New research on fixational eye movements

Medical Research News
Published: Wednesday, 25-Jul-2007

Susana Martinez-Conde, Ph.D., director of the Laboratory of Visual Neuroscience, and Stephen Macknik, Ph.D., director of the Laboratory of Behavioral Neurophysiology at Barrow Neurological Institute at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, are featured on the cover of the August issue of Scientific American for their research on fixational eye movements.

The pair was also featured in a recent issue of the Wall Street Journal.

'scientific American is considered by many to be the Rolling Stone magazine of science, says Dr. Macknik. It is a honor in our career to be featured in such a prestigious publication.

Drs. Martinez-Conde and Macknik authored an article describing the history of fixational eye movement research and the investigations they have conducted at Barrow. For decades, researchers have debated the purpose of fixational eye movements and particularly of microsaccades, the largest and fastest of fixational eye movements. Recent research conducted by Dr. Martinez-Conde and her team at Barrow has shown that microsaccades produce visibility when a person's gaze is fixed on an object. Microsaccades may also help reveal a person's subliminal thoughts.

Fixational eye movements are responsible for driving most of our visual experience and without them humans would become blind to stationary
New research on fixational eye movements

We are thrilled to have our research highlighted in Scientific American, says Dr. Martinez-Conde. Fixational eye movements have long been debated and our research has proven that they do serve a very important purpose.

http://www.stjosephs-phx.org

Would you like to register for our weekly NO-NONSENSE Medical News Letter? At the end of each week we'll send you an email containing links to the most popular articles (by page impression) from your chosen categories that appeared on News-Medical.Net in that week. You will NOT be bombarded with advertising and you CAN unsubscribe at any time. Click here for more information.