



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



## Palaeoanthropology Meets Primatology 2: The Origins of Percussive Technology

A one-day symposium at the  
Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies  
Fitzwilliam Street, University of Cambridge

Why were humans and our direct ancestors the only animals ever to systematically make sharp-edged tools? What role did percussion technologies such as nut-cracking play in this crucial development? And what answers can the study of modern primates contribute to these questions?

In seeking to reconstruct the genesis of Plio-Pleistocene hominin technology, one productive avenue explores models drawn from observed primate behaviours.

Despite significant potential benefits, however, cross-communication between palaeoanthropologists and primatologists has been limited to date. This symposium brings together leading international researchers in primate and early hominin tool use to take a step forward in our understanding of the origins of technology, focusing on percussion activities.

### Speakers and Discussant:

**Helene Roche** ▪ **Ignacio De La Torre** ▪ **Robert Foley**  
**Bruce Hardy** ▪ **Susana Carvalho** ▪ **Tetsuro Matsuzawa**  
**William McGrew** ▪ **Julio Mercader** ▪ **Mike Petraglia**  
**Elisabetta Visalberghi** ▪ **Pierre-Jean Texier** ▪ **Jack Harris**

**SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

**08:30 – 15:15**



Galton Institute

ENTRY IS FREE, but spaces are limited so please register  
with Victoria Ling (VL237@cam.ac.uk) by 1<sup>ST</sup> October

For further details please see <http://www.human-evol.cam.ac.uk/>



King's College