The Department of Medieval Studies of Central European University cordially invites you to the public lecture of the Faculty Research Seminar

**Natalie Sebanz**  
CEU, Department of Cognitive Science

**The Art of Coordination:**  
A Cognitive Science Perspective on Our Ability to Act Together

17:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 12, 2014

CEU–Faculty Tower #409  
Budapest, V. Nádor u. 9.  
Reception to follow!

Painting a Minoan Bronze age fresco like this one from Akrotiri, Greece, likely required several artists to coordinate their actions in space and time.

Human life is full of joint actions, ranging from a handshake to the performance of a symphony. This requires not only the willingness to cooperate, but also the skill to achieve fine-grained spatial and temporal coordination with others. What are the behavioral, cognitive, and brain processes underlying this ability? What distinguishes joint action from individual action? How do we learn to perform skilled actions together, and what can we learn from participating in and observing joint actions? In this lecture, I will give an overview of Cognitive Science research that has tried to address these questions.

**Natalie Sebanz** is an Associate Professor in Cognitive Science at Central European University. Her research interests revolve around social interaction, with a special focus on the behavioral, cognitive, and brain processes underlying joint action. Natalie studied psychology and psycholinguistics in Austria, and did her PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Psychological Research in Munich, Germany. She has held appointments at Rutgers University (US), the University of Birmingham (UK), and Radboud University (NL). Her research on people’s ability to coordinate their actions has been funded by the European Science Foundation’s Young Investigator Award (EURYI), and she recently received a Consolidator grant from the European Research Council to study learning in the context of joint action.