

Michelle Outram

Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging by Scott A. Huettel, Allen W. Song, Gregory McCarthy
Embodied Cognition by Lawrence Shapiro

As a researcher in a specialised but interdisciplinary area it is important to find clear ways of framing research and communicating with the different communities the research straddles. At present I am seeking language and theories from the cognitive sciences to describe and further explore somatic dance practices. Understanding the theories of embodied cognition that Lawrence Shapiro describes in his book has been a major step in comprehending if and how these theories fit with knowledges from dance. The book draws together, explains and critiques the major, and sometimes divergent, theories coming from this envelope-pushing and often contested sub-field of the cognitive sciences. The new level of understanding I have developed has given me the background I needed to read more detailed and in-depth research in these areas. It has also helped me understand more about how to defend the premises of and construct the practical experiments that will form the basis of my MSc dissertation project, working with Rosalind Crisp.

I am working through the *Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging* textbook for the second time now as I prepare for a major exam in this subject. As I am entering the sciences at postgraduate level with an arts-based undergraduate degree, I need to work very hard to develop my knowledge and keep up. It has been such a relief to have my own current edition copy of this book. I can just reach out and grab it whenever I need!

Receiving these books from the Gill Clarke Resources Fund had made such a difference as I have had access to two of the different areas of knowledge I need to progress in my studies – the principles/practical aspects of neuroimaging and the philosophical underpinnings of the intersection between dance and neuroscience.

Thank you to those who have put the energy into making this fund happen!