator (3 hours).

**DART461** [**The Art Five Minute Talks**](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/january-arts-five-minute-talks)**:**

January. FoFA Students present their research in art to the neuroscience students.

*Convergence* Neuroscience Event**,** [**Sensory**](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/february-sensory)**:**

February. The McGill Vision Group open its labs for art students. The tour was followed by the Sensory talk were students from the IPN discussed the principles on which the sensory system works (54 assistants).

**FOFA *Convergence* Art Event "**[**Brainwaves**](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/abril-brainwaves)**"**

April. Open Studios for neuroscience students. A guided visit on FoFA studios to explain and show the places where the art practice is performed. The tour was followed by the Brainwaves talk. One main talk and a discussion panel with four art students from FoFA exposing some thoughts on art-neuroscience collaborations (120 assistants).

**First Two *Convergence* Exhibitions,** [***material***](http://www.visualvoicegallery.com/portfolio/uncategorized/convergence-material/) **and** [***dynamic***](http://www.visualvoicegallery.com/portfolio/uncategorized/convergence-dynamic/) (April 22nd to May 20th, 2017)**:**

April-May. Exhibition of works produced by FOFA students in collaboration with IPN McGill neuroscience(650 people assistants in 19 days of exhibition).

**Second Two *Convergence* Exhibitions (**May 27th to 31st, 2017)**:**

May. May 27th *Convergence* [Exhibition at la Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec](https://www.flickr.com/photos/can-acn/sets/72157681755021052/with/35076720246/) (BAnQ) (300+ assistants). May 28th to 31st FOFA-Convergence Exhibition at [11th Canadian Association for Neuroscience Annual Meeting](http://can-acn.org/2017-program), Hotel Bonaventure (1000+ participants).

Panel. **Scientific literacy and citizen involvement: The Convergence of Science and Art.**
May. Panel at [Les Journées internationales de la culture scientifique](http://www.science-and-you.com/fr/convergence-science-and-art). Organized by the Assocation francophone pour le savoir, McGill University, and Université de Lorraine.

24 heures de science. [**Le cerveu, c’est simplement beau**](http://www.science24heures.com/programme/details_resultats.php?varID=329)**.**
May. Organized by Science pour tous!, Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Odysée des sciences, and Eureka. Hosted at the Visual Voice Gallery.

Launching of the **Convergence Sci-Art Art-Sci Talks Series.**
October. Trevor Butterworth PhD, Sense About Science USA. “[**The Sleep of Reason Produce Monsters: Science and the Scientific Method in Popular Imagination.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/oct17-trevor-butterworth)”

November. Chloe Soutar PhD, Queen’s University, ON, Canada. “[**Neuromyths I: Don’t Believe Everything You Hear.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/nov17-chloe-soutar)”

Launching of the online version of the[**Convergence Exhibition Catalogue 2017**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/december-17)**.** December.

**2018**

***Convergence* Sci-Art Art-Sci Talks Series.**April. Bettina Forget MAEd, Concordia University, Montreal, QC, Canada & SETI Scholar, CA, USA. “[**Exploring Wonder: Art, Science, and Creative Inquiry.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/april-18)”

October. Siddharth Ramakrishnan PhD, University of Puget Sound, WA, USA. “[**Informing Each Other: Neurodiversity, neuroethics, art, and public enquiry.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/oct18)”

Launch of Concordia Faculty of Fine Arts (FoFA) course.
September. **DART438/CART438** 6-credits, and **DART631** 3-credits. [Syllabus](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/september-18):
September. Neuroscience for artists.
October. Ignite presentations on neuroscience and art research.
November. Science communications methods for neuroscientists (Principles of graphic design and practice of debate).

Workshop.
November. “[From divergent thinking to convergent solutions: including creative thinking in your research.](https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipO6zJy1xqgiB82N20R5D1kLH0xqOyikovOSz3YGcYnlyzljjzCvGT_Pm3xM7DcNNA?key=d042MHlVWGs1OU9GeENiRHByR05tV1FlbWxIdk13)” McGill Healthy Brain for Healthy Lives (HBHL) Skillsets workshop facilitated by *Convergence*.

**2019**

*Convergence* neuroscience event, [**The Black Box**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/january2019theblackbox)**:**

January. The Technology Platforms of the RI-MUHC open its labs for art students. The tour was followed by The Black Box talk BioMusic, by Dr. Stefanie Blain-Moraes (98 assistants).

January. Stefanie Blain-Moraes PhD, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada. “[**BioMusic.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/jan19a)”

*Convergence* arts event, [**The White Box**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/january19thewhitebox)**:**
January. *Convergence* neuroscience students were invited to explore through guided tours the contemporary art scene of Montreal.

**DART438/CART438**, **DART631** activities:
February. Science communications methods for neuroscientists (Neuroscience and psychology of science denialism. Knowledge translation workshop).

***Convergence*** [**DCART Exhibitions**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/april-19)(April 18th to April 28th, 2019)**:**

April. Concordia University Faculty of Fine Arts Black Box. DCART Exhibition (200+ people assistants).

***Convergence* Sci-Art Art-Sci Talks Series.**April. Fernanda Perez-Gay MD PhD, UNAM Mexico, & McGill University, QC, Canada. “[**Sinapsis.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/april-19)”

***Convergence*** [**DCART Exhibitions**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/april-19)(April 12th to May 12th, 2019)**:**

April-May. [Visual Voice Gallery. DCART Exhibition](http://www.visualvoicegallery.com/portfolio/current/convergence-art-neuroscience/) (600+ people assistants).

***Convergence*** [**Science Symposium**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/april-19)(April 27th, 2019)**:**

April. Neuroscience students of DART631 presented their research and reflections on neuroscience research in a Symposium directed to the general public using non-traditional methods for science communication. Comics, storytelling, zines, artworks, music were some of the methods used by the students in this innovative approach (50 people assistants).

***Convergence* Sci-Art Art-Sci Talks Series.**

June. Nicolas Farrugia PhD, IMT Atlantique, Electronics Department, France. “[**Brainsongs: A live experiment on music improvisation.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/mar19-nicolas-farrugia)”(98 assistants).

The following is a summary of the talks were Dr. Zaelzer has been invited as a **panelist, speaker, or lectures**:

- October 21st, 2016. “[**Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience.**](https://hybrid.concordia.ca/pflemmin/BBCCC.pdf)” Hosted by "Blood, Brains + Other Trains: Thoughts on Emerging Collaborations & Camaraderie in the Arts+Sciences" colloquium. Concordia University.

- February 2nd, 2017. “**Convergence.**” Hosted by the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Humanities. Brock University.

- February 12th, 2017. Workshop “[**Converging Art with Neuroscience.**](http://www.neugeneration.com/#story)” Hosted by NeuGeneration Conference. Queen’s University.

- March 10th, 2017. “**Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience.**” Hosted by Mozilla Science Lab meets Open Research McGill. McGill University.

- May 5th, 2017. Organizer and moderator of the discussion Panel “[**Scientific Literacy and Citizen Involvement: The Convergence of Science and Art.**](http://www.science-and-you.com/fr/convergence-science-and-art)” The Journées Internationales de la Culture Scientifique (JICS), Science and You. Hosted by ACFAS, McGill University, Université de Lorraine. McGill University.

- May 13th, 2017. [Le Cerveau, c’est simplement beau!](http://www.science24heures.com/programme/details_resultats.php?varID=327) (Activity part of 24 Heures de Sciences).

- May 26th, 2017. “The engagement of neurosciences and the arts, the Convergence initiative.” Talk part of the Psychiatry Grand Rounds talks. Allan Memorial Institute. Department of Psychiatry Continuing Medical Education, McGill University. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- May 27th, 2017. Outreach day “[**Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience.**](http://can-acn.org/2017-program)” Hosted by the 11th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience.

- Sept 13th, 2017. “The Convergence initiative.” Town Hall Presentation. CRN, RI-MUHC. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- Feb 27th, 2018. “The gap and the bridge: A Science-Art reunification.” Invited speaker to the Professional Panel, (DIS)CONNECT: Alienation and Art. Concordia’s 7th Annual Undergraduate Art History Conference. Concordia University. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- April 6th, 2018. “[The science-art reunification, using the brain to speak about science.](http://crblm.ca/invited-speaker-dr-cristian-zaelzer-convergence/)” Lecture at the Centre for Research in the Brain, Language, and Music (CRBLM) and Cognitive Research at McGill (CRAM). McGill University. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- April 14th, 2018. “Creativity, the soul of innovation.” Invited speaker to the March for Science 2018. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- May 17th, 2018. “[The gap and the bridge: A Science-Art reunification.](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-first-creative-reactions-art-science-conference-tickets-45530217105?aff=efbeventtix)” Invited speaker. Creative Reactions, part of Science Odyssey by NSERC. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- May 25th, 2018. “Emotive tools for science communication, the neuroscience behind Convergence.” Talk part of the Psychiatry Grand Rounds talks. Allan Memorial Institute. Department of Psychiatry Continuing Medical Education, McGill University. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- Jul 19th, 2018. “Emotive tools for science communication. The neuroscience behind Convergence.” SHAD McGill Talk. McGill University. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- Aug 11th, 2018. “[Emotive tools for science-community communication.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gBJl5cIde57FQ2vZ3UTRU0RFC0tr1v2l/view)” Lecture at Transiro 2018. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- Nov 7th, 2018. “[The two-brain conflict, the emotions & facts clash.](http://meteque.ca/event/the-two-brain-conflict-the-emotions-and-facts-clash-lecture/)” Lecture at Métèque Art Gallery from a series of talks on Arts and Neuroscience. Montreal, QC. Canada.

- Nov 15th, 2018. “Convergence.” [IdeaLabs Series.](http://www.concordia.ca/finearts/events/idealabs.html) STEAM. 4th Space, Concordia University, Montreal, QC. Canada. (37’37”)

- May 26th, 2019. “The Importance of Communicating Science to Society.” 4th Conference of the Canadian Society for Chronobiology. McGill University, Montreal, QC. Canada.

**Convergence Sci-Art Art-Sci Talks Series**:

- Oct 25th, 2017. Trevor Butterworth PhD, Sense About Science USA. “[**The Sleep of Reason Produce Monsters: Science and the Scientific Method in Popular Imagination.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/oct17-trevor-butterworth)” Conference Hall, Centre for Research in Neuroscience. Montreal General Hospital. Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- Nov 24th, 2017. Chloe Soutar PhD, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON, Canada. “[**Neuromyths I: Don’t Believe Everything You Hear.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/nov17-chloe-soutar)” Conference Hall, Centre for Research in Neuroscience. Montreal General Hospital. Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- Apr 13th, 2018. Bettina Forget MAEd, Concordia University, Montreal, QC, Canada & SETI Schoolar, CA, USA. “[**Exploring Wonder: Art, Science, and Creative Inquiry.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/april-18)” Concordia University Faculty of Fine Arts. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- Oct 19th, 2018. Siddharth Ramakrishnan PhD, University of Puget Sound, WA, USA. “[**Informing Each Other: Neurodiversity, neuroethics, art, and public enquiry**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/oct18)**.**” Concordia University Faculty of Fine Arts. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- Jan 11th, 2019. Stefanie Blain-Moraes PhD, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada. “[**BioMusic.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/jan19a)” Cruess Amphitheatre. Glen Site, Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- Mar 8th, 2019. Caroline Laurin-Beaucage, Choreographer, Concordia University and L’Organism Dance Company, Montreal, QC, Canada. “[**Looking Inside to Unfold.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/march2019)” Conference Hall, Centre for Research in Neuroscience. Montreal General Hospital. Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- Apr 13th, 2019. Fernanda Perez-Gay MD PhD, UNAM Mexico, & McGill University, QC, Canada. “**Sinapsis.**” Concordia University Faculty of Fine Arts. Montreal, QC, Canada.

- June 20th, 2019. Nicolas Farrugia PhD, IMT Atlantique, Electronics Department, France. “[**Brainsongs: A live experiment on music improvisation.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/mar19-nicolas-farrugia)”Jeanne Timmins Amphitheatre, Montreal Neurological Institute - The Neuro. McGill University (98 assistants).

P**ublications**:

* “**Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience.**” (Poster) **Zaelzer C.**, Glassman K., Lessard A., Henault V., Brassard A., Jung-Hoo Park K., Langshaw P., Duclos R., Murai K. 11th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience. Montreal, QC., Canada. May 28th to May 31st, 2017.
* “**Engagement of neurosciences and the arts, the Convergence initiative.**” (Poster) **Zaelzer C.A.**, Henault V., Lessard A., Langshaw P., Glassman K., Swintak C., Khalili-Mahani N., Brassard A., Jung-Hoo Park K., Salmon C., Forget B., Toth K., Duclos R., Murai K. 47th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. Washington DC., USA. Nov 11th to Nov 15th, 2017.
* “**The convergence curriculum: Arts, neuroscience, and society.**” (Poster) Zaelzer C.A., Forget B. 13th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience. Toronto, ON., Canada. May 22th to 25th, 2019.
* “**The trans-disciplinary convergence course: Neuroscience, arts, and society.**” (Poster) Zaelzer C.A., Forget B. 50th Annual Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience. Chicago IL., USA. Oct 19th to 23th, 2019.
* Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience. [**Exhibition Catalog 2016-2017**.](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/december-17) (Book) 100 pages.
* Convergence. [**DCART Exhibitions Catalogue 2019.**](https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/aprilcatalogue-19) (Book) 180 pages.

The following are mentions of the activities of *Convergence* in different news outlets:

<http://www.convergenceinitiative.org/newsroom>

October 13th, 2016. [CBC Radio One Homerun](https://youtu.be/0-6fT3Dho28). Interview by Sue Smith.

October 27th, 2016. [The “Convergence” initiative takes flight](http://rimuhc.ca/web/research-institute-muhc/-/the-convergence-initiative-takes-flight-ri-muhc-trainees-and-concordia-university-fine-arts-students-explore-new-ways-to-explain-brain-research): RI-MUHC trainees and Concordia University fine arts students explore new ways to explain brain research. Article on McGill University Health Centre Research Institute – News and Events. By Valérie Harvey.

November 2nd, 2016. Public lecture: “Neuroscience Convergence Talk, “The Black Box”. News note on McGill University Health Centre Newsroom. By Alison Burch.

November 28th, 2016. “[Concordia Fine Arts Class Drawn on the Neurosciences](https://thelinknewspaper.ca/article/concordia-fine-arts-class-draws-on-the-neurosciences): Convergence Initiative Unites the Arts and the Sciences.” Article on The Link Magazine. By Kelsey Litwin.

December 16th, 2016. “Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience.” Note published the Montreal General Hospital Foundation website. By Cristian Zaelzer.

December 23th, 2016. “[What Can Artists and Neuroscientists Learn from Each Other?](http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/main/stories/2016/12/23/fine-artists-neuroscientists-convergence-initiative-to-bridge-art-and-science.html)” Article on Concordia University News. By Kim Glassman.

January 16th, 2017. “[Sensory](http://www.rimuhc.ca/web/research-institute-muhc/-/-sensory-a-public-lecture-within-the-convergence-perceptions-of-neuroscience-project-february-17-2017-)”: A public lecture within the “Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience” project. News note on McGill University Health Centre Research Institute – News and Events. By Alison Burch.

January 18th, 2017. “[Unusual yet logical: The Convergence of Art and Neuroscience](https://muhc.ca/sites/default/files/news/enbref/Vol%208_1%20enBref%20JAN%202017.pdf).” Article on En Bref Magazine - McGill University Health Centre. By Andrée Lessard.

February 13th, 2017. “[Convergence Initiative: Artist-neuroscientist working groups revealed](http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/finearts/2017/02/convergence-artist-scientist-pairings-announced.html).” Article on Concordia University News. By Andy Murdoch.

March 22nd, 2017. “[When neuroscience meets the world of art.](http://mcgillnews.mcgill.ca/s/1762/news/interior.aspx?sid=1762&gid=2&pgid=1637)” Article on McGill News Magazine. By Andrea Bennett.

April 19th, 2017. “[Bridging science and the fine arts: The Convergence Initiative conveys a passion for neuroscience.](http://www.rimuhc.ca/web/research-institute-muhc/-/bridging-science-and-the-fine-arts-the-convergence-initiative-conveys-a-passion-for-neuroscience)” Article on McGill University Health Centre Research Institute – News and Events. By Andrée Lessard & Alison Burch.

April 24th, 2017. ['This idea that we are scientists or artists — that's untrue'](http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/main/stories/2017/04/24/grad-student-bettina-forget-merges-art-and-science-for-a-cause.html?c=news%2Fstories). Article on Concordia University News. By Andy Murdoch.

April 29th, 2017. « [La convergence des sciences et de l’art.](http://www.ledevoir.com/societe/science-et-technologie/497365/la-convergence-des-sciences-et-de-l-art)» Article on Le Devoir. By Claude Lafleur.

May 5th, 2017. “Scientific literacy and citizen involvement: The Convergence of Science and Art.” Note published on the website of Les Journées internationales de la culture scientifique. Organized by the Assocation francophone pour le savoir, McGill University, and Université de Lorraine.

May 13th, 2017. Le cerveu, c’est simplement beau. 24 heures de science. Organized by Science pour tous!, Canadian Commission for UNESCO, Odysée des sciences, and Eureka. Hosted at the Visual Voice Gallery.

June 6th, 2017. Montreal Artists: [Paméla Simard](https://alextranphotography.com/blog/montreal-artists-pamela-simard). Alex Tran Photography Blog.

Nov 5th, 2018. “[Art: A Vehicle for Science. Conversations in Neuroethics.](https://www.mcgilldaily.com/2018/11/art-a-vehicle-for-science/?fbclid=IwAR0hhzJsDwLlXLG8ky62Qp2QZQZiBupbyauyotwfFj2VFLzQYU50P0a6dhY)” McGill News article by Sean Zhang.

Feb 6th, 2019. “[Biomusic: Music that’s in Tune with Our Bodies. How Biomusic blends both Art and Science to Enable Communication.](https://www.mcgilldaily.com/2019/02/biomusic-music-thats-in-tune-with-our-bodies/)” McGill News article by Sean Zhang.

April 24th, 2019. “[Artists and neuroscientists collaborate on year-long art-science project.](https://www.concordia.ca/cunews/finearts/2019/04/24/convergence-initiative-connects-artists-with-scientists.html?c=finearts/news)” Concordia Faculty of Fine Arts News & Events Article by Dave LeRue.

May 7th, 2019. “[Features-Convergence Exhibition 2019.](https://artthescience.com/blog/2019/05/07/features-convergence-exhibition-2019/?fbclid=IwAR0sBFlJH8IN6Z8lEMA8oL10MWFyXoWA4Nbk6AYcEn4ttm4clYyxOA-wUhE)” Art the Science Blog article by Cat Lau.

The following are links to *Convergence* website, blog, graphic work, and social media accounts:

Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience website: [www.convergenceinitiative.org](http://www.convergenceinitiative.org)

Convergence, Perceptions of Neuroscience blog: <https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/blog>

Convergence Initiative graphic design work: <https://www.convergenceinitiative.org/convergencecvcz>

Convergence Initiative Instagram: @convergenceinitiative

Convergence Initiative Twitter: @InfoConvergence

Convergence Initiative Facebook page: @convergenceinitiative

Convergence Initiative Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2cy-bO_Tn5apy1DuKey0zw>