



**Centro Interuniversitario di Ricerca
sull'Elaborazione Cognitiva in Sistemi
Naturali e Artificiali**

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Giovedì 23 Febbraio 2006, in Aula Riunioni, Dipartimento di Psicologia, alle ore 11.00 terrà un seminario su:

Neuropsychological Performance in Artists and Non-artists

Creative individuals have been described using various adjectives: flexible, divergent thinkers, original. Many of these descriptors have come from personality questionnaires, from interviews with those close to the individual, or from qualitative examination of the social history of the creative person. The present study explored whether artists and non-artists would show quantifiable differences on tests purported to measure some of these traits. Twenty-five undergraduate volunteers served as controls for 25 art academy students. Participants were administered a battery of well-established neuropsychological measures including the broad categories of visuospatial functioning, memory, and executive control. Results showed significant differences between groups on a number of measures, including visuospatial construction, nonverbal memory, nonverbal fluency and, surprisingly, verbal fluency. Art students were more likely to utilize a rotational strategy on the nonverbal fluency measure, resulting in significantly more unique designs. There were no differences between groups in terms of general intellectual functioning nor academic performance, indicating that the observed differences do not reflect mere differences in intelligence. These results suggest that existing neuropsychological measures may contribute to our understanding of creativity. Further, at least some of the terms used to describe artists have been confirmed utilizing quantitative methods.

Mi è gradito rivolgere l'invito.

Il Direttore
Marta Olivetti Belardinelli