

SEEWIESEN

Max Planck Institute
for Ornithology



LECTURE SERIES

FALL/WINTER 2017/18



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

THURSDAY | NOVEMBER 16, 2017 | 13 P.M. | HOUSE 4 LECTURE ROOM

ALEX JORDAN

Department of Collective Behaviour, MPIO | Host: Hau Research Group

Mechanisms of social influence in animal groups

Understanding how individuals in social groups and collectives interact and influence each others' behaviour is a central challenge in modern science, and an analysis of how the nature, frequency, and fine-scale detail of these interactions leads to emergent properties at the level of the collective is essential for achieving progress in fields ranging from the dynamics of information exchange in digital systems, human societies, and social organisms. In this talk I will discuss ongoing research using computational ethological techniques, analyses of neuroanatomy and neural activity, and traditional ecological field observations to understand the evolution of social behaviour. In my lab we leverage the incredible diversity of social behaviours and social systems present in the Lamprologine cichlid fishes of Lake Tanganyika to uncover the mechanisms and evolutionary pathways to complex social behaviour and group structure.

WHO IS ALEX JORDAN

- 2016** Principal Investigator, Department of Collective Behaviour, Max Planck Institute for Ornithology Konstanz
- 2013** Departmental Fellow in Integrative Biology, Dep. of Integrative Biology, The University of Texas at Austin.
- 2012** Postdoctoral Fellow, Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science, Lake Tanganyika Research Station, Mpulungu, and Osaka City University
- 2012** PhD in Evolutionary Biology, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia Advisors: Robert Brooks and Ashley Ward
- 2007** Bachelor of Science (Honours Class II), University of Sydney, Madeleine Beekman and Ben Oldroyd

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Jordan LA, Maguire S, Hofmann, HA, Kohda M. 2016. The social and ecological consequences of an 'over-extended' phenotype. **Proceedings of the Royal Society B** 283 (1822)

Jordan LA, Ryan MJ. 2015. The sensory ecology of adaptive landscapes. **Biology Letters** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2014.1054>

Jordan LA, Kokko H, Kasumovic MM. 2014. Reproductive foragers: Spider males choose mates by selecting among available competitive environments. **The American Naturalist** 183 (5): 638-649

Jordan LA, Brooks R. 2012. Recent social history alters male courtship preferences. **Evolution** 66(1): 280-287

Kasumovic MM, Jordan LA. 2013. The social factors driving settlement and relocation decisions in a solitary and aggregative spider. **The American Naturalist** 182 (4): 532- 541

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