





subscribe alert

help

contacts

quick search advanced search

naturejobs

- · Search jobs
- Post CV
- Career info
- Spotlights
- **Events**

NPG subject areas

Access material from all our publications in your subject area:

- Biotechnology
- Cancer
- Clinical Medicine
- Dentistry
- Development
- Drug Discovery Earth Sciences
- Evolution & Ecology
- Genetics
- Immunology
- Materials
- Medical Research
- Molecular Cell Biology
- Neuroscience
- Pharmacology
- Physics

resources

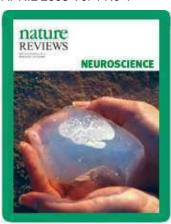
- · Signaling Update
- Nature Cancer Update
- Nature Science Update
- Genome gateway
- · Cancer Handbook
- · Nature Insights
- · Biotech buyers guide

reference links

- · Encyclopedia of life sciences
- · Encyclopedia of Astronomy and
- Astrophysics
 Nature Yearbook

Information

APRIL 2003 Vol 4 No 4



About the cover

REVIEWS

From the current issue

FEATURED ARTICLE - FREE ACCESS!

The role of receptor diffusion in the organization of the postsynaptic membrane Daniel Choquet and Antoine Triller

INFORMATION

subscribe here recommend to your library contacts and staff highlights advisory panel conferences journal scope information for advertisers guide to Nature Reviews

MORE NEUROSCIENCE

NATUREVIEW

Reviews and comment from Nature Journals

RECOMMENDED LINKS

Links recommended by the Editors

HIGHLIGHTS - FREE!

Accessible summaries of the newest research - written by the editors



COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE Area of expertise



CELL BIOLOGY OF THE NEURON FMRP and its many partners



NEURAL NETWORKS Making waves

PERSPECTIVES

Science and Society Constructing an ethical stereotaxy for severe brain injury: balancing risks, benefits and access Joseph J. Fins

ARCHIVE

issues highlights reviews perspectives cover artwork

WEB FOCUS COLLECTION

Selected articles from the Nature Publishing Group on key current topics

CORRESPONDENCE new!

Discussion related to Nature Reviews Neuroscience articles

NATURE REVIEWS JOURNALS







1 of 2



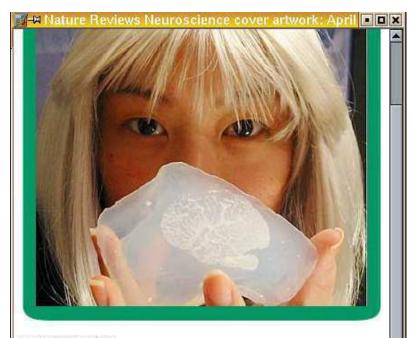


April 2003 vol 4 no 4 'Clear thinking'

By April Tsui, (http://ilab.usc.edu/~aprilla)

More about the cover >>

close window



April 2003 vol 4 no 4

'Clear thinking'

<< back to the original cover artwork

April Tsui is holding a piece of aerogel, certified as the lightest solid on Earth by the Guinness Book of World Records. Used in NASA's Stardust mission to capture cosmic particles for analysis on Earth, aerogel is 1000 times less dense than glass, being composed of 99.8% air. In her collaboration with Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL), April is experimenting with marrying non-traditional materials with machining and rapid prototyping methods. The cover image is a brain laser-etched on aerogel.

April studied advertising at the University of Texas at Austin (B.Sc., 1998) and worked as an art director at an advertising agency (1998-2000). She has been a graduate industrial design student, focusing on product and environmental design, at the Art Center College of Design (Pasadena, California) since 2001. This program encourages students to explore their creative process through traditional and scientific understanding of thought and creation. Lecturers from the California Institute of Technology and JPL enrich the program with classes on the scientific foundations of brain evolution, neuroscience, and aerospace research.

One of April's projects is currently exhibited in The Art of Thought (Los Angeles), a show curated by K. Abeles. This exhibition celebrates the processes of thought, through displays that range from brain scans to expressions of creative thinking. April's 'Personal Museum' celebrates the human body with an entire collection of miniature radiological scans embedded in the thickness of five metre-long acrylic bars. The refraction of the embedded images reveals the exhibition only at specific angles, requiring a viewer's interactive exploration of the museum piece.

April is also working with USC's computational neuroscience laboratory. In particular, she is designing and modelling the mechanical components of iLab's Beobot autonomous mobile robots. Her latest project is an interactive aerogel exhibition at the California Science Center (Los Angeles).

· aerogel, see:

http://stardust.jpl.nasa.gov/spacecraft/aerogel.html
• Art Center, see: http://www.artcenter.edu/

- · California Institute of Technology, see:

http://www.caltech.edu

- · JPL, see: http://www.jpl.nasa.gov
- · USC iLab, see: http://iLab.usc.edu
- April's page, see: http://liab.usc.edu/~aprilla

close window