

THE STRING THEORY UNIVERSE

COST ACTION MP1210

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A branch of theoretical, mathematical, high energy physics.

Aims at the unification of fundamental forces and a description of quantum gravity.

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Typical questions that we address:

What is the structure of matter and light?

What is the fabric of spacetime?

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...but it is an oven where new ideas and ways of understanding the paradoxes of the 'fundamental' physics are generated.

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And these numbers seem not to be changing...

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After all, they had to fight hard and being labelled as **'activists'** or **'feminists'** could switch the focus from their scientific achievements. **They would be considered as unprofessional.**

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On the other side we, women, we all had the same **unpleasant experiences at work.**

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Four of us made the very preliminary proposal.



Anna Ceresole (Italy)



Yolanda Lozano (Spain)



Silvia Penati (Italy)



María A. Lledó (Spain)

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Finally we passed the first filter. Then we involved all the women in the field in order to prepare a more detailed scientific project.

It was a wonderful collaboration experience.

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A special **Working Group on Gender and Outreach** was created.

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We discussed on : Unconscious bias. Differentiated education. Subliminal messages from environment. Paternity/maternity issues. Mobility in the post-doc period (up to 35 years of age or more)...

For many men this was the first time they would confront these issues.

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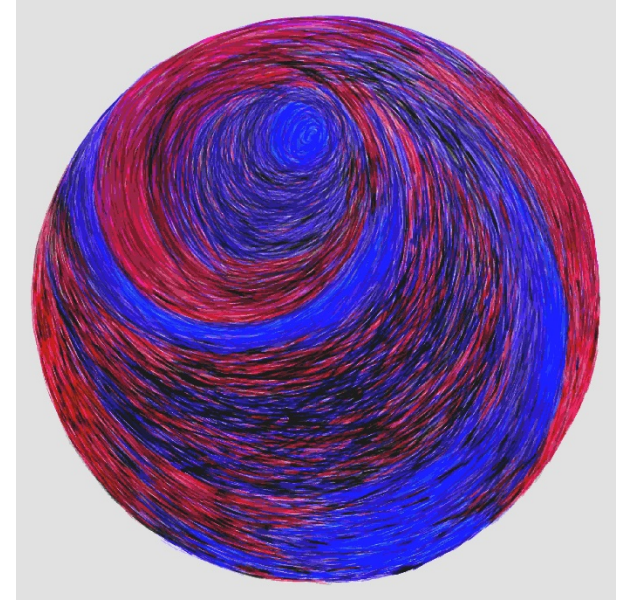
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For the final conference we are preparing a (very serious) **Gender Comedy** about **microsexism** in the workplace. Many women have contributed (anonymously) with their personal anecdotes and recollections.

The hit will soon be in our homepage...

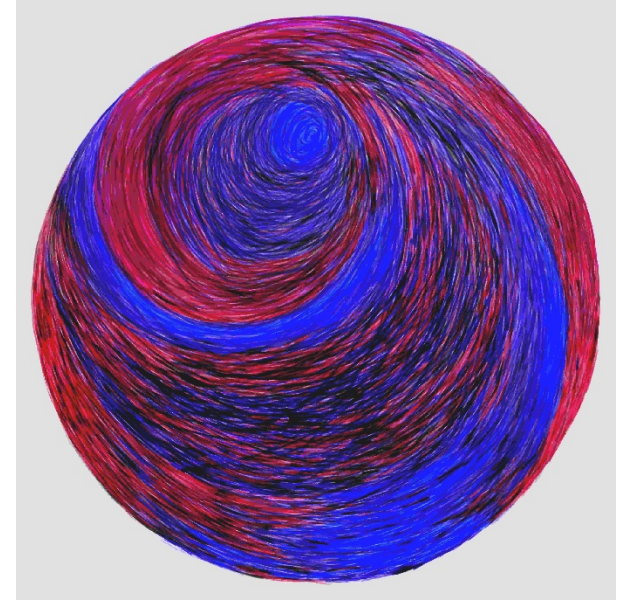
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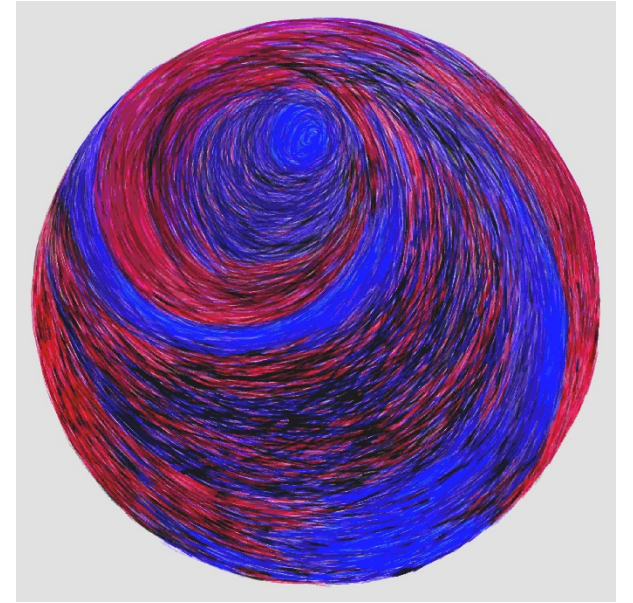


Neuroscientist. Her contribution was very much appreciated by our colleagues. With her we learnt that there is no such thing as **male/female brain** and that **the brain is very plastic**, so there is room for change.

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In 2016 the Second Workshop on String and Gender was held in Paris.

In 2017 the third one will be held in Southampton.

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Please, come to talk to us!

**We are a fundamental piece in
the coming change**