

MATTEO SEBASTIANELLI

Italian/Colombian

matteosebastianelli.com

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APPOINTMENTS

2024 - PRESENT

Postdoctoral Researcher, Uppsala University, Sweden

PI: Dr. Leif Andersson

2023

Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Cyprus, Cyprus

PI: Dr. Alexander Kirschel

EDUCATION

2019 - 2023

Ph.D in Biodiversity and Ecology, University of Cyprus, Cyprus

Advisor: Dr. Alexander Kirschel

2017 - 2018

MRes in Tropical Forest Ecology, Imperial College London, England

Advisor: Dr. Joseph Tobias

2013 - 2016

BSc (Hons) in Natural Sciences, La Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

Advisor: Dr. Donatella Magri

GRANTS & AWARDS

RESEARCH GRANTS

2022

Cyprus Research & Innovation Foundation

Horizon 2020, Excellence Hubs "Restart 2016 – 2020": Continent-wide genomics of hybridization and speciation (€ 200.000). **Co-writer of the proposal.** PI: A. Kirschel.

2022

Cyprus Research & Innovation Foundation

Horizon 2020, Excellence Hubs "Restart 2016 – 2020": Leveraging ancestry to investigate the genomics of song and colour in birds (€ 200.000). **Co-writer of the proposal.** PI: A. Kirschel.

2021

AOS Small Research Grants

American Ornithological Society: Does hybridization affect stability in birds with innate vocalizations? (\$ 1.000). **Main beneficiary.**

2020 - 2023

Evagoras scholarship

University of Cyprus departmental scholarship (€ 8.000/year). **Main beneficiary.**

2019 - 2022

A. G. Leventis Scholarship

The A. G. Leventis Foundation: The role of phenotypic traits in mediating species recognition in *Pogoniulus* tinkerbirds in hybrid zones (€ 3.000/year). **Main beneficiary.**

2018

Franzen Fellowship Program

Amazon Conservation Association: Temporal changes in two populations of Amazonian antbirds (\$ 3.000). **Main beneficiary.**

OTHER AWARDS

2023

University of Cyprus

Best Ph.D. student (1.000 €)

2023

Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution

Graduate student excellence award 2023 (500 €)

2022

3rd African Bioacoustics Community Conference

Best oral presentation

2020

African Bioacoustics Community

Sponsorship to attend the 2nd African Bioacoustics Community Conference 2020.

2020

Organization for Tropical Studies

Scholarship to attend the “Bioacoustic Analysis in R” workshop lead by Marcelo Araya-Salas (\$ 400).

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Sebastianelli M.**, Lukhele S. M., Secomandi S., de Souza S. G., Haase B., Moysi M., Nikiforou., Hutfluss A., Mountcastle J., Balacco J., Pelan S., Chow W., Fedrigo O., Downs C. T., Monadjem A., Dingemanse N. J., Jarvis E. D., Brelsford A., vonHoldt B. M., Kirschel A. N. G. A genomic basis of vocal rhythm in birds. ***Nature Communications.***
2. **Sebastianelli M.**, Lukhele S. M., Nwankwo E. C., Hadjioannou L. & Kirschel A. N. G. 2022. Continent-wide patterns of song variation predicted by classical rules of biogeography. ***Ecology Letters.***

3. Kirschel A. N. G. & **Sebastianelli M.** 2022. A reassessment of the East African ranges of two subspecies of Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* based on a comparison of plumage, biometrics and song. **Scopus.**
4. Kirschel A. N. G, Moysi M., Lukhele S. M., **Sebastianelli M.**, Asfaw T., Hadjioannou L., Mortega K. G., Monadjem A. & Moyle R. G. 2021. Taxonomic revision of the Red-fronted Tinkerbird (Dumont, 1816) based on molecular and phenotypic analyses. **Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club.**
5. Papanikolas N., Hadjikyriakou T., **Sebastianelli M.** & Kirschel A. N. G. 2021. Habitat selection and interspecific competition between *Sylvia* warblers in Cyprus following the rapid expansion of a recent colonizer. **Avian Conservation and Ecology.**
6. **Sebastianelli M.**, Blumstein D. & Kirschel A. N. G. 2021. Higher pitched bird song towards the coast supports a role for selection in ocean noise avoidance. **Bioacoustics.**
7. **Sebastianelli M.**, Savva G., Moysi M. & Kirschel A. N. G. 2020. Tape lures swell bycatch on a Mediterranean island harbouring illegal bird trapping. **Biology Letters.**
8. Qie L., Elsy A. D., Stumvoll A., Kwasnicka M., Peel A. L., Sullivan J. A., Ettinger M. S., Robertson A. J., Brisbane J. K., Sawyer A. L., Lui Y. N., Ow S. N., **Sebastianelli M.**, Majcher B., Duan M., Vigus H., Pounsinsin G., Nilus R. & Ewers R. 2019. Impending Regeneration Failure of the IUCN Vulnerable Borneo Ironwood (*Eusideroxylon zwageri*). **Tropical Conservation Science.**

ORAL COMMUNICATION

2024

Genomics Seminar Series, Uppsala University, Sweden

Oral presentation.

2023

Society for Molecular Biology & Evolution (SMBE), Ferrara, Italy

Oral presentation.

2022

3rd African Bioacoustics Community Conference, Kruger NP, South Africa

Oral presentation.

2022

International Society of Behavioural Ecology (ISBE) meeting, Stockholm, Sweden

Oral presentation.

2020

2nd African Bioacoustics Community Conference (online)

Oral presentation.

SUPERVISED WORK

2021

Nikolas Papanikolas, Ph.D candidate

Ph.D thesis title: Ecology and Behavioural biology of *Curruca* species breeding in Cyprus.

Main advisor: A. Kirschel.

2021

Stavroula Elia, Master student

Master's thesis title: Spatiotemporal vocal interactions in a ground-dwelling neotropical passerine.

Main advisor: A. Kirschel.

REVIEWED ARTICLES

Reviewed for: EMU Austral Ornithology (2024); Biological Invasions (2024); iScience(2023); Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology (2023); Bioacoustics (2023); Journal of field Ornithology (2023); Methods in Ecology and Evolution (Co-reviewed, 2022); Evolution (Co-reviewed, 2022); Journal of Ornithology (2021); Biology Open (2021).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & SPECIALIZED TRAINING

2022

Internship at Princeton University

In summer 2022, I have spent a three-week period in Bridgett vonHoldt's group at Princeton University, during which I have received training on the state-of-the art population genomics analysis. During the same period, I have also visited the Vertebrate Genome Lab (VGL) at Rockefeller University in New York, where I have contributed to the design of future research projects arising from the recent collaboration between the Kirschel's lab and the VGL.

2019 - 2020

Research Assistant

Research assistant at University of Cyprus for the programme "Genomic evidence of phenotypic divergence mediating reproductive isolation at contact zones" in *Pogoniulus* tinkerbirds. Main tasks involved acoustic, spatial as well as statistical analysis.

2018

MRes Research

Fieldwork conducted at Los Amigos Biological Station, Madre de Dios, Perú, as part of the Master of Research in Tropical Forest Ecology.

2018

Fieldwork

Fieldwork conducted at the Stability of Altered Forest Ecosystem (SAFE) project and at the Maliau Basin study centre, Sabah, Malaysia. Fieldwork was designed to embed students within the research environment of the SAFE and Maliau Basin Conservation Area, providing experience in generating hypotheses, experimental design, data collection and management.

2016 - 2019

Collaborator

Collaborator with *Ornis Italica*, in charge of monitoring and behavioural studies in a European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*) population breeding in nest boxes.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Programming Languages

- R - Fluent
- Shell script (Bash) - Fluent
- Python - Basic knowledge

Statistical Analysis

- Mixed Effects Modelling - *lme4*, *glmmTMB*, *mgcv*, *gamm4*
- Multivariate Modelling - *MCMCglmm*
- Bayesian Modelling - *brms*

Spatial Analysis

- ArcGIS
- R packages (e.g. *sp*, *rgdal*, *Move*, *MoveVis*)

Acoustic Analysis

- Raven Pro sound analysis software
- R packages (e.g. *seewave*, *warbler*)

LANGUAGES

- English - Highly proficient in oral, reading and writing
- Italian - Mother tongue
- Spanish - Mother tongue