

Research on spatial memory in bats wins Eppendorf & Science prize, 3/14

March 2014—Israeli scientist Michael Yartsev, PhD, CV Starr postdoctoral research fellow of the Princeton Neuroscience Institute at Princeton University, won the 2013 Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology. Dr. Yartsev uses an unusual animal model—the bat—to study the underlying neural mechanisms of spatial memory and navigation in the mammalian brain. The development of techniques to record the activity of single cells within bats' brains allowed him to conduct a comparative examination of current hypotheses and to provide novel insights into the neural codes underlying the representation of three-dimensional space in the brain. His work underscores the potential benefits of using new animal models in neuroscience.

The \$25,000 international Eppendorf & Science Prize for Neurobiology is awarded jointly by Eppendorf and the journal Science to scientists 35 years old or younger who have made outstanding contributions to neurobiological research.

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