

THE MIND

OF A

BEE



LARS CHITTKA

Queen Mary, University of London

Department of Integrative Biology
Emlen / Hildale Lecture
in the Biological Sciences

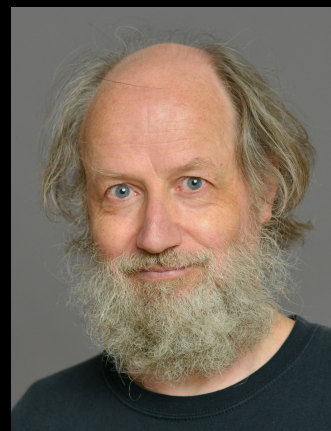
Thursday, September 14, 2023

4:30pm, reception to follow

UW Biotech Center Auditorium

425 Henry Mall, Room 1111

Free and open to the public



Most of us are aware of the hive mind—the power of bees as an amazing collective. Lars Chittka argues that individual bees have remarkable cognitive abilities, have distinct personalities, can recognize flowers and human faces, exhibit basic emotions, count, use simple tools, solve problems, and learn by observing others. They may even possess consciousness. Chittka illustrates how bee brains are unparalleled in the animal kingdom in terms of how much sophisticated material is packed into their tiny nervous systems. Chittka also examines the ethical dilemmas that arise in conservation and laboratory settings because bees might feel and think.



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