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For more information about this series, please visit:  
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THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD:

# TO BE MUSICAL

Public Lecture Series  
Winter 2013

January 9, 2013– February 27, 2013

UC San Diego

Conrad Prebys Music Center

7:00 PM



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January 9	<p><b>"On the Bridge: The Beginnings of Contemporary Percussion Music"</b></p> <p>Steven Schick, Distinguished Professor of Music</p> <p><i>Post Reception Hosted by UCSD Alumni</i></p>
January 16	<p><b>"Why Music?"</b></p> <p>David Borgo, Professor of Music</p>
January 30	<p><b>"Craft and Tools in Late Beethoven"</b></p> <p>Aleck Karis, Professor of Music</p>
February 6	<p><b>"How the West Rejected 'Nice' Music a Century Ago: Abandoning the Tonal System and Emancipating Dissonance"</b></p> <p>Steven Cassedy, Professor of Slavic and Comparative Literature</p>
February 20	<p><b>"Utterance, Ritual, Expression: Why Singing Makes Us Human"</b></p> <p>Susan Narucki, Professor of Music</p> <p><i>Post Reception Hosted by Chancellor's Associates</i></p>
February 27	<p><b>"Musical Illusions, Perfect Pitch, and Other Curiosities"</b></p> <p>Diana Deutsch, Professor of Psychology</p>

## About the Speaker

**Professor Diana Deutsch** is Director of the *Music Perception and Cognition Laboratory* at the UCSD Department of Psychology, and is one of the most prominent researchers on the psychology of music. She is internationally known for the illusions of sound and music perception that she has discovered, and for her research on perfect pitch. Deutsch has over 200 written publications, which include the book *The Psychology of Music*, now in its third edition, and three articles in *Scientific American*. She has also published two compact discs that feature her illusions: these are *Musical Illusions and Paradoxes*, and *Phantom Words, and Other Curiosities*. Among her many awards, Deutsch has received the *Rudolf Arnheim Award for Outstanding Achievement in Psychology and the Arts* by the *American Psychological Association*, and the *Gustav Theodore Fechner Award* by the *International Association of Empirical Aesthetics*.



## About the Lecture

### *"Musical Illusions, Perfect Pitch, and Other Curiosities"*

In this lecture, Deutsch demonstrates and discusses a number of musical illusions that she has discovered. These illusions show that people can differ strikingly in the way they hear very simple musical patterns. In some cases, disagreements arise between right-handers and left-handers, indicating that they reflect differences in brain organization. In other illusions, the way a musical pattern is perceived varies depending on their language or dialect. The second part of the lecture concerns perfect pitch – the reason why some people possess this ability, and why it is so rare. It is shown that speakers of tones languages such as Mandarin have a very high prevalence of perfect pitch, and it is argued that this is due to the association of pitches with meaningful words from early childhood. Other relationships between music and language are discussed in this context.

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"The good particular men may do separately is small, compared with what they may do collectively, or by a joint endeavor and interest." (Benjamin Franklin)