

To: jeevacation@gmail.com[jeevacation@gmail.com]; Al Seckel[REDACTED]
From: Mark Tramo MD PhD
Sent: Wed 12/8/2010 7:02:21 PM
Subject: To Dr Seckel re: Perception, Music, etc

Happy Chanukah, Al! Thanks for your email -

I just read your mother's Obituary in the Independent. Wow. What an auditory environment to grow up in! FYI - I grew up about 20 mins from Scarsdale down the Hutch/Cross County near 233rd. Hats off to Yale Music for supporting a minority woman war refugee - way before geopolitical altruism became fashionable. In the '70s, I matriculated in the Rep and Music School. So much to talk about!

Are you going to be in NYC the first week of January? It would be great to meet in person and talk about your mom, perception, and lots more, I'm sure.

Re: Sean Bennett

Yes - his foray into neuroscience was my Music Mind & Brain seminar course at Harvard College...in the late 90s, I think. (Back then, that was the first such "outside-the-box", interdisciplinary, arts-and-neuroscience course in the world - a recent syllabus is at www.BrainMusic.org, Education link.) The following year, Sean did an undergraduate honors thesis that he asked me to read - I may still have it - though I never had time to do so. I haven't corresponded with him for a decade or so.

Cheers,
Mark

[REDACTED]
www.BrainMusic.org

----- Message from aseckel@yahoo.com -----

Date: Tue, 7 Dec 2010 15:44:14 -0800 (PST)
From: Al seckel <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: To Mr Epstein Re: The Institute for Music & Brain Science
To: Mark Tramo MD PhD <[REDACTED]>

Hi Mark,

I received your email to Jeff. Thanks. :-)

Just out of curiosity do you know a Sean Bennett, who is a classical pianist, studied neuroscience at Harvard? I have been trying to get an introduction to him and can't seem to find anyone who knows him.

Also, I also study perception, and my mother was a classical composer (Ruth Schonthal) and we had many discussions on her abilities. I was very interested in this subject, especially since improvisation in different styles

was effortless to her and flawless.

Appreciatively,
Al

From: Mark Tramo MD PhD <[REDACTED]>
To: Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com>
Cc: [REDACTED]; Al Seckel [REDACTED]
Sent: Tue, December 7, 2010 2:35:27 PM
Subject: To Mr Epstein Re: The Institute for Music & Brain Science

Dear Jeffrey,

Happy Chanukah from the students and me at The Institute (please see attached photo), whose research in music, neuroscience, and medicine you've so generously helped to support!

I'm delighted to tell you that our Program in Health & Medicine's randomized-controlled clinical trial on the benefits of controlled auditory stimulation for iatrogenic pain and stress in premature infants was accepted for publication in the new Sage professional journal, Music & Medicine. We are now planning to move forward with our Grammy Foundation-funded trial comparing the effects of natural (consonant) and morphed (dissonant) versions in order to probe the question of innate preferences for harmonic structure.

I just returned from the annual Society for Neuroscience meeting in San Diego, where our Harvard-MIT graduate student, Andrew Dykstra, presented results of our Program in Auditory Neuroscience's research on the role of auditory cortex in loudness perception (poster attached). The corresponding full manuscript is under review at PLoS One.

Finally, the New York Academy of Sciences is hosting a Music, Science, & Medicine symposium in March (poster attached). I'm on the Planning Committee and will give the opening lecture - I hope you will be able to attend as my guest.

With heartfelt thanks from all of us,
Mark

Mark Jude Tramo, MD PhD
Director, The Institute for Music & Brain Science
[REDACTED]

cell [REDACTED]

P.S.

Thought you might like to know that I was nominated for election to the Board of Governors at the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences this month!xxx

----- End message from a [REDACTED] -----