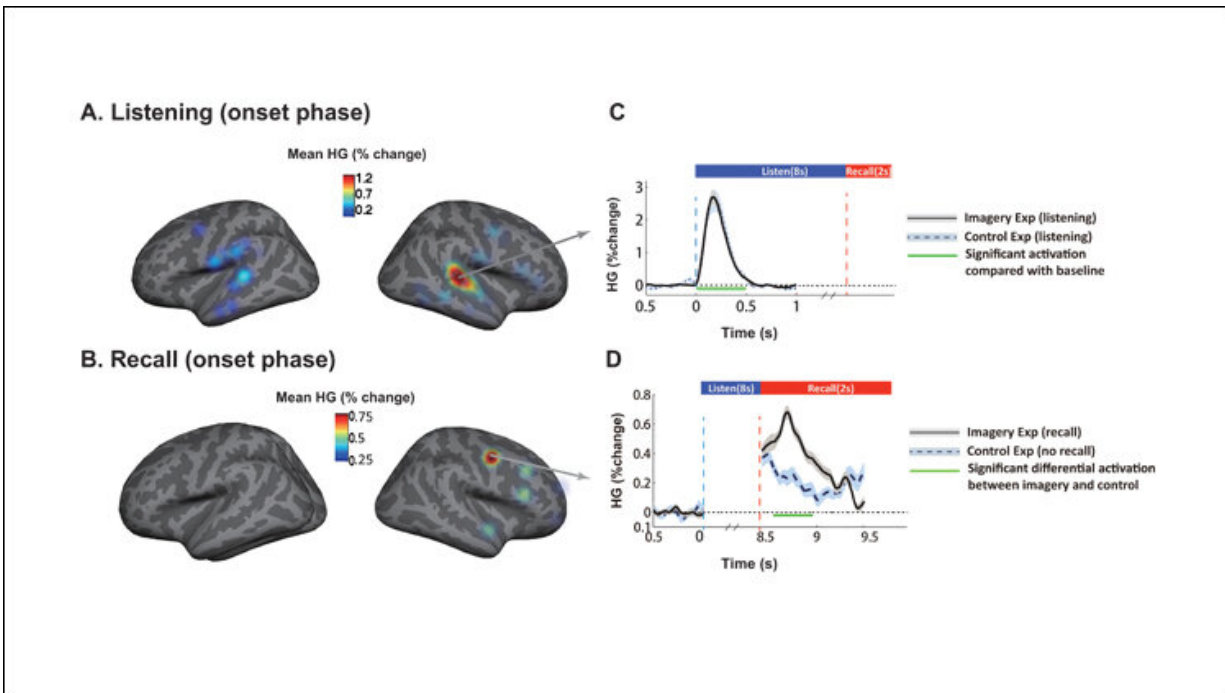


# Watching music move through the brain

September 9 2019



Musical information flowed from sensory to frontal regions during listening and from frontal to sensory regions during recall. Credit: Ding et al., *JNeurosci* (2019)

Scientists have observed how the human brain represents a familiar piece of music, according to research published in *JNeurosci*. Their results suggest that listening to and remembering music involve different cognitive processes.

Previous research has pinpointed areas of the brain—primarily on the right side—that are activated by music. However, less is known about how activity in these regions unfolds over time.

In a new study of male and female epilepsy patients, Ding *et al.* recorded [electrical activity](#) directly from the surface of the brain as participants listened to well-known pieces of music, including Beethoven's "Für Elise" and Richard Wagner's "Wedding March."

A network of overlapping brain regions was associated with the act of listening to the music and continuing the melody in one's head.

The researchers found that musical information traveled in opposite directions during these processes, flowing from sensory to frontal regions during listening and from frontal to sensory regions during recall.

**More information:** Neural Correlates of Music Listening and Recall in the Human Brain, *JNeurosci* (2019). [DOI: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.1468-18.2019](#)

Provided by Society for Neuroscience

Citation: Watching music move through the brain (2019, September 9) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-09-music-brain.html>

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