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**How abstract are familiar face representations? Evidence for an influence of emotional expressions on face identity recognition.**

Traditional claims of strictly abstract and expression independent face representations have been challenged recently (Kaufmann & Schweinberger, 2004). In this talk I will present data from a face learning task, in which participants learnt previously unfamiliar faces with controlled frequency of 'typical' facial expressions and different viewing angles. At subsequent recognition test and matching tasks facial images were presented that were either familiar or novel posers, with all individuals presented at varying emotional expression and profile viewing angle. Participants also performed a face-matching task to further investigate the extent to which effects were emotion-specific or a result of picture similarity. A clear effect of expression congruency was found for familiar faces, suggesting that typical expressions do influence identity processing. Visual angle was found to only have an effect for neutral faces presented at extreme profile angles.