



**Nuevo iPhone 4S**  
MADBID.ES  
Fun bargain auctions!  
HAZTE CON ÉL

[FAQ](#) | [Register Now](#) | [Sign In](#)

HOME	PHYSICAL SCIENCES	EARTH SCIENCES	LIFE SCIENCES	MEDICINE	SOCIAL SCIENCES	CULTURE	VIDEO	CONTRIBUTORS	
------	-------------------	----------------	---------------	----------	-----------------	---------	-------	--------------	--

HOME > LIFE SCIENCES > NEUROSCIENCE > NEWS ARTICLES



## Psychic Healers May Simply Have Synesthesia

By News Staff | May 11th 2012 09:34 AM | 4 comments | [Print](#) | [E-mail](#) | [Track Comments](#)

 [RSS](#)

[Share / Save](#)

   ...



News Staff

People who claim to see the 'aura' of others - and subsequently claim they can modify them - may actually have synesthesia, according to new research.

Synesthesia is believed to occur due to cross-wiring in the brain; synesthetes have more synaptic connections than 'normal' people and some are

interconnected in ways others are not, including across brain regions. Since the brain regions responsible for the processing of each type of sensory stimuli are intensely interconnected, synesthetes see or taste a sound, feel a taste, or associate people with a particular color.

A new paper in *Consciousness and Cognition* is the first time that a scientific explanation is attempted for this esoteric aura, a supposed energy field of luminous radiation surrounding a person as a halo, which is imperceptible to most human beings but healers claim they can detect. University of Granada Department of Experimental Psychology researchers Óscar Iborra, Luis Pastor and Emilio Gómez Milán state, "Not all healers are synesthetes, but there is a higher prevalence of this phenomenon among them. The same occurs among painters and artists, for example".



Credit: [Shutterstock](#)

For the paper, the researchers interviewed synesthetes like "Esteban Sánchez Casas", known as

### News Articles

#### MORE ARTICLES

- [New Atomic Structure Found In Metallic Glasses](#)
- [In The Milky Way, There May Be 1000X More Planets Than Stars](#)
- [Why Do Athletes Sometimes Choke When The Pressure Is On?](#)

[All Articles](#)

#### ABOUT NEWS

News From All Over The World, Right To You...

[View News's Profile](#)

### KNOW SCIENCE AND WANT TO WRITE?

[Register Now To Get Your Own Column!](#)

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

[Top Articles](#) [New Comments](#) [Events](#)

1. [SUSY: A Matter Of Prior Beliefs](#)
2. [Toying With Entropy: Dominos, Tetris, And Black Holes](#)
3. [Is The Constrained Minimal Supersymmetric Extension Of The Standard Model Written Off Yet ?](#)
4. [In The Milky Way, There May Be 1000X More Planets Than Stars](#)
5. [New Atomic Structure Found In Metallic Glasses](#)
6. [Psychic Healers May Simply Have Synesthesia](#)
7. [New Exclusive Upsilon Decays Observed By Belle!](#)



[Blood pressure drugs don't protect against colorectal cancer](#)  
[Georgetown physician leads national resveratrol study for Alzheimer's disease](#)  
[Reducing post-traumatic stress after ICU](#)  
[Research maps the city's heat](#)  
[Virus 'barcodes' offer rapid detection of mutated strains](#)

[more](#)

**El secreto para la pérdida de peso, expuestos.**



**Pierdo 3 kilos de grasa del abdomen por semana obedeciendo esta única regla.**



"El Santón de Baza", who claim to be able to see and heal the auras of people.

Some people attribute 'paranormal powers to El Santón, such as his ability to see the aura of people "but, in fact, it is a clear case of synesthesia", the researchers explain. El Santón presents schizotypy (certain personality traits in healthy people involving slight paranoia and delusions), face-color synesthesia (the brain region responsible for face recognition is associated with the color-processing region); touch-mirror synesthesia (when the synesthete observes a person who is being touched or is experiencing pain, s/he experiences the same) and high empathy (the ability to feel what other person is feeling). "These capacities make synesthetes have the ability to make people feel understood, and provide them with special emotion and pain reading skills", the researchers explain.

In the light of the results obtained, the researchers remark the significant "placebo effect" that healers have on people, "though some healers really have the ability to see people's auras and feel the pain in others due to synesthesia". Some healers "have abilities and attitudes that make them believe in their ability to heal other people, but it is actually a case of self-deception, as synesthesia is not an extrasensory power, but a subjective and 'adorned' perception of reality", the researchers state.

E.G. Milána, O. Iborraa, M. Hochela, M.A. Rodríguez Artachoa, L.C. Delgado-Pastora, E. Salazara, A. González-Hernández, 'Auras in mysticism and synaesthesia: a comparison', Consciousness and cognition, 2012, 21(1), 258-268 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.concog.2011.11.010>

#### RELATED ARTICLES ON SCIENCE 2.0

[Is math inherently part of the structure of the universe?](#)

[Is Homeopathy Good For The British Economy?](#)

[Does Selective Brain Damage Underpin Spirituality?](#)

[Electromagnetic Effects on Water](#)

[The Structure of Water and Other Liquids](#)

#### COMMENTS

Forget the psychic healers, as a bioeffect researcher, I and my bioelectromagnetics colleagues have long studied the induced 'aura' of people due to mobile phones and other devices such as hand-held RADAR devices. These are examples of induced electromagnetic fields due to EM devices. But there are also **biogenic** EM fields (fields created **within** the body) that surround and permeate the body. Our cells for example are replicated by the action of these 'internal' electromagnetic fields. A small proportion of people are electrosensitive and magnetosensitive to electric and magnetic fields. This is an ailment rather than an ability. People who are (or claim to be) healers may have a sensitivity that is not an ailment but a particular insight that many do not possess. Synaesthesia may perhaps be the basis of some of these healers. But there is a simple explanation of these fields besides 'self-deception'; au contraire I suggest the authors should investigate the recent progress in mathematical physics that has taken place over the past decade.



Using (the current versions of) quantum theory we have no ability to describe such auras. This is the 'atomic chemistry' known by mainstream science. However there is now a mathematical formulation ([self-field theory](#)) that can indeed give us a quantitative description of the fields between objects, similar to the reaction of the binding energy between atoms that we call molecules. This is called 'photon chemistry' a level of description below current quantum formulations. These interactions are the basis of what the article refers to as auras but which we can also refer to as 'biofields' or 'bodyfields'.

Tony Fleming Biophotonics Research Institute [tfleming@unifiedphysics.com](mailto:tfleming@unifiedphysics.com)

Reply to This » Link

Tony Fleming | 05/13/12 | 08:12 AM

Promotion and marketing are in violation of the terms of the [FAQ](#) - and 100% of your articles and comments are just that - so please read it.



Reply to This » Link

Hank Campbell | 05/13/12 | 10:32 AM

Tony, I wrote alongish response to this article but, me being me, I wanted to go over it "one more time" before posting it but, as I was going to be away for a day or so, I left it for completion on my return. However, I caught up with your comment while staying in Bournemouth, so thought I should respond.



I am a healer as well as having a strong science background, so, although the heavily biased materialistic mainstreamers will always disagree, I do know what I am talking about. Even if your research shows things along the lines that you describe, there is far more to "what is" than that into which you have, so far, delved.

"Using (the current versions of) quantum theory we have no ability to describe such auras."

On the contrary, a theory based on QCD seems to make sense to someone like me who is aware of such energy fields and has a degree of understanding of quantum mechanics, even though it is not my specialist area. There are other

**El secreto para la pérdida de peso, expuestos.**

Pierdo 3 kilos de grasa del abdomen por semana obedeciendo esta única regla.

**science 2.0**  
JOIN THE REVOLUTION

**ADVERTISE OR DONATE HERE**

**Hot Topics** | **Links** | **Science 2.0 News**

Current Topic:  
**GMO Foods**

The best writers in science tackle science's hottest topics.

**BOOKS BY WRITERS HERE**