



### Professional presentation

**Giacomo Rizzolatti** is at present Head of the Center for Motor and Social Cognition, Italian Institute of Technology (IIT) Parma and Professor Emeritus at the University of Parma, Parma Italy.

Giacomo Rizzolatti studied in Padua where he graduated in Medicine and Neurology. He received his training in physiology at the University of Pisa and in psychology at the McMaster University, Canada. Most of his scientific career has been done at the University of Parma.

The main focus of his research concerns the motor system and its role in cognitive functions. He is the discoverer of the Mirror Neurons. He has been President of the European Brain Behaviour Society and Italian Society for Neuroscience, and former director the European Training Program in Brain and Behaviour Research (ETP).

He is Member of Accademia dei Lincei, of Académie des Sciences, of Academia Europaea, Honorary Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Member of National Academy of Science, USA.

Among his rewards are the "Golgi Prize for Physiology", "George Miller Award" of the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, the "Feltrinelli Prize for Medicine" of Accademia dei Lincei, the Herlitzka Prize for Physiology, Accademia delle Scienze di Torino, Prix IPSEN, Fondation IPSEN Paris 2007, the Grawemeyer Award for Psychology, Luiseville, Prix Signoret, Neuropsychology, Fondation IPSEN Paris



# UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI PARMA

## DIPARTIMENTO DI NEUROSCIENZE

Plesso Biotecnologico Integrato

43100 Parma – Italia – Via Volturno 39/E

2010 and the Prince of Asturias Prize for Science 2011.

He received honorary degrees from the University Claude Bernard of Lyon, from the University of St. Petersburg and from KU of Leuven .

**Giacomo Rizzolatti**

### **Most important publications:**

G. Rizzolatti and L. Craighero. The mirror-neuron system, Annual Review of Neuroscience . (2004) 27: 169-192 Cit. 3963

G Rizzolatti, L Fadiga, V Gallese, L Fogassi – Premotor cortex and the recognition of actions. Cognitive brain research, (1996) 3: 131- 141 Cit. 3130

G. Rizzolatti and C. Sinigaglia. Mirrors in the brain: how our brain share actions and emotions. Oxford University Press (2008)



# UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI PARMA

## DIPARTIMENTO DI NEUROSCIENZE

Plesso Biotechologico Integrato

43100 Parma – Italia – Via Volturno 39/E

**Title of the lecture: How our brain share actions and emotions**

I will talk about the mirror mechanism and its role in action and emotion understanding. I will also discuss some problems related to autism.