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MAGAZINE



Professor Paul Fletcher

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Paul Fletcher trained in medicine before specialising in psychiatry. He divides his time between clinical work, teaching and research and is an honorary consultant psychiatrist and The Bernard Wolfe Professor of Health Neuroscience at Cambridge University. He is fascinated by how our minds try to make sense of a world that is ambiguous and noisy, seeing this as a creative process that can sometimes lead to perceptions and beliefs that don't really reflect objective reality but that may nonetheless serve useful purposes. He believes that, in order to understand mental illnesses, we need to develop a much more sophisticated understanding of the just how strange and bizarre the healthy functioning mind can be. He is also convinced that we cannot understand mental processes without taking into account bodily processes. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences as well as Director of Studies for Preclinical Medicine at Clare College, Cambridge.

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