Judith Holler

Judith Holler, Senior Investigator, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics and Donders Centre for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University, Nijmegen. Judith has a PhD in Psychology (2004, University of Manchester, UK) which focuses on the semantic interaction of the speech and gesture modalities in communication. Since then, her research has focused on the cognitive representations underlying the production of gestures, the development of gestural communication (in childhood and ageing, as well as in evolutionary terms), and the use of gesture in the context of impaired (e.g. Parkinson's) and verbally challenging (e.g. pain sensation) communication. However, the primary focus of her research is on the use and comprehension of multimodal utterances in social interaction, looking at speech, manual and head gestures, facial signals and eye gaze. Core questions Judith is interested in concern the role of these various modalities and articulators in the transmission of information, their semantic, pragmatic and temporal interplay during utterance formation and comprehension, and their role in managing dialogue, turn-taking and the signalling of intentions. Judith explores these aspects with a combination of methods, including experimental research and corpus analyses.