



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Seeing voices: the role of multimodal cues in vocal learning

Varkevisser, J.M.

Citation

Varkevisser, J. M. (2022, October 20). *Seeing voices: the role of multimodal cues in vocal learning*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3483920>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3483920>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to thank my supervisor, Katharina Riebel, for her support, encouragement and enthusiasm. I would also like to thank my promotor, Carel ten Cate, for his support and helpful advice.

I want to thank Ralph Simon for all his work on this project and for the fun we had while working together. I also want to thank the other members of the 'seeing voices' consortium, Wouter Halfwerk, Ezequiel Mendoza and Constance Scharff, for the interesting and insightful discussions we had about the experiments. Thanks to Dré Kampfraath, Rogier Elsinga, Peter Wiersma and Wesley Delmeer for their help with the RoboFinch.

A big thank you to all students who were involved in my PhD project: Bas, Brandon, David, Eva, Esmee, Femke, Idse, Jens, Kamiel, Maëva, Qiaoyi and Rozanda. Thanks for thinking along and for the effort that you put into this project.

Many thanks to my colleagues at the behavioural biology group, especially Annebelle, Fabian, Hans, Inge, Jeroen, Jing, Meike, Merel, Michelle, Ning and Temp, for always being so interested and encouraging. I want to thank Peter Snelderwaard for his technical assistance and assistance with animal care and I want to thank the animal care takers: Michelle Chan, Michelle Geers and Roy van Swetselaar.

Thanks to my parents, my brother and his girlfriend, my family and my friends for their support and for distracting me from work every now and then. Finally, thank you Daniël for supporting me in everything I do, which even meant spending your time off building bird cages and preparing experimental set-ups with me. Thank you as well for being my work-from-home colleague during the covid lockdown and for always looking after my mental wellbeing.

Curriculum vitae

Judith Varkevisser was born in 1992 in Leidschendam, the Netherlands. From 2004 to 2010, she followed a vwo-gymnasium program at College het Loo in Voorburg. In 2013, she obtained her Bachelor's degree (cum laude) in linguistics at Leiden University. During her Bachelor, she did an internship at Stichting Plotsdoven, studying video glasses as a means of communication for post-lingually deafened adults. In 2015, she completed a research Master in linguistics (cum laude) at Leiden University. During her Master, she worked as a student assistant at the Leiden University Centre of Linguistics in a project on prosody in whispered speech and in a project on speech production and perception in Brazilian learners of English. She did an internship at the Institute of Biology Leiden studying acoustic changes in the crystallized song of zebra finches. For her Master thesis, she conducted a comparative analysis of sex differences in birdsong.

In 2016, Judith started her PhD trajectory as part of the HFSP funded project 'Seeing voices: the role of multimodal cues in vocal learning' at the Institute of Biology Leiden supervised by dr. Katharina Riebel and prof. dr. Carel ten Cate. During her PhD trajectory, she participated in teaching courses on behavioural biology and supervised several student projects. Judith is currently working as a lecturer and developer of teaching material on research methodology and statistics at the University of Amsterdam, as a student writing coach at the Hogeschool Rotterdam and as a self-employed student writing coach and thesis editor.

Publications

- Varkevisser, J.**, Mendoza, E., Simon, R. et al. (2022). Multimodality during live tutoring is relevant for vocal learning in zebra finches. *Animal Behaviour*, 187, 263-280. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2022.03.013>
- Varkevisser, J.**, Simon, R., Mendoza, E. et al. (2021). Adding colour-realistic video images to audio playbacks increases stimulus engagement but does not enhance vocal learning in zebra finches. *Animal Cognition*, 25, 294-274. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10071-021-01547-8>
- Simon, R., **Varkevisser, J.**, Mendoza, E., Hochradel, K., Scharff, C., Riebel, K., & Halfwerk, W. (2019). Development and application of a robotic zebra finch (RoboFinch) to study multimodal cues in vocal communication. *PeerJ Preprints* 7:e28004v2 <https://doi.org/10.7287/peerj-preprints.28004v2>
- Halfwerk, W., **Varkevisser, J.**, Simon, R., Mendoza, E., Scharff, C., & Riebel, K. (2019). Towards testing for multimodal perception in mating signals. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 7, 124.
- Post da Silveira, A., & **Varkevisser, J.** (2019). Sex differences in vocalic duration production in L1 and in L2. In Sasha Calhoun, Paola Escudero, Marija Tabain & Paul Warren (eds.) *Proceedings of the 19th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*, Melbourne, Australia 2019 (pp. 3358-3362).