

Silvia Leonetti

Nationality: Italian

Current Residence: Turin, Italy

Email: silvia.leonetti@unito.it

Education:

2018 – 2021 **MSc in Evolution of Animal and Human Behaviour, University of Turin, Italy**
Thesis: “Anticipatory behaviours to the song of the indris (*Indri indri*) and their acoustic correlates”
– 110/110 cum laude. Supervisor: Dr. Marco Gamba

2013 – 2017 **BSc in Biological Sciences, University of Bari, Italy**
Thesis: “Responses to host and bacterial signals during *Vibrio cholerae* colonization” – 99/110.
Supervisor: Dr. Carlo Pazzani

Languages: **Italian: Mother Tongue** **English: Fluent**

2018 **EF International Language Centers & LaL Language Centers, Cape Town, South Africa**
English language certificate _ Upper- Intermediate LEVEL B2

2012 **FOS/BOS Friedberg – School, Friedberg, Germany**
Cultural Exchange “Comenius Project” Italy-Germany

Research Experience:

Sep–Oct 2023 **Department of Human Neurosciences, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy**
Support activities
ERC Starting Grant Tohr project, supported by research project 000309_22_H E_RAVIG - TOHR
PROJECT H2020. Scientific Director: Dr. Andrea Ravignani

2022 – 2023 **Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics (MPI), Nijmegen, Netherlands**
Research Assistant - Comparative Bioacoustics Research Group (CBA) led by Dr. Andrea Ravignani

2021 – 2022 **MPI, Nijmegen, Netherlands**
Postgraduate internship - CBA led by Dr. Andrea Ravignani

2020 – 2021 **University of Turin, Italy**
Undergraduate internship & M.Sc. thesis - Department of Life Sciences and Systems Biology,
Ethology Lab. Supervisor: Dr. Marco Gamba

2017 **University of Bari, Italy**
Undergraduate internship - Department of Biology, Genetics Lab. Supervisor: Dr. Maria Francesca Berloco

Training and courses:

2023 **MPI & University of Turin**
Training on vocal and behavioural data collection of 3 families of *Indri indri* at Palmarium Reserve,
Madagascar – Dr. Andrea Ravignani, Dr. Daria Valente

2022 **MPI**
Python Course – International Max Planck Research Schools

2018 **University of Turin**
Boris & Praat Course – Dr. Marco Gamba, Dr. Olivier Friard

Volunteering:

2021 – 2022	Seal Rehabilitation and Research Centre, Pieterburen, Netherlands Assisted veterinary and seal nurses in feeding, medication, temperature measurement, wound cleaning, weighing, and moving animals. Assisted in releasing animals in the wild
2018	Limpopo Eco Operations (LEO Africa), Marakele National Park, South Africa Reserve management work; monitoring and spatial data collection on lions, leopards, hyenas, white and black rhinos, elephants, buffalos and cheetahs and assisting in photo ID
2015	Jonian Dolphin Conservation, Taranto, Italy Cetacean monitoring and assisting in Citizen Science activity

Teaching:

2022	ENES Lab Saint-Etienne, France Teaching assistant (6 hours) at International Master of Bioacoustics
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Service:

2023	MPI Organising Committee - “Rhythm, Music, and Animal Communication” Symposium
2022	MPI Organising Committee - “Animal Communication and Human Speech” Symposium

Research Grants:

2021	University of Turin Erasmus Traineeship scholarship
2020	University of Turin Erasmus Extra EU scholarship – Université d’Antananarivo, Madagascar (cancelled due to COVID-19)

Posters and Presentations:

- Leonetti, S., Jadoul, Y., de Reus, K., Ludanyi, A., & Ravnani, A. (2023) Noise-dependent vocal plasticity in grey seal pups. Talk presented at “Rhythm, Music, and Animal Communication” Symposium; MPI
- Leonetti, S., Jadoul, Y., de Reus, K., Ludanyi, A., & Ravnani, A. (2022) Vocal plasticity in grey seal pups. Talk presented at Zoomarine, Rome; Italy
- Leonetti, S., Jadoul, Y., Torres Borda, L., de Reus, K., Rasilo, H., Salazer Casals, A., & Ravnani, A. (2022). Noise-dependent vocal plasticity in harbour seal and grey seal pups. Poster presented at the European Conference on Behavioural Biology (ECBB 2022), Groningen, The Netherlands.
- de Reus, K., Verga, L., Leonetti, S., & Ravnani, A. (2021). Interactive vocal rhythms in harbour seals. Poster presented at Weekend van de Wetenschap, Sealcentre Pieterburen, The Netherlands

Publications:

- Leonetti, S., Goncharova, M., & Ravnani, A. Book chapter: “Breathing, Sound and Movement: Evolutionary Biological Building Blocks of Human Dance across Species” *Tanz und Musik – Perspektiven für die historische Musikpraxis*, ed. Christelle Cazaux, Martina Papiro and Agnese Pavanello, Basel: Schwabe Verlag, 2023 (Basler Beiträge zur historischen Musikpraxis 42)
- Leonetti, S., Cimarelli, G., Hersh, T. A., & Ravnani, A. (2024). Why do dogs wag their tails?. *Biology Letters*, 20(1), 20230407.

Media interview:

- **The Guardian:** “Dogs may wag their tails so much due to rhythm-loving humans, scientists say”
<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2024/jan/17/dogs-wag-tails-behaviour-humans-domestication-process>
- **Science:** “What does your dog's tail wag really mean?”
<https://www.science.org/content/article/what-does-your-dog-s-tail-wag-really-mean>
- **Science News:** “Some mysteries remain about why dogs wag their tails”
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/why-dogs-wag-tails-communication-evolution>
- **Newsweek:** “Scientists May Finally Know Why Dogs Wag Their Tails”
<https://www.newsweek.com/why-dogs-wag-their-tails-1861202>
- **La Zampa:** “Perché i cani scodinzolano (e agli umani piace)?” https://www.repubblica.it/la-zampa/2024/01/17/news/perche_i_cani_scodinzolano-421897795/
- **Quirks & Quarks:** “Why do dogs wag their tails?”
- **La stampa:** “Silvia, la ricercatrice che studia lo scodinzolare dei cani: umore ed emozioni a seconda del tipo di oscillazione”
https://www.lastampa.it/torino/2024/01/18/news/silvia_ricercatrice_studio_scodinzolare_cani-14004668/
- **KCBS Radio:** “Why do dogs wag their tails?”
- **Tgr Leonardo:** “Perché i cani scodinzolano?”
https://www.rainews.it/tgr/piemonte/video/2024/01/scienza-etologia-cani-scodinzolio-biology-letters-tgr-leonardo-3266e26b-9952-4c4a-bf95b8d7766b519a.html?wt_mc=2.www.wzp.rainews

Driving Licence: B

