

# The Science of Laughter

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In this talk I will address the ways that laughter is used in human interactions. I will explore the evolutionary background to this, and also the neural control of laughter production, and the neural basis of laughter perception. I will demonstrate candidate roles for spontaneous and communicative laughter, and explore the ways that we learn to process and understand these. I will end with a consideration of the roles for conversation and laughter in emotion regulation.