Special Screening and Live Event

February 25, 2021 & March 3, 2021

UnRavelled

a new play

by Jake Broder
SPECIAL GUESTS FROM GBHI

Francesca Farina, PhD (Neuroscientist, Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health) - 3/3 Only

Francesca is a neuroscientist whose research focuses on identifying risk factors and early biomarkers of dementia. She also has a strong interest in developing creative engagement initiatives to promote brain health and life-long well-being. Francesca received her undergraduate degree in psychology and PhD in behavioral neuroscience from the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. After completing her PhD, she worked as a post-doctoral researcher at the School of Psychology, University College Dublin, before joining the Institute of Neuroscience at Trinity College Dublin in 2017. In 2018, she co-authored a popular science book, Why Science Needs Art (Routledge UK).

Adit Friedberg, MD (Neurologist; Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health) - 2/25 Only

Adit is a behavioral neurologist interested in unraveling the neural mechanisms that underlie changes in complex behaviors in people with neurodegenerative diseases. As an Atlantic Fellow, she is leading a research study on the emergence of visual artistic creativity in frontotemporal dementia. Adit is trained in the Department of Neurology in the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center. She received her MD from the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology (cum laude). She also completed a degree in Biotechnology Engineering (cum laude) from Ben Gurion University of the Negev. Prior to pursuing her medical career, Adit Friedberg served a sergeant in the Israeli Defense Forces.

Magda Kaczmarska, MFA (Teaching Artist, Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health) - 2/25 Only

Magda is a teaching artist and creative-aging advocate. As an artist, educator and researcher, she has devoted her career to supporting communities of all ages and abilities through the transformative power of creative expression and dance. She received her MFA in Dance Performance & Choreography and her BS in Biochemistry & Molecular Biophysics from the University of Arizona. As an Atlantic Fellow, she is exploring the potential of dance and creative engagement in promoting brain health across the lifespan.

Camellia Latta, MLA (Alumni Relations Manager, Global Brain Health Institute)

Camellia co-leads alumni relations at GBHI. She also manages the partnership with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, UCSF and GBHI and she is a flutist. At GBHI, she works to build, sustain, and champion a robust and global alumni community. Camellia received a Bachelor’s Degree with honors in History and Feminist Studies, minor in Spanish, from Stanford University. She also studied flute performance at Stanford under the instruction of music faculty. Camellia holds a Master’s of Liberal Arts in Human Rights Studies from Columbia University and also completed graduate coursework at the University of Notre Dame in law, peace studies, and sociology.

Bruce Miller, MD (Co-Director, Global Brain Health Institute; Director, UCSF Memory and Aging Center)

Bruce holds the A.W. and Mary Margaret Clausen Distinguished Professorship in Neurology at the University of California, San Francisco, directs the UCSF Memory and Aging Center and is a director of the Global Brain Health Institute. He is a behavioral neurologist who studies the underlying mechanisms of neurocognitive disorders and is a world-renowned expert in the diagnosis and management of dementia. He became interested in the emergence of art and creativity in frontotemporal dementia in the 1990s. When Anne Adams came to the UCSF Memory and Aging Center, he oversaw her diagnosis and care. He has been featured in Fortune Magazine, The New York Times, 60 Minutes and the PBS Newshour. He has received many awards including the Potamkin Award from the American Academy of Neurology, and he is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine.

Bill Seeley, MD (Professor of Neurology and Pathology, UCSF)

Bill is a Professor of Neurology and Pathology at the UCSF Memory and Aging Center and holds the Zander Family Endowed Professor in Neurology. He is also the Director of the UCSF Neurodegenerative Disease Brain Bank. In 2008 he published a paper in Brain that his analysis of network changes and activity in Anne Adams’ brain. His research is focused on determining what makes brain tissues susceptible or resistant to disease, with an eye toward translating these findings into novel treatment approaches. He was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship ("Genius Award") in 2011 for his work exploring the structural, functional, and behavioral aspects of human neurodegenerative disease.

Nicky Taylor (Theater & Dementia Specialist; Atlantic Fellow for Equity in Brain Health) - 3/3 Only

Nicky is a specialist in theater and dementia, leading ground-breaking creative practice with older people and people living with dementia. She pioneered dementia-friendly performances and led Every Third Minute, a festival of theater, dementia and hope, curated by people living with dementia, at Leeds Playhouse, a major UK producing theater. She is completing her PhD degree at Leeds Beckett University exploring creative co-production processes with people with dementia. Nicky’s work with older people spans 25 years in care, community, and arts settings, and has won major national awards from Arts & Business, The Alzheimer’s Society, and National Dementia Care Awards.

From UnRavelled (bios available in UnRavelled show program)

Jake Broder (Playwright/Producer)

Nike Doukas (Director/Producer)

To learn more about the Global Brain Health Institute (GBHI), please visit us on GBHI.org or follow us on Twitter @GBHI_Fellows.