

# The Sense of Body Ownership and its Pathologies: Depersonalisation, Somatoparaphrenia, and Xenomelia

## by Prof Hong Yu Wong

Friday, 30 January 2026

5:00pm - 6:30pm

Duke-NUS, Room 7C

In this talk I will examine the sense of body ownership and its pathologies, looking at it through an interdisciplinary lens from psychology, neuroscience, psychiatry, and philosophy. I will review various pathologies of body ownership - including somatoparaphrenia, depersonalisation, and xenomelia - and experimental methods to induce artificial ownership, using the Rubber Hand Illusion paradigm. The role of affect is further explored, particularly in how affective responses contribute to the experience of ownership. I argue that affect is a critical marker for self-significance and therefore for body ownership.



Hong Yu Wong (黃宏宇) is Chair of Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Science at the Philosophy Department and Head of the Philosophy of Neuroscience (PONS) Research Group at the Werner Reichardt Centre for Integrative Neuroscience (CIN), University of Tübingen. He is also a faculty member of the Max Planck Graduate Training Centre of Neuroscience and the Tübingen Cognitive Science Programme. His primary research interests concern the relations between perception and action, and the role of the body in structuring these relations.

### Speaker

Prof Hong Yu Wong

Currently he is exploring new approaches to studying the mind and the brain through the lens of VR, AI, and evolution.

### Programme



Chairperson  
Dr Wan Yi Min

5:00pm	Registration and refreshment
5:30pm	Opening by Chairperson, Dr Wan Yi Min
5:35pm	The Sense of Body Ownership and its Pathologies: Depersonalisation, Somatoparaphrenia, and Xenomelia by Prof Hong Yu Wong
6:15pm	Q&A

Scan here to register!



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