




# ALEX A. LASCELLES

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## EDUCATION

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**Goldsmiths, University of London** 2017 - 2018

*MSc Music, Mind and Brain (First-Class Honors) [course link](#)*

- Program combining music psychology and neuroscience, focusing on biological & cognitive aspects of musical behaviour.
- Core courses include: Foundations of Neuroscience, Cognitive Neuroscience of Music, Statistics, Experimental Design.
- Audited courses: Machine Learning, Advanced Quantitative Methods.

**University of Southampton & Harvard University** 2013 - 2017

*MPhys Astrophysics with a Year Abroad (First-Class Honors) [course link](#)*

- Achieved highest grades of any Master of Physics degree. Master's year spent conducting research at Harvard University.
- Core courses include: Calculus, Mechanics, Programming, Quantum Physics, Cosmology, Statistics, Electronics.
- Audited courses: Neurobiology of Perception and Decision Making, and Sleep and Circadian Rhythms.

**The Thomas Hardy School** 2011 - 2013

- **A Level:** Physics (A), Biology (A), and Math (A). **GCSE:** 9 A\* and 2 A including Math, English, and Sciences.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Oliva Lab, MIT CSAIL** Nov 2018 - Jan 2024

*Technical Research Assistant*

*Dr. Aude Oliva*

Helping Dr. Oliva run her [Computational Perception & Cognition Lab](#), with a focus on projects that combine human perception, visual AI, and cognitive neuroscience. Roles included:

- Managing lab equipment, finances, and computational resources, as well as providing web development for websites, scheduling meetings & events, and other administrative duties.
- Organizing large-scale public challenges & workshops (e.g., [GANocracy](#) and [The Algonauts Project](#)).
- Programming, running experiments, and data analysis & visualization for neuroimaging (MEG/fMRI) and behavioural (human psychophysics & online) studies using Python, MATLAB, and HTML/CSS/JS.
- Involvement in group projects with academic (MIT, Freie University Berlin, UMN) and industry (Meta) partners.

**Goldsmiths, University of London** Dec 2017 - Aug 2018

*Master's Project*

*Prof. Joydeep Bhattacharya FRSA*

- Designing and conducting an EEG experiment to investigate the neural correlates of a correspondence between pitch and visual motion, culminating in a first-class thesis & poster presentation [available here](#).
- Skills: experimental design, participant handling, and programming in MATLAB and R for EEG scripting & analysis.

**Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics** Aug 2016 - May 2017

*Master's Project*

*Dr. Cecilia Garraffo*

- Planned and conducted 3-D magnetohydrodynamic simulations using cluster computing, Linux, and visualization software to investigate orbital evolution in binary star systems. Resulting thesis talk & paper [available here](#).
- Poster presentation at the 229th American Astronomical Society Meeting, the largest annual US astronomy conference.

**University of Southampton Supernova Group** Jun - Aug 2015 & 2016

*Astrophysics Research - Summer Placement*

*Prof. Mark Sullivan*

- Summer 2015: Designed a Python program that created models to analyze 16,000+ objects and successfully identified candidates for a new class of supernovae.
- Summer 2016: Analyzed 10,000+ objects with Python to successfully locate a number of superluminous supernovae.

**Instituto de Astrofisica de Canarias and Teide Observatory** Mar - Apr 2015

*Course for Top Performing Students*

*Prof. Christian Knigge*

- Week 1 (Space Mission Design Project): Responsible for the orbital mechanics and science objectives for an intensive collaborative project to design a gamma ray telescope, culminating in a pitch to mission executives from ESA.
- Week 2 (Observational Astronomy Experience): Devised observing strategies & collected data on several professional telescopes, resulting in an academic paper & poster presentation to the Southampton Astronomy Department.

## OTHER VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCE

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- Rover** Sep 2024 -  
*Pet-sitter* *Somerville & Cambridge, MA*  
· Pet-sitting for clients in the Somerville and Cambridge area.
- Joint Family** Jun 2024 -  
*Volunteer/Ambassador* *Somerville & Cambridge, MA*  
· Helping to run events, manage social media, designing projects, and giving feedback & guidance for **Joint Family**. They aim to build an ecosystem where individuals from diverse backgrounds and ages can collaboratively learn, innovate, and contribute towards socially impactful outcomes.
- Sofar Sounds** Oct 2018 - Jan 2020  
*Sofar Ambassador* *Boston, MA*  
· Artist liaison, guest list, and social media for **Sofar Boston**; organizing live musical performances in intimate settings.
- Mathnasium** Oct - Dec 2018  
*Math Tutor* *Boston, MA*  
· Math instructor, teaching a variety of concepts from Algebra to Precalculus, to students grades 5 through to college.
- Splendid** May - Aug 2018  
*Event Staff* *London, UK*  
· Event staffing company serving high-end clients food and drink, preparing tables & packing away, and communicating with customers in locations ranging from museums, large sporting venues, and private parties to Buckingham Palace.
- University of Southampton Physics Department** Summers of 2015 & 2016  
*Open Day Demonstrator* *Southampton, UK*  
· Leading tours of the Physics department for large groups of prospective students and motivating their interest in science.
- Oxfam** Sep 2011 - Sep 2013  
*Bookstore Assistant* *Dorchester, UK*  
· 100 days volunteering at a charity bookstore. Responsible for selling to the public and handling incoming donations.

## AWARDS

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- Most Outstanding Performance on Any Master of Physics Degree**  
· Received after achieving an overall degree result of 84.5%.
- Invitation to Conduct Masters Research at Harvard University**  
· Received after consistently achieving the highest grades in the year.
- Ogden Trust Undergraduate Science Scholarship Recipient**  
· Awarded a competitive scholarship on the basis of academic merit during secondary school education.
- The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award**  
· Received an award which required 18 months of volunteering, 12 months developing a skill (jazz piano), 6 months of a physical activity (badminton), a 3-day hiking expedition, and a week-long residential activity.

## SKILLS & INTERESTS

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**Computing** — Proficient: **Python**, **MATLAB**, **HTML/CSS/JS**, cluster computing, MS Office, and both **Windows** and **Linux** OS. Familiar: R, Bash, Django, Unity

**Sport** — **Captain** (2014-15) of the **Men's Badminton 2nd Team**, including 3 years of competitive university matches ★ Social Secretary (2015-16) of the **largest UoS sports society (Recreational Badminton)** ★ Ultimate Frisbee ★ Climbing.

**Music & Art** — Grade 8 jazz piano ★ **Founder & President** of the **Goldsmiths Jazz Society** (2017-18) ★ Piano tutoring (3 years) ★ **University of Southampton Piano Society Secretary** (2014-15) ★ **Ultra-realistic drawing** ★ 5-ball juggling.

**Languages** — English (native) ★ French (intermediate) ★ Indonesian (intermediate).