Dancing Bodies: Towards a new model of understanding neurodivergence

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Guided by the idea that subjective ontological main structure is embodiment, the main aim of this talk is to provide a new paradigm of neurodiversity by focusing on the role of the lived body and kinaesthetic skills in social relationships. We will show how the current approaches towards neurodivergence (Astle et al 2019; Oliver 1990) are individualistic and disembodied, and how they neglect the role of social space and intercorporeality. Then, we will propose a combined and integrated Model (the ENACT Model), composed by therapeutic and non-therapeutic approaches. ENACT focuses in practical terms on three main relationships: the relationship between sensory processing and bodily experience; between the embodied self and movement; between the embodied self and inter-corporal awareness. It is applied to mixed groups composed by neurotypical and neuroatypical individuals together, and it aims at improving the inter-corporality, intersubjectivity, and the capability to tune in with others.