

Augusta Déjerine-Klumpke (1859-1927)

**Commemoration of the 160th anniversary of her birth
Paris, October 15, 2019
Charcot Auditorium and Library
Brain and Spinal Cord Institute - Pitié Salpêtrière Hospital**

To celebrate the 160th anniversary of the birth of Augusta Déjerine-Klumpke, an extraordinary neurologist and neuroanatomist, a forgotten pioneer woman of neuroscience.



Augusta Marie Klumpke was born on October 15, 1859 in San Francisco, United States, by John Gerard Klumpke and Dorothea Mathilda Tolle. Augusta was the second of six children: Anna Elizabeth (painter), Dorothea (astronomer), Mathilda (pianist), John William (engineer) and Julia (violin teacher).

In 1871, after divorcing John Gerard, Dorothea Tolle embarked to Europe with her children. Augusta was admitted to the Paris Faculty of Medicine in 1877.

She is and will be remembered for the Klumpke palsy, an injury to the lower roots of the brachial plexus, and for her great contribution to the two-volume book "*Anatomie des centres nerveux*" (Anatomy of the Central Nervous System, 1885), written together with her husband, the neurologist Joseph Jules Déjerine. She was the first female intern of a Parisian hospital (1886) and the first woman to become president of the *Société de Neurologie de Paris* (1914). She was a pioneer in rehabilitation therapy of soldiers with spinal cord injuries and the unofficial winner of the famous "aphasia quarrel" in 1908.

After Jules Déjerine's death, Pierre Marie, the new chair of clinical neurology at the Salpêtrière Hospital, dismissed Augusta and told her to clear the laboratory from all their belongings: articles, anatomical specimens, books, patients' records, etc. Déjerine-Klumpke, together with her daughter Yvonne, created the "*Fondation Déjerine*", a unique collection which is currently located in the basement of Jussieu University under the management of the library.

Augusta Déjerine-Klumpke died on November 5, 1927 and was buried next to her husband in Paris at the Père Lachaise Churchyard.

The day aims at:

- tracing the main phases of Augusta's life through the original archives
- rebuilding the history of the Dejerine Collection
- emphasizing the modernity of Augusta's work and her attention to the training of young neuroscientists
- showing the clinical records and anatomical specimens of two patients from the Dejerine Collection.

Program of the day

The day of the celebration will be divided into two parts: in the morning there will be two symposia dedicated to the presentation of the life and work of Augusta in her historical and scientific context; in the afternoon there will be an exhibition of two original clinical cases from the Dejerine collection, together with some objects belonging to the Dejerine Klumpke family. During the day a documentary will be shot by **Williams Antonio Lamattina**.

Organizing committee: Tiziana Metitieri, Sonia Mele, Alexis Brice.

Morning (9.00am -13.30am):

Conference Augusta Déjerine-Klumpke: pioneer woman, neurologist and scientist

9:00 Welcome: Alexis Brice, General Director of the ICM

9.30-11.15 Symposium: The story of a pioneer woman in neuroscience - moderated by Claudine Hermann

- Michel Fardeau - Jules and Augusta Dejerine: crossed biographies
- Jacques Poirier - Augusta Dejerine Klumpke (1859-1927)
- Jacqueline Mikol - The establishment of the Dejerine Foundation

11.15 Presentation of the awarded project 'Untold stories: the Women Pioneers of Neuroscience in Europe' Tiziana Metitieri, Sonia Mele and Annalisa Plaitano

11.30 Coffee break

11.45-13.30 Symposium The scientific legacy of Augusta Déjerine-Klumpke - moderated by Yves Agid

- Jean-Gaël Barbara - Emphasizing the history of neuroscience for the benefit of young clinicians and researchers
- Laura Bossi Régnier - The golden years of French neuroanatomy
- Stéphane Lehericy - Neuroanatomy nowadays

Afternoon (14.30pm-19.00pm): The Dejerine exhibition

14.30 Éloïse Quétel – Introducing the selected original materials from the Dejerine Collection

15.00 Opening

Yves Agid, Brain and Spine Institute (ICM) - Pitié Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris

Jean-Gaël Barbara, CNRS, Sorbonne University, Paris

Laura Bossi Régnier, Paris Diderot University, Paris

Michel Fardeau, Inserm, Paris

Claudine Hermann, European Platform of Women Scientists, Paris

Stéphane Lehericy, Brain and Spine Institute (ICM) - Pitié Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris

Sonia Mele, University of Verona, Verona (Italy)

Tiziana Metitieri, Anna Meyer Pediatric Hospital, Firenze (Italy)

Jacqueline Mikol, Paris Diderot University, Paris

Annalisa Plaitano, Sorbonne University, Paris

Jacques Poirier, National Academy of Medicine, Paris

Éloïse Quézel, Medical collections (Dupuytren Collection), Sorbonne University, Paris

Documentary filmed by **Williams Antonio Lamattina** and **Vincenzo Mele**