

Abstract: The Illusions of Consciousness

Week of Inspiration - Foundations of our Life.

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Abstract

Everyone thinks they know what consciousness is. It is a stream of ideas and perceptions that pass through the mind, experienced by a conscious self. The trouble is, this cannot be true. There is no room in the brain for a conscious observer, no role for it to play if there were one, not enough time for us to act on our conscious impressions, and no way of explaining why some brain activity should be conscious while most is not. With demonstrations and help from the audience I shall explore some of the ways in which we misunderstand our own minds.