

18th International Conference on Social Robotics

ICSR + ART 2026

London, UK | 1–4 July 2026

<https://icsr2026.uk>



Conference Booklet

Contents

1 About	3
2 Organising Committee	4
3 Venue	7
4 Programme Overview	9
5 Keynotes	11
6 Main Track	12
7 Special Sessions	19
8 Short Papers	26
9 Workshops	29
10 Debates	31
11 Grand Challenge	32
12 Industry Day	34
13 Rising Stars in Social Robotics	36
14 Evening Shows	37
15 Social and Networking events	41
16 Sponsors	42

1 About

The International Conference on Social Robotics (ICSR) is the premier global forum for researchers, academics, and industry professionals advancing the science, design, and real-world applications of social robotics. Since its inception, ICSR has united experts from diverse disciplines to explore the ethical, societal, and technological dimensions of humanrobot interaction.

For its 18th edition, ICSR 2026 introduces a special theme: ICSR + Art: Exploring Creative Robotics. While continuing to embrace all core areas of social robotics, this years conference adds a distinctive focus on the intersection of robotics and the arts. This theme invites us to consider how robots can transcend their traditional roles to become creative collaborators, co-designers, performers, and participants. Through the lens of creative robotics, we seek to deepen our understanding of how social robots can inspire and engage with imagination, aesthetic experience, and technological innovation.

ICSR 2026 features a unique and diverse programme, including Keynotes by scholars from Cambridge, CMU and Google; an Industry Day with a panel debate on social robots in the home, and a workshop by UKRI. ICSR 2026 also includes Robot Fringe Festival, Debates, Grand Challenge, Special Sessions, Workshops, Rising Stars in Social Robotics event, Quantwin premiere performance by Silke Grabinger, Robot Theatre night including ARGOS and 1001 Nights with Robots shows, exhibition, paper presentations, opening and closing ceremonies, Robot Fashion Show, and various social and networking events.

Join us at the University of London from 1-4 July 2026 for an intellectually vibrant and inspiring event. Set against Londons rich landscape of culture, innovation, and technology, ICSR 2026 offers a unique opportunity to connect with leading researchers, visionary artists, and industry pioneers exploring how social robotics is redefining collaboration, expression, and human experience.

ICSR 2026 is where innovation meets creativity, charting new pathways for how humans and robots create, perform, and coexist.

2 Organising Committee

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Saina Akhond (University of the Arts London, UK)

Honorary Chair:

Vali Laloti (University of the Arts London, UK)

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Fujian Yan (Truman State University, USA)

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Giacinto Barresi (University of the West of England, UK)
Kristiina Jokinen (University of Helsinki, Finland)

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Mohammad Obaid (Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden)

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Shusuke Aoki (Yukai Engineering, Japan)
Andra Keay (Silicon Valley Robotics, USA)
Angela Faragasso (FingerVision, Japan)

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Alessandro Di Nuovo (Sheffield Hallam University, UK)

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Paulina Zguda (Jagiellonian University, Poland)
Sonabayim Huseynzade (Technical University Dortmund, Germany)

Short Papers Chairs:

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Antonio Andriella (Artificial Intelligence Research Institute, Spain)

Arts and Robotics Chairs:

Heather Knight (Oregon State University, USA)
Piotr Mirowski (DeepMind, UK)

Art Gallery Chairs:

Asako Tomura (ARTn, Japan)
Sarah Selby (University of the Arts London, UK)

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Belinda Dunstan (University of New South Wales, Australia)

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Elizabeth Churchill (Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence, UAE)

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Oussama Khatib (Stanford University, USA)
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Jong Hwan Kim (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea)
Paolo Dario (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy)
Abderrahmane Kheddar (LIRMM Montpellier, France and CNRS-AIST, Japan)
Tianmiao Wang (Beihang University, China)

3 Venue

University of London, Senate House

Malet St, London, WC1E 7HU, UK

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/HaZnZL4tJ7LmXVXM7>

Virtual Tour: <https://my.scene3d.co.uk/tour/senate-house>

ICSR 2026 takes place at [Senate House](#), part of the University of London, in the heart of central London. The venue is within walking distance of many of the city's main attractions and stations. Russell Square, Goodge Street, Tottenham Court Road, Holborn, Euston Square, and Warren Street Underground stations are all nearby — providing excellent connections to Euston and King's Cross St Pancras for national and international travel.

Getting There

All venues are at Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU. Pay by contactless card or Oyster on all TfL services — no cash needed.

By Underground

<https://tfl.gov.uk>

Station	Lines	Walk
Goodge Street	Northern	5 min
Russell Square	Piccadilly	6 min
Euston Square	Circle, Metropolitan, Hammersmith & City	9 min
Tottenham Court Rd	Central, Elizabeth	9 min
Warren Street	Victoria, Northern	12 min
Euston	Victoria, Northern	13 min
King's Cross St P.	Piccadilly, Victoria, Northern, Circle, Met, H&C	15 min

By Bus

Buses **7, 68, 91, 168, 188** stop at Russell Square (2 min walk). Buses **10, 24, 29, 73, 134** stop on Tottenham Court Road / Gower Street (9 min walk). Single fare €1.75 (contactless, daily cap €5.25).

By National Rail & Eurostar

- **Euston Station** (13 min walk) — trains from Manchester (~2h10), Birmingham (~1h20), Liverpool (~2h15)
- **King's Cross** (15 min walk) — trains from Edinburgh (~4h20), Leeds (~2h10), Cambridge (~50 min)
- **St Pancras International** (15 min walk) — [Eurostar](#) to Paris (~2h15), Brussels (~1h50), Amsterdam (~3h40)

From London Airports

- **Heathrow (LHR)** — Piccadilly line *direct* to Russell Square, no changes, ~53 min. Fare: €4.00 off-peak / €5.90 peak.

- **Gatwick (LGW)** — Thameslink to St Pancras (~30 min), then 15 min walk or Tube. Total ~50 min.
- **London City (LCY)** — Elizabeth line to Tottenham Court Road (~30 min), then 9 min walk. Total ~40 min.
- **Stansted (STN)** — Stansted Express to Liverpool Street (~47 min), then Central line to Tottenham Court Road. Total ~1h10.
- **Luton (LTN)** — Thameslink to St Pancras (~25 min), then 15 min walk or Tube. Total ~50 min.

By Car

No public parking at Senate House. Nearest NCP car parks: **Woburn Place** (WC1N 1JJ) and **Bloomsbury Square** (WC1A 2RJ). Note that central London is subject to the [Congestion Charge](#) (Mon–Fri, 07:00–18:00).

Fun Facts about Senate House

- **Film & TV Star:** Senate House has appeared in *Batman Begins*, *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Fast & Furious 6*, *No Time to Die* (James Bond), *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, *Black Mirror* (Netflix), and *The Crown*.
- **Literary Inspiration:** The building inspired George Orwell's depiction of the *Ministry of Truth* in *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.
- **Historic Landmark:** Completed in 1937, Senate House was one of London's first skyscrapers, designed by architect Charles Holden — who also created many of London's iconic Underground stations.
- **Art Deco Icon:** Built in the Art Deco style, it was once the tallest building in London after St Paul's Cathedral.
- **Academic Hub:** It serves as the administrative centre of the University of London and houses the Senate House Library — one of the UK's largest humanities research libraries.
- **Vibrant Surroundings:** Nestled in Bloomsbury, Senate House is moments from the [British Museum](#), the [British Library](#), and the garden squares of Russell and Bedford. Every street here tells a story of scholarship and creativity.

Further information: <https://icsr2026.uk/venue/>

4 Programme Overview

1 July (Wednesday)

08:00–17:00	Registration	Crush Hall
08:00–09:00	Breakfast	McMillan Hall
09:00–12:00	Main Track Papers	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
09:00–12:00	Special Sessions	Conference Hall 2 [Chancellor's Hall]
09:00–10:00	Short Papers — Teaser Talks	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
10:30–12:00	Rising Stars in Social Robotics	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
09:00–12:00	Workshops WS01 & WS03	Workshop Rooms
12:00–13:00	Lunch	McMillan Hall
13:00–14:00	<i>Keynote: Nicolas Heess</i>	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
14:00–17:00	Main Track Papers	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
14:00–17:30	Special Sessions	Conference Hall 2 [Chancellor's Hall]
14:00–17:45	Grand Challenge Finalists	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
14:00–17:00	Workshops WS02 & WS12	Workshop Rooms
All day	Sponsors / Exhibitions / Short Papers media	Exhibition Hall
18:00–18:30	QUANTWIN Premiere — Silke Grabinger	Crush Hall
18:30–19:00	Robot Fashion Show — Kinetic Couture & Quadruped Fashion Show	Crush Hall
19:30–late	Drinks & Sharing Platters	Black Horse British Pub (10 min walk from Senate House)

2 July (Thursday)

08:00–17:00	Registration	Crush Hall
08:00–09:00	Breakfast	McMillan Hall
09:00–12:00	Main Track Papers	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
09:00–12:00	Special Sessions	Conference Hall 2 [Chancellor's Hall]
09:00–12:00	Debates	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
09:00–12:00	Workshops WS11 & WS13	Workshop Rooms
12:00–13:00	Lunch	McMillan Hall
13:00–14:00	<i>Keynote: Hatice Gunes</i>	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
14:00–17:00	Main Track Papers	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
14:00–17:30	Special Sessions	Conference Hall 2 [Chancellor's Hall]
14:00–17:00	Debates (cont.)	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
14:00–17:00	Workshops WS04 & WS06	Workshop Rooms
All day	Sponsors / Exhibitions / Short Papers media	Exhibition Hall
18:00–19:00	Drinks Reception	McMillan Hall
19:00–21:00	Robot Fringe Festival	Beveridge Hall

3 July (Friday)

08:00–17:00	Registration	Crush Hall
08:00–09:00	Breakfast	McMillan Hall
09:00–12:00	Main Track Papers	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
09:30–12:00	Industry Day	Conference Hall 2 [Chancellor's Hall]
09:00–12:00	Special Sessions	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
09:00–12:00	Workshops WS07, WS10 & WS14	Workshop Rooms
12:00–13:00	Lunch	McMillan Hall
13:00–14:00	<i>Keynote: Jean Oh</i>	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
14:00–17:00	Main Track Papers	Conference Hall 1 [Beveridge Hall]
14:00–17:00	Special Sessions	Conference Hall 2 [Chancellor's Hall]
14:30–16:00	Industry Day	Debate Hall [Senate Room]
14:00–17:00	Workshops WS05, WS08 & WS09	Workshop Rooms
All day	Sponsors / Exhibitions / Short Papers media	Exhibition Hall
17:30–18:30	Plenary Discussion	Beveridge Hall
18:30–19:00	Awards Ceremony	Beveridge Hall
19:00–20:00	Drinks & Light Bites	McMillan Hall
20:00–20:30	Robot Theatre: ARGOS Performance	Beveridge Hall
20:30–21:00	Robot Theatre: 1001 Nights with Robots	Beveridge Hall
21:00–22:30	Goodbye Party	McMillan Hall

4 July (Saturday) — Social & Networking Day

Optional activities across London for all registered attendees. Participants will be invited to a WhatsApp community for arrangements of social and networking events, especially on 4 July 2026. See <https://icsr2026.uk/social-networking/> for details.

5 Keynotes

For the most up-to-date information on keynotes, please visit <https://icsr2026.uk/keynote/>.

Schedule

The ICSR 2026 + ART conference features three invited keynotes, each scheduled from 13:00–14:00 in the main conference hall:

- **1 July 2026, 13:00–14:00:** Keynote by Nicolas Heess (Google DeepMind, UK)
- **2 July 2026, 13:00–14:00:** Keynote by Hatice Gunes (University of Cambridge, UK)
- **3 July 2026, 13:00–14:00:** Keynote by Jean Oh (Carnegie Mellon University, USA)

Nicolas Heess, Google DeepMind, UK

Nicolas Heess is a Research Scientist (Director) at Google DeepMind in London. His research focuses on bringing AI to the physical world to create the next generation of general-purpose robots, at the intersection of perception, reasoning, motor control, and robotics. He has broad interests across AI and machine learning and has contributed to reinforcement learning, unsupervised learning, probabilistic models and inference, multi-agent systems, and large multimodal models. Before joining Google DeepMind, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit at University College London. He completed his PhD and an MSc in neuroinformatics at the University of Edinburgh, an MSc in neuroscience at the University of Oxford, and a BSc in software engineering at the Hasso-Plattner-Institute, University of Potsdam. Nicolas is an ELLIS Fellow and an Honorary Professor at University College London.

Hatice Gunes, University of Cambridge, UK

Hatice Gunes is a Full Professor of Affective Intelligence and Robotics (AFAR), Director of the AFAR Lab, and an Associate Director of the Centre for Human Inspired Artificial Intelligence (CHIA) at the University of Cambridge. Her research advances multimodal, social, and affective intelligence for AI systems, particularly embodied agents and robots, by cross-fertilising work in machine learning, affective computing, social signal processing, and human nonverbal behaviour understanding, with a strong focus on wellbeing, ethics, fairness, and explainability. She has published over 190 papers in these areas (H-index = 48, citations > 11,200) and has been named among the “Worlds Top 2% Scientists” in her area by Stanford University in Elsevier since 2020. Her research has received numerous honours and awards, including the KROS Interdisciplinary Research Award in Social Human-Robot Interaction at IEEE RO-MAN 2025, Best Paper Award in Responsible Affective Computing at ACII 2023, and several best paper and finalist awards at IEEE RO-MAN, IEEE ICRA, and IEEE FG.

Jean Oh, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

Jean Oh is an Associate Research Professor and Director of the roBot Intelligence Group (BIG) at the Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). Her research aims to create robots that can co-exist and collaborate with humans in shared environments, continuously learning and improving through training, exploration, and interaction. Her work on Creative Physical AI seeks to remind us of “what makes us human,” promoting values such as safety, creativity, and compassion. Jean’s research on social navigation and interdisciplinary projects connecting arts and robotics (e.g., FRIDA) has received multiple best paper awards at leading robotics conferences, including IEEE ICRA and ACM/IEEE HRI, and has been widely featured in international media such as the *New York Times*, CNET, Arirang TV, ABC, CBS, and KBS. She received her PhD from CMU, MS from Columbia University, and BS from Yonsei University, and is the founder of Lavoro AI, where she brings creative, safe, and compassionate AI and robotics innovations to market.

6 Main Track

Day 1 – Wednesday, 1 July 2026

Session 1 – Robotic Assistance & Support (09:00–09:45)

Chairs: Vignesh Velmurugan, Praminda Caleb-Solly

9:00	53	A Decade of Human–Robot Interaction Through Immersive Lenses: Reviewing Extended Reality as a Research Instrument in Social Robotics, <i>Helgert, A., Straßmann, C., Eimler, S.</i>
9:11	237	Investigating How Query Complexity and User Age Influence Perceived Delay Naturalness in Mock LLM-Mediated Robot Interaction, <i>Ruballos, J., Meyer, Z., Miller, M., Fitter, N., Smart, W.</i>
9:22	206	Adaptive Explanation Strategy Selection Under Uncertain Human Responses in Social Robotics, <i>Halilovic, A., Hasic, V., Krivic, S.</i>
9:33	295	BeepBoop at the TechHub: a Case Study of a Low-Cost LLM-Driven Social Robot for University Helpdesk Support, <i>Uddin, Z., Bilmen, R., Chin Ken Fung, A., Tang Rui Yuan, L., Johnson, D., Vernall, E., Tan Viet Tuyen, N.</i>

Session 2 – Expressive Motion & Art (10:00–10:45)

Chairs: Piotr Mirowski, Mariacarla Staffa

10:00	29	Beyond Functional Robotics: A Generative Transfer Learning approach for Creating Expressive Robot Motion from Sparse Demonstrations, <i>Woodward, K., Kucukyilmaz, A., Castle-Green, S., Price, D., Benford, S.</i>
10:11	209	Breathing in the Periphery: How a Minimal Robot Shapes Human Cognition, <i>Zvinitski, E., Rozenfeld, S., Grishko, A., Erel, H.</i>
10:22	59	Perceived Human Authorship Increases the Valuation of AI-Generated Art, <i>Kühne, K., Michler, O., Scheepers, C., Thompson, D., Fischer, M.</i>
10:33	15	Co-Creating Buildable and Open Social Robot Study Companions with University Students, <i>Baksh, F., Zorec, M., Baksh, F., Kruusamäe, K.</i>

Coffee Break (10:45–11:15)

Session 3 – Social Design Knowledge (11:15–12:00)

Chairs: John-John Cabibihan, Luisa Damiano

11:15	163	Collaborative vs Cooperative Dyadic Interaction in a Digital Balancing Task: Implications for Social Robot Co-Action Design, <i>Basak, N., Nur Ylmaz, G., Arikan, K., Cabibihan, J.</i>
11:26	313	Deceptive Design Patterns in Social Robots Impact User Decisions, <i>Axelsson, M., Wang, Y., Seaborn, K.</i>
11:37	102	Design Implications for Socially Assistive Robots in Reminiscence Therapy: Insights from Clinical Experts, <i>Cespedes, N., Hsu, A., Jones, J., Farkhatdinov, I.</i>

11:48	307	Design Knowledge in Social Robotics: A Framework of Five Epistemic Positions, <i>Song, S., Geedh, P., Sareh, S.</i>
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Lunch Break (12:00–13:00)

Keynote – Nicolas Heess (13:00–14:00)

Session 4 – Embodied Virtual Reality (14:00–14:45)

Chairs: Nguyen Tan Viet Tuyen, Ilona Buchem

14:00	157	Designing Social Robot Activity Support in Virtual Reality with Older Adults: Method, Requirements and Example, <i>Li, Y., Dudzik, B., Neerincx, M.</i>
14:11	338	Designing a Robot You Can Talk To: Older Adults Preferences for Conversational Tabletop Social Robot, <i>Kidwai, H., Munoz, J.</i>
14:22	265	Dynamic Neural Field-Based Anticipatory Action Selection for Human Robot Collaboration: A Virtual Reality Experiment, <i>Gaspar Cunha, J., Bicho, E., Erllhagen, W., Cuijpers, R.</i>
14:33	284	Embodied Magnetism: A Wearable Sensory Design for Human-Robot Performance Interaction, <i>Liu, H., Chang, C., Samani, H., Akhond, S.</i>

Session 5 – Clinical & Therapeutic Pilots (15:00–15:45)

Chairs: Mariacarla Staffa, Bahar Irfan

15:00	304	Encoding Predictability and Legibility for Style-Conditioned Diffusion Policy, <i>Jacquet Crétides, A., Abrini, M., Rahimi, H., Chetouani, M.</i>
15:11	95	Engagement Differences in AI-Driven Robot-Assisted Reminiscence Therapy Using Personal and Generic Photos, <i>Wang, Y., Múnera, M., Belpaeme, T., Cifuentes, C.</i>
15:22	177	Evaluating Operational Feasibility and Acceptability of Therapist-Guided Thematic Conversations with a Social Robot in Long-Term Care: A Six-Week Pilot Study, <i>Núñez, P., Condón, A., Rodríguez, T., Blanco, A.</i>
15:33	65	Experimenting with the Concept of Robot-to-Robot Co-Presence Using Tabletop Robots, <i>Maheux, M., Létourneau, D., Warren, P., Chen, H., Michaud, F.</i>

Coffee Break (15:45–16:15)

Session 6 – Performance & Emotional Expression (16:15–17:00)

Chairs: Elizabeth Jochum, Silvia Rossi

16:15	174	Factors Influencing Social Robot Adoption Informed by Real-world Consumer Reviews, <i>Ghafurian, M., Chakma, A., Shrestha, A.</i>
16:26	140	From Interaction to Inference: Emotional Surveillance and Legal Implications in Social Robotics, <i>Akar, E.</i>

16:37	244	From Lab to Limelight: A Case Study on Deploying a Robot in Professional Performance, <i>Rossi, S., Rossi, A.</i>
16:48	114	The Emotion Palette: A Robotic System That Paints Human Feelings, <i>García Cárdenas, J., Gioumatzidou, S., Tapus, A.</i>

Day 2 – Thursday, 2 July 2026

Session 7 – Social Navigation & Context (09:00–09:55)

Chairs: Leon Bodenhagen, Marco Matarese

9:00	337	Interpreting Context-Aware Human Preferences for Multi-Objective Robot Navigation, <i>Sethuraman, T., Agrawal, S., Dengler, N., de Heuvel, J., Hassan, T., Bennewitz, M.</i>
9:11	233	Interruptibility Estimation of Users in Social Contexts using Bayesian Networks: A Conceptual Framework for Robotic Notification Delivery, <i>Ganal, E., Lugin, B.</i>
9:22	34	Investigating Domestic Cats’ Reactions to Robotic Vacuum Cleaners, <i>Kud, K., Mezglewski, K., Indurkha, B.</i>
9:33	326	A Hybrid Path Planning Framework for Assistive Wheelchair Navigation in Dynamic Pedestrian Environments, <i>Leblebicioglu, D., Barume, R., Padir, T.</i>
9:44	103	“There’s something human about it!” – Exploring users’ perception of nonverbal communication of robotic furniture, <i>Sikora, C., van Otterdijk, M., Soma, R., Torresen, J., Saplacan Lindblom, D.</i>

Session 8 – Socially Aware Intelligence (10:00–10:45)

Chairs: Hagen Lehmann, Emilia Barakova

10:00	81	Knowledge-Based Design Requirements for Generative Social Robots in Higher Education, <i>Vonschallen, S., Oberle, D., Schmiedel, T., Eyssel, F.</i>
10:10	357	Learning Safe Socially-Aware Robot Navigation with Curriculum-Guided Bayesian PPO, <i>Resende Faria, D.</i>
10:20	129	Let’s Relax! Effects of a Robotic Mindfulness Trainer with Background Sounds on Student Well-Being and Technology Experience, <i>Klier, C., Steinhäusser, S., Lugin, B.</i>
10:30	105	Leveraging Large Language Models for Socially Aware Robot Behavior, <i>Mbong-Nwi Nchang, A., Hedayati, H.</i>
10:40	105	Social Robots in Elderly Care: A Multi-Actor Field Study of 10-Minute Activation with Navel, <i>Issa, E., Buchem, I.</i>

Coffee Break (10:45/10:50–11:15)

Session 9 – Social Perception & Cues (11:15–12:00)

Chairs: Kristiina Jokinen, Nihan Karatas

11:15	270	Lover, Coworker, Friend? Understanding the Varying Social Perceptions of AI and Robots, <i>Armstrong, T., Sanchez, C., Fitter, N.</i>
11:26	106	Navigating the Uncanny Valley with Generative AI, <i>Malyon, J., Withey, D., Knowles, T.</i>
11:37	57	Non-Verbal Communication of Yielding Intentions in Social Robot Navigation: A Human-Inspired Approach, <i>Moujahid, M., Hernandez Garcia, D., Romeo, M., Dondrup, C.</i>
11:48	64	Online Human Workload Detection for Behavior Adaptation in Autonomous Robot Teammates, <i>Aygun, A., Fu, H., Krause, E., Scheutz, M.</i>

Lunch Break (12:00–13:00)

Keynote – Hatice Gunes (13:00–14:00)

Session 10 – Autonomy & Learning Systems (14:00–14:45)

Chairs: Shuzhi Sam Ge, Ayse Kucukyilmaz

14:00	128	Open-Ended Animacy in Abstract Robots: How Tracking and Autonomy Elicit an Intentional Stance, <i>Yasui, A.</i>
14:11	84	Pedestrians play chicken with an autonomous vehicle, <i>Fox, C., Soni, R.</i>
14:22	160	Casting Everything to Online API Services? A Survey of Integrating Localized Speech Recognition Models in Robotic Systems, <i>Li, S., Li, J., Schijve, F., Hu, J., Barakova, E.</i>
14:33	222	Personalised Social Robotic Tutoring Systems: A Systematic Literature Review, <i>Chakma, A., Ye, O., Ghafurian, M.</i>

Session 11 – Embodiment & Frameworks (15:00–15:45)

Chairs: José Carlos Castillo, Juan José Gamboa Montero

15:00	98	Producing stability in hospital robot logistics, <i>Tornbjerg Eriksen, K., Krummheuer, A., Rehm, M.</i>
15:11	16	Proxemics-Based Interaction: Adapting CASTOR's Behavior Through Proximity Sensing, <i>Sanchez Rodriguez, E., Gaitán-Padilla, M., Sandrini Milanezi, J., Pontes, M., Mello, R., Múnera, M., Cifuentes, C., R. Diaz, C.</i>
15:22	87	PyiCub: A Python-Based Framework for Reproducible HRI Experiments with the iCub Humanoid Robot, <i>De Tommaso, D., Piacenti, E., Migno, G., Gharb, M., Wykowska, A.</i>
15:33	204	Re-Embodiment, <i>Kojima, S.</i>

Coffee Break (15:45–16:15)

Session 12 – Emotional Care & Imaginaries (16:15–17:00)

Chairs: Kim Baraka, Adriana Tapus

16:15	150	Reading Between the Laughs: A Human-Referenced Audio Evaluation of MLLMs for Social Robotics, <i>Hatemo, S., Kühne, K., Bendel, O.</i>
16:26	179	Real-Time Multimodal Emotion Recognition for an Empathic Socially Assistive Robot: A Pilot Study, <i>Chen, H., Létourneau, D., Levasseur, M., Lussier-Therrien, M., Michaud, F.</i>
16:37	330	Reminiscence with Robots: Establishing a Basis for Personalized Dementia Care Using an Off-The-Shelf Companion Robot, <i>Haider, C., Hirschmanner, M., Weiss, A.</i>
16:48	283	Robot Imaginaries: Learning from Artists and Roboticians about the Promises and Risks of Living with Social Robots and AI, <i>Abramovic, B., Eyssel, F.</i>

Day 3 – Friday, 3 July 2026

Session 13 – Ethics & Social Environments (09:00–09:45)

Chairs: Luisa Damiano

9:00	18	Robot Reasoning Architecture for Transparent Collaborative Disassembly, <i>Pietras, E., Kiefer, B., Borzone, G., Krüger, N., Bodenhagen, L.</i>
9:11	38	Robot “Right”s and Robot “Wrong”s: User Perspectives on the Ethics of Domestic Wellbeing Robots, <i>Axelsson, M., DiPaola, D., Ostrowski, A., Breazeal, C., Gunes, H., Park, H.</i>
9:22	68	Singles and Dyads, <i>Busby Grant, J., Iyer, M., Herath, D.</i>
9:33	266	Social Robot Supporting Visitor Mood and Staff Situation Awareness in a Security Waiting Room, <i>Smit, J., Kemmeren, A., van der Stigchel, B., Meijer, W., Cornelissen, N., Neerincx, M.</i>

Session 14 – Interaction & Exploratory Behavior (10:00–10:45)

Chairs: Salvatore Anzalone, Gabriele Trovato

10:00	132	Supervisory Control via AR for Teleoperation under Communication Delays: An In-Space Assembly Use Case, <i>Stavropoulos, I., Kucukyilmaz, A., Martinez, C., Finnegan, D., Hernández, J.</i>
10:11	201	The Attentive Experience: Can Robots Support Curious and Exploratory Behavior?, <i>Manor, A., Mikulincer, M., Erel, H.</i>
10:22	153	Goal Setting or Emotional Disclosure? A Pilot Experiment on Role Framing in Robot Interaction with University Students, <i>Heck, F., Sobolewska, E., Meharg, D., Fabian, K.</i>

Coffee Break (10:45–11:15)

Session 15 – Sensing & Human Behavior (11:15–12:00)

Chairs: Lola Cañamero, Samuele Vinanzi

11:15	178	The importance of reaction time in emotional, continuous human-robot-interaction, <i>Hamacher, H., von Engelhardt, R., Sievers, T., Calero Valdez, A., Russwinkel, N.</i>
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11:26	202	Toward Attachment-Oriented Robot Skin Design: A Conceptual Framework and Exploratory Study, <i>Tsang, K., Wang, Y., Zhang, K., Luximon, Y.</i>
11:37	112	Towards Data-Driven Metrics for Social Robot Navigation Benchmarking, <i>Bachiller-Burgos, P., Bernardet, U., Calderita, L., Chhetri, P., Francis, A., Hirose, N., Pérez-Higueras, N., Shah, D., Singamaneni, P., Xiao, X., Manso, L.</i>
11:48	360	Understanding Driver Profiles Through Personality, Driving Style, and Behavior: Towards Adaptive Human-Vehicle Interaction, <i>Shangguan, Z., Cangelosi, A., Tapus, A.</i>

Lunch Break (12:00–13:00)

Keynote – Jean Oh (13:00–14:00)

Session 16 – Speculative & Public Design (14:00–14:45)

Chairs: Vali Lalioti, Laura Fiorini

14:00	36	User Perceptions of Social Service Robot Guidance in an Academic Library, <i>Leoste, J., Marmor, K., Tolmos Rodríguez-Piñero, P., Raie, A., Leoste, L., Beatty, K.</i>
14:11	66	Using Science Fiction to Stimulate Discussions with Older Adults About Socially Assistive Robots, <i>Lacroix, I., Levasseur, M., Lussier-Therrien, M., Chen, H., Michaud, F.</i>
14:22	170	Using Social Service Robots as Infrastructure for High-Throughput Guest Guidance during a University Ceremony, <i>Leoste, J., Marmor, K., Tolmos Rodríguez-Piñero, P., Tomusk, V., Leoste, L.</i>
14:33	69	What Does a Meow Mean? In Search of Intuitively Understandable Communication by a Nonverbal Companion Robot, <i>Chi, V., Rébola, C., Malle, B.</i>

Session 17 – Cognitive Design & Materials (15:00–15:45)

Chairs: Alessandra Sorrentino

15:00	85	What Embodiment Can and Cannot Explain: Testing the Emcorp Framework on Perceptions of Robots and Virtual Agents, <i>Schenk, A., Abrams, A., Rosenthal-von der Pütten, A.</i>
15:11	86	What Playful Materials Teach us About Designing Robots for Dementia, <i>Brunnmayr, K., Weiss, A.</i>
15:22	213	What’s Left Unsaid, <i>Law, T., Briggs, G., Kirmani, S., Klimanova, K., Mora Rubio, J.</i>
15:33	263	When Do Robots Lose Our Attention?, <i>Sorrentino, A., Pani, J., La Viola, C., Fiorini, L., Cavallo, F.</i>

Coffee Break (15:45–16:15)

Session 18 – Identity, Narratives & Power (16:15–17:00)

Chairs: Oliver Bendel, Neziha Akalin

16:15	82	Who Are We Designing For? Insights from an Expert Workshop on Diversity in Human–Robot Interaction, <i>Erle, L., Helgert, A., StraSSmann, C., Eimler, S.</i>
16:26	115	When Robots Act Fluent but Wrong, <i>Geliev, A., Rieder, J., Aschenbrenner, D., Gries, T.</i>
16:37	37	Who Gets to Be Autonomous? Gendered Robots and Narratives of Control in the Television Series Westworld, <i>Arrebola, D., Ferrer, I., Longhi, L.</i>
16:48	135	“Heed My Words” – Gender, Embodiment, and Recommendation Timing in Robot-Supported Decision-Making Processes, <i>Eimler, S., Erle, L., StraSSmann, C.</i>

7 Special Sessions

Special Session Overview

ID	Special Session Title	Duration	Included Tracks
1	Skilful Practices in Social Robotics and HRI Approaches from the Performing Arts	3.5h	SS16
2	Smart Textiles and Robotics for Fashion	1.5h	SS12
3	Participatory Futures in Social Robotics and AI	2h	SS02, SS05, SS13
4	Cultural Robotics	2h	SS01: Cultural Robotics
5	Interaction, Reliability, and Trust in Human-Robot and Multi-Robot Systems	2h	SS10, SS11, SS14
6	Speculative and Creative Approaches in Human-Robot Interaction	2h	SS08
7	Social Robotics in Education and Beyond: Relational Futures and Socio-Technical Practices	2h	SS07, SS15
8	Continual Learning and Generative AI in Social Robotics	1h	SS03
9	Social Assistive Robotics in Art and Health	2h	SS04, SS06

Detailed Schedule of Special Sessions

Time	July 1	July 2	July 3
09:00–09:30	Skilful Practices in Social Robotics and HRI Approaches from the Performing Arts	Cultural Robotics	Social Robotics in Education and Beyond: Relational Futures and Socio-Technical Practices
09:30–10:00			
10:00–10:20		Coffee Break	Coffee Break
10:20–10:40	Coffee Break	Cultural Robotics	Social Robotics in Education and Beyond: Relational Futures and Socio-Technical Practices
10:40–11:00	Skilful Practices in Social Robotics and HRI Approaches from the Performing Arts		
11:10–11:30		Interaction, Reliability, and Trust in Human-Robot and Multi-Robot Systems	Continual Learning and Generative AI in Social Robotics
11:30–12:00			
12:00–13:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:00–14:00	Keynote	Keynote	Keynote
14:00–14:30	Smart Textiles and Robotics for Fashion	Interaction, Reliability, and Trust in Human-Robot and Multi-Robot Systems	Social Assistive Robotics in Art and Health
14:30–15:00			

15:00–15:20			
15:20–15:40	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
15:40–16:00	Participatory Futures in Social Robotics and AI	Speculative and Creative Approaches in Human-Robot Interaction	Social Assistive Robotics in Art and Health
16:00–16:30			
16:30–17:00			
17:00–17:30			

Day 1 – Wednesday, 1 July 2026

Special Session 1 – Skilful Practices in Social Robotics and HRI Approaches from the Performing Arts (09:00–12:00)

Chairs: Ester Fuoco, Maaïke Bleeker, Marco Rozendaal

09:00	21	Documenting Robot Redesign Through Design Patterns: Power Management and LED Control in a Performance Robot, <i>Vallverdu, D., Halsey-Perry, B.</i>
09:11	42	Re-Wired NAO: Performing Relational Agency in Human-Robot Assemblages, <i>Alcubilla Troughton, I.</i>
09:22	182	Aesthetics of Robot-Mediated Applied Drama: A Case Study on REMind, <i>Sanoubari, E., Pan, A., Rebello, K., Fernandes, N., Houston, A., Dautenhahn, K.</i>
09:33	188	Bayesian Creativity: How the Brain Invents Without Trying, <i>Lösel, G.</i>
09:44	208	Designing control systems for expressive staged telerobotics, <i>Dertien, E.</i>
09:55	210	Robopuppeteering.: Ensouling Robots Through Situated Control and Material Negotiation, <i>Kousi, N., Jang, S., Dertien, E., Bleeker, M.</i>
10:06	212	Swarming on a Shoestring: Transdisciplinary Collaboration in Performing Arts Robotics, <i>Walton, R., Đurić, G., Michalewicz, A., Williams, D., Vella, E., Belton, A., Green, J., Chapman, A.</i>
10:40	221	Introducing Moving With Robots: A New Approach to Human-Robot Collaboration, <i>McCormick, J., Vella, E., Hutchinson, S., Roberts, J., Isaksson, M., Zhong, J., Pyaraka, J., Hosie, O.</i>
10:51	243	How Do Everyday People Approach Choreographing a Robot?, <i>Ladenheim, K., Pearl, D., Nwagwu, N., Fitter, N.</i>
11:02	320	Lets make a Show: Co-Creating a performance on a large multi-modal robot installation, medusAI, <i>Rogel, A., Seu, D., Titov, M., Teng, E., Weinberg, G.</i>
11:13	340	Artistic Skills for Crafting Unskillful Machines: Human-Robot Interaction in Japanese Theatre and Opera, <i>Xu, R.</i>
11:24	342	Eight Aesthetic Principles for Livelier Robots: Insights from Puppetry and Robotic Art, <i>Glynn, R.</i>

Special Session 2 – Smart Textiles and Robotics for Fashion (14:00 – 15:20)

Chairs: Kiren Passi, Saina Akhond

14:00	173	An Integrated Robotic System for Cultural Heritage Textile Production, <i>Osman, A., Al-Ani, M., Alardah, A., Kuna, M., Noorizadeh, M., Mariyam, L., Qidwai, U., Cabibihan, J., Al-Qahtani, N.</i>
14:11	195	Breathing companions: A Pneumatically Actuated Soft Robotics Garment for Posthumanist Ethics and Affective Human-Object Relations, <i>Cui, R.</i>
14:22	226	Straighten Up: From Fashion-Oriented Smart Clothing to Embodied Correction, An Iterative Wearable Posture System, <i>Lin, Y., Samani, H., Akhond, S.</i>
14:33	329	Exploring the use of soft robotics and textile to mimic the London Plane Trees self-renewal and cleansing abilities, <i>Walker, R., Chang, Y., Passi, K., Akhond, S.</i>
14:44	218	MoTi: An affective social robot Affective Robot for Privacy-Aware Emotional Reflection, <i>Lin, Y., Samani, H., Akhond, S.</i>
14:55	331	Creating a wearable, playable sleeve in the cultural context of Gen Z, <i>Walker, R., , , Passi, K., Akhond, S.</i>
15:06	334	From Smart Textiles to Socially Expressive Garments: Exploring New Communication Modalities through Wearable Design, <i>Shen, C., Gdaeim, M., Tissier, G., Anzalone, S.</i>

Special Session 3 – Participatory Futures in Social Robotics and AI (15:40 – 17:30)

Chairs: Karin Aue, Sarah Y. Zheng, Lorenzo Pasculli

15:40	5	Dances with robots, <i>Birringer, J.</i>
15:51	183	Artificial Intelligence in Musical Storytelling: A Practice-Based Evaluation Through a Narrative Music Project, <i>Kizas, P., Polydorou, D.</i>
16:02	184	Reconfigured Play: Games as Sociocultural Machines, <i>Brown, T., Aue, K., Lee Brown, P., Koh, J.</i>
16:13	203	Techno-Animist Jewelleries and Everyday Oracles, <i>Karkotis, A., Polydorou, D.</i>
16:24	275	Validating Virtual Reality for Studying Multimodal Human-Robot Interaction in Socially Aware Robot Navigation, <i>Arunachalam, H., Singamaneni, P., Alami, R.</i>
16:35	31	Elderly Independence and Robotic Solutions for Isolation, Care and Security, <i>SORELL, T.</i>
16:46	33	Robots as Proxies for Crime: Quantifying the Cybersecurity Gap in Socially-Integrated Platforms, <i>Haskard, A., Herath, D.</i>
16:57	159	From Chat Control to Robot Control: Implications of the Chat Control Proposal for Human-Robot Interaction, <i>Akalin, N., Giaretta, A.</i>

Day 2 – Thursday, 2 July 2026

Special Session 4 – Cultural Robotics (09:00–11:00)

Chairs: Jeffrey T.K. Valinko, Belinda Dunstan

09:00	24	Postdisciplinary Robotics: Cultural Robotics as a Site for the Future of Sociocultural Machines, <i>Koh, J., Dunstan, B., Aue, K.</i>
09:10	41	Designing a Culturally Acceptable Android for Dubais Multicultural Society, <i>Aymerich-Franch, L., Taha, T., Nakata, Y., Shinkawa, K., Minato, T., Ishiguro, H., Dario, P.</i>
09:20	130	Bodystorming Craft:: An Embodied Method for Human-Robot Collaboration Design in Bricklaying, <i>Franzè, A., Belek Fialho Teixeira, M., Caldwell, G., Schork, T., Gainey, L., Caballero, M., Rafizadeh, H., Dawson, J., Zahra, T.</i>
09:30	144	Advancing Equity in Social Robotics in Canada: Co-Designing a Socially Assistive Robot through art-based methods with Older Migrants from Low- and Middle-Income Countries, <i>Santos Nunes, S., Pulido, J., Greer, J., Sekhon, H.</i>
09:40	149	Deanthropomorphizing HumanRobot Interaction: A Phenomenological Displacement from Visual Primacy to Atmospheric Olfactory Presence., <i>GJEPALI, F.</i>
09:50	165	Embodied Archives:: Social Robots and Cultural Heritage in Sites of Production and Research, <i>Fleres, A., Mannocci, R.</i>
10:20	185	Collaborative Robotic Incremental Sheet Forming, <i>Belek Fialho Teixeira, M., Burden, A., Letchford, J., Vargas Duque, M., Walzer, A., Luu, A., Caldwell, G., Donovan, J., Snooks, R., Roberts, J.</i>
10:30	216	FRIEND: Exhibition as Cultural Laboratory for Reframing Human Machine Relationships, <i>WIDDICOMBE, J.</i>
10:40	255	ODI: an embodied storytelling robot with privacy-preserving perception and decentralised governance, <i>Ireland, A., Cefai, R.</i>

Special Session 5 – Interaction, Reliability, and Trust in Human-Robot and Multi-Robot Systems (11:10 – 12:00, 14:00 – 15:20)

Chairs: Shengong Shangguan, Edmund Hunt

11:10	230	S.E.A.G.R: A Socially and Emotionally Aware Greeting Robot Framework with Dual-Layer Cultural and Affective Modulation, <i>Hussain, S., Bhura, R., Dutta, A., Biswas, S.</i>
11:21	302	Modeling Emotional Alignment in Elderly Conversations with an Android Robot, <i>Huseynzade, S., Pauly, M., Wieching, R., Ogawa, T.</i>
11:32	347	Trust, Conformity, and Deliberation in Multi-Robot Interaction: The Roles of Consensus and Dissent, <i>Nakagawa, S., Nihei, M.</i>
11:43	152	Calming Effects of Haptic Robot-Guided Breathing: Cross-Study Evidence with Neffy, <i>Buchem, I.</i>
14:00	123	Multi-Cues Intention Prediction of Human-Robot Interaction using Human Pose and Emotion Information from RGB-only Camera Data, <i>Mohsen, F., Safa, A.</i>
14:11	205	Adaptive Latent Modulation for Interpretable Shared Control in Legged Locomotion, <i>Zong, Y., Ge, Y., Chen, P.</i>

14:22	288	Actions Acquisition and Adaptive Generation via Action Primitives and Mental Simulation for Humanoid Robots, <i>Huang, W., Ma, R., Di Nuovo, A., Cangelosi, A.</i>
14:33	336	A Multimodal Dataset on Cognitive Load and Trust across Different Human-Robot Collaboration Scenarios, <i>García Cárdenas, J., Tapus, A.</i>
14:44	22	Multi-Robot Collaboration Framework for Seamless Efficient Human-Robot-Robot Interaction Research: A Cocktail Bar Case Study, <i>Barabas, R., Blum, K., Gerndt, R., Doernbach, T.</i>
14:55	276	Beyond Collision Avoidance: Multi-Robot Yielding and Spatial Affordance in Emergency Evacuations, <i>Zhou, N., Hunt, E., Bode, N.</i>
15:06	293	Token-Based Turn Management in Social Multi-Robot Systems, <i>Arrojo, G., Castillo, J., Fernández-Rodicio, E., Malfaz, M.</i>

Special Session 6 – Speculative and Creative Approaches in Human-Robot Interaction (15:40 – 17:30)

Chairs: Minja Axelsson, Daniel Tozadore

15:40	75	The Ghost in the Moving Machine: How Behavioral Cues Elicit Attributions of Selfhood, <i>Pohl, J., Nikolovsk, K.</i>
15:51	145	Craft and/or engineering?: reflections on the use of robotic cutting in analogue/digital hybridised practices in the creation of craft-works., <i>marshall, J., Jørgesen, T., Knight, J., Churchill, N.</i>
16:02	146	Design process of ClémenCE - robotic system inspired by gothic sacred art, <i>Trovato, G., Pariasca Trevejo, E., Arroyo, D., Nielsen, V., Eiviler, K., Anzalone, S.</i>
16:13	211	The Mnemonic Cost of the Uncanny Valley: How Categorical Conflict Impairs Information Retention in Social Robotics, <i>Peréz-Arenas, X., Huepe, D., Soto, V.</i>
16:24	220	From Artistic Performance to Human-Robot Interaction: An Object-Mediated Methodology to investigate Social Interactions with Robots, <i>Rezzani, A., Aitsam, M., Bamforth, J., Vinanzi, S., Di Nuovo, A., Bushman, B., Menéndez-Blanco, M., De Angeli, A.</i>
16:35	232	Speculative Scenarios for Meaningful Interaction between People with Dementia and Conversational Robots, <i>Thijn, J., Degens, N., Hindriks, K., Ligthart, M.</i>
16:46	249	What If Your Refrigerator Were a Robot? A Design Probe for Relational Appliances in Domestic HRI, <i>Bickmore, T., Arjmand, M., Terzioglu, Y.</i>
16:57	252	What does a Marine Robot look like? Imagining the Social Marine Robots operating in the Oceans with School-age children, <i>Pani, J., Zereik, E., Aracri, S., Odetti, A., Cavallo, F., Fiorini, L.</i>
17:08	297	How To Detain a Robot: A Speculative Exploration through Design Fiction, <i>Lengua, D., Axelsson, M.</i>

Day 3 – Friday, 3 July 2026

Special Session 7 – Social Robotics in Education and Beyond: Relational Futures and Socio-Technical Practices (09:00–11:00)

Chairs: Beatrice Wohl, Antonio Fleres

09:00	111	Should Children Learn from Robots? An Investigation of the Attitudes of Children, Their Parents and Teachers on an Educational Robot Using AI, <i>Hille, N., Manavi, M., Butzek, S., Carros, F., Wieching, R., Wulf, V.</i>
09:11	118	The Use of Children's Robot Drawings as a Method for Collaborative Research in Educational and Learning Interventions with and about Robotics: a Systematic Review, <i>Perla, L., Palestra, G., Totaro, G., Santacroce, M., De Carolis, B.</i>
09:22	196	Preadolescents Perceptions of Pepper as a Social Educational Agent: Effects of Presentation Mode, <i>Sarno, M., Veneziano, M., Ler, M., Perna, A., cordasco, G., d'agnese, V., Esposito, A.</i>
09:33	197	When Teachers Meet Generative AI: A OneWeek Study of a Social Robot in Real Classrooms, <i>Tozadore, D., Abderrahim, M., Chaker, Y., Shahmoradi, S.</i>
09:44	258	The Robot as a Piece of Art: Transformative Aesthetic Learning to Create DIY Personalized Educational Social Robotics with Children, <i>Totaro, G., Perla, L., Palestra, G., Martinelli, A., Lavicza, Z.</i>
10:00	72	Socio-Technical Care and Relational Futures: Towards a Cultural Theory of Sustainable Human-Robot Co-Existence, <i>Mannocci, R.</i>
10:11	319	Educating for the Robosphere: Enactive Didactics, Educational Robotics, and the Maker Movement for Technological Sustainability, <i>Lehmann, H.</i>
10:22	322	"What do we expect?" Developing a pragmatist ethical framework for human-robot interaction, <i>Contu, G.</i>

Special Session 8 – Continual Learning and Generative AI in Social Robotics (11:10 – 12:00)

Chair: Abolfazl Zaraki

11:10	254	Can Post-Training Adaptation Replace Continual Learning? Evidence from EEG Emotion Recognition, <i>Ghamati, K., zaraki, A.</i>
11:21	187	Co-Designing Social Robots with Generative AI: Form, Voice, and Perceived Social Qualities, <i>Pulzone, L., Staffa, M.</i>
11:32	294	VisionLanguage Model for Fall Detection in Socially Assistive Robotics: Zero-Shot Prompting and Few-Shot Calibration, <i>Shahabian Alashti, M., Ghamati, K., zaraki, A., Zhang, B., Holthaus, P., Alingal Meethal, S., Velmurugan, V., Lakatos, G., Dickinson, A., Amirabdollahian, F.</i>

Special Session 9 – Social Assistive Robotics in Art and Health (14:00 – 16:30)

Chair: Mohamad Reza Shahabian Alashti

14:00	285	Cupboard DJ: A Musical Social Robotics System for Playful Functional Exercise in Older Adults Daily Routines, <i>Kitching, E., Fonseca, L., Caleb-Solly, P.</i>
14:11	309	RH-IoT-1: A Real-World Smart-Home Dataset for Room-Level Human Presence Detection, <i>Rafique, S., Holthaus, P., Fang, G., Amirabdollahian, F.</i>
14:22	341	Come Dance With Me: A Personalisable Exercise App on an Assistive Robot, <i>Cahill, N., Caleb-Solly, P.</i>
14:33	245	Vision Transformer-Based Context Recognition for Wearable Lower-Limb Robots, <i>Cirelli, G., Tamantini, C., Zollo, L., Cordella, F.</i>
14:44	271	From Pilot Data to Protocol: Sample-Size Guidance for Multimodal Intent Detection in Assistive Wearable Robotics, <i>Shahabian Alashti, M., Alingal Meethal, S., Holthaus, P., Lakatos, G., Amirabdollahian, F.</i>
14:55	291	EMG-Based Lower Limb Activity Recognition for Exoskeleton-Assisted and Unassisted Locomotion Using Deep Learning, <i>Alingal Meethal, S., Shahabian Alashti, M., Mosso, M., Sartori, M., Refai, M., Pacifico, I., Holthaus, P., Lakatos, G., Amirabdollahian, F.</i>
15:06	306	Pexformer: Robust Indoor Human Localisation via Patch-level Tokenisation and Semi-PermeableAttention, <i>Zhang, B., Rafique, S., Shahabian Alashti, M., Alingal Meethal, S., Velmurugan, V., Holthaus, P., Lakatos, G., Dickinson, A., Amirabdollahian, F.</i>
15:40	314	Motor And Cognitive Rehabilitation Paradigm Employing A Humanoid Mobile Robot, <i>Soldi, R., Guerra, B., Sozzi, S., Lunghi, F., Russo, L., Schmid, M., Ramat, S.</i>
15:51	46	When Effort Meets Design: Creative Processes in Social Robotics for Healthcare, <i>Brandt, M., Wemmer, E., Loos, K., Vollmer, A.</i>

8 Short Papers

ID	Title	Authors
9	How does embodiment-induced empathy influence humans moral concern for non-moral agent like robots?	Pan, S.
17	When an Industrial Robot Becomes an Artist: An Exploratory Study on User Perception	Tafur, M.; Quiroz, D.; Aylas, D.
20	Kiss Me More - Artificial Lips for Intimate Encounters	Bendel, O.
28	How Roboticians Conceptualise Robot Personality: Design Factors, Storytelling, Context, and Ethics	Axelsson, M.; Rentfrow, P.; Gunes, H.
30	SLAPBOT: Provocation and Confrontation in Social Human Robot Interaction	Samani, H.; Chang, C.; Akhond, S.
35	Exploring Inter-Brain Synchronization as a Learning Signal for Social Robot Mediation of Human-Human Interaction	Laloum, E.; Markus, A.; Shamay-Tsoory, S.; Ayalon, L.; Gordon, G.
50	Predicting Politeness and Volatility from EEG Signals	Shahid, S.; Shahid, S.; Shahabian Alashti, M.; Fallahi, A.; Zaraki, A.; Foerster, F.
54	Small Talk and Self-Disclosure: Speech Strategies for Building Long-Term Trust and Intimacy in Human-Robot Interaction	Yoon, H.; Kim, M.; Ahn, H.
61	CARING-AI multicenter study protocol: culturally competent social robots among migrant older adults	Sekhona, H.; Santos Nunes, S.; Rigaud, A.; Dantas, C.; Maranesi, E.; Turk, E.; López Mellado, J.; Münter, L.; Pino, M.; Herrero, M.; Cabrita, M.; Sønderberg, N.; Bevilacqua, R.; Da Cunha, S.; Jansen-Kosterink, S.
74	Toward Value-Sensitive Dialogue in LLM-Powered Socially Assistive Robots	Zhong, V.; Ottiger, L.; Schmiedel, T.; Studerus, E.
90	Does a social robot talking to a plant affect its growth?	Grzegorzczak, M.; Kósek, E.; Indurkha, B.
94	Astro, Im Home! Acceptance of Home Robots	Fischer, K.; Wilson, E.; Kim, S.; Williams, D.
99	Textile-mediated Soft Robotics for Physical Human-Robotic Interaction Across Bodies	Payne, H.; Zheng, C.; Giannaccini, M.; Benford, S.
110	Preliminary Results on Creative LeaderFollower Haptic Interactions	Baracca, M.; Moro, M.; Saviano, G.; Bianchi, M.; Moscatelli, A.; Noceti, N.; Odone, F.; Prattichizzo, D.; Bernardini, N.; Seminara, L.
124	Between Attempts and Silence: Staging the Epistemic Process of Reinforcement Learning	Boribun, W.; Heidmann, F.
155	Methaphysical Masks	Wallace, B.; Serdar, B.

162	Mio: A Portable Cat Companion Bridging Distance Via Haptic Mirroring	Einarsdóttir, E.; Wang, C.; Obaid, M.; De Cet, M.
171	Active Constructive Responding in Social Robots vs. Voice Assistants	Figge, J.; Straßmann, C.
176	Beyond Thematic Conversations: Self-Adaptive Socio-Emotional Games with EBO	Núñez, P.; Condón, A.; Rodríguez, T.; Blanco, A.
181	Robots with Dexterous Hands for Sign-Language Communication in Healthcare	Yang, T.; Xu, F.; Wu, S.; Huang, D.; Yao, S.; Li, S.
186	What is 'social' about social robots?	Schwed-Shenker, M.
214	CSSR-Nav: Culturally Sensitive Social Robot Navigation	Girma, B.; Jimoh, I.; Haile, Y.; Gu-eye, A.; Busogi, M.; Vernon, D.
217	A kaleidoscopic gazing into cultural robotics	Olthof, A., Verlinden, J., Ben Al-louch, S.
224	A multimodal experimental design to explore childrens robotic imaginaries	Askin, G.; Fantasia, V.; Winkle, K.
264	Humour at the Edge of Ethics: Personalised Alignment for Social Robot Improvisation	Iwamoto, R.; Wong Kam, M.; Samani, H.; Akhond, S.; Premachandra, C.
274	The Illusion of Control in a Social Robot with a Disobedient Digital Twin	Liu, H.; Akhond, S.; Samani, H.; Chang, C.
278	Contrastive Learning Memory-Based ZMP Control	Bharti, N.; Kumar, T.; Roy Chowdhury, A.
280	The Other Thing: Through the Lens of Alien Perspective in Autonomous System	Wang, R.; Anderson, J.
287	Introducing a Pet-like Robot through a Social Onboarding Sequence	Carrasco Martínez, S.; Arrojo, G.; Alonso-Martín, F.; Castillo, J.; Malfaz, M.
290	Towards Augmented Doll Therapy for Alzheimers Patients	De Carolis, B.; Lofrese, D.; Palestra, G.; Leone, F.; Toma, A.; Chiapparino, C.; Pinto, K.; Lograno, C.; Stanco, R.; Troisi, F.
298	Contextual AI-Generated Visual Prompts in Pepper-Based HRI	Smith, L.; Cifuentes, C.
299	Robotic Selfie: Robotic Photography and its Social Implications	Mizuochi, M.; Lalioti, V.
303	Cognitive Architecture and Episodic Memory for Conversational Grounding	Wilcock, G.; Jokinen, K.
305	Re-scripting the Cultural Image of Robot Arms	Li, Z.; von Chamier-Waite, C.
315	Sensory Substitution for Calibrated Reliance in Human-Robot Navigation Tasks	Li, Z.; Samani, H.; Han, Y.; Meng, X.; Akhond, S.
316	Would you like to play with us? - Experimenting with multi-robot games	Mendoza, L.; Baldassarri, S.; Matinero, L.; Cerezo, E.
318	Postural Cues in Robot-Delivered Micro-break Invitations	Han, Y.; Samani, H.; Doukianou, S.; Meng, X.; Li, Z.; Akhond, S.

321	Artificial Corporeality in Ugo Dehaess Simple Machines	Teanovi, A.
323	ARGOS: Staging Vulnerability and Error in Creative Robotics Theatre	Samani, H.; Rodosthenous, G.; Polydrou, D.
348	AI or teacher: Whose language is more trustworthy?	Hanulikova, A.; Kapp, S.
350	Social Qualities of Plant Robots for Robot Design and Interaction	Hsu, T.
355	Extracting Semantics: LLM-Guided Automatic Population of Robot Ontology from URDF	Dussard, B.; Sarthou, G.
358	Variations in Fabric and Motion: A Research Through Design Performative Installation	Wald, I.; Grishko, A.; Goldblat, D.; Levi, T.; Zuckerman, O.

9 Workshops

Please refer to the workshops page for more details: <https://icsr2026.uk/workshops/>

- **WS01: Secondary Motion Fashion Show**
Organisers: Heather Knight, Fernando Orellana, Kiren Passi
Time: 1 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 1
- **WS02: Drawing in Diversity**
Organisers: Katie Seaborn, Özge Nilay Yalçın, Yijia Wang, Martina De Cet, Shruti Chandra, Mohammad Obaid
Time: 1 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 2
- **WS03: 2nd Workshop on Cognitive Load and Engagement in Human-Robot Collaboration: From Robots in Hazardous Environments to Educational Applications**
Organisers: Adriana Tapus, Xiaoxuan Hei, Juan Jose Garcia Cardenas, Cristian Cringasu
Time: 1 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 2
- **WS04: The Mechanics of Ensoulment: How Control Mappings Animate Social Robots**
Organisers: Edwin Dertien, Nefeli Kousi, Maaïke Bleeker, Mike E.U. Ligthart, Laura Karreman
Time: 2 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 1
- **WS05: 2nd Workshop on Beyond Words: The Role of Touch in Social Robotics**
Organisers: Adriana Tapus, Patrick Hénaff, Adnan Saood
Time: 3 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 1
- **WS06: Socially Competent Agents That Care (SCAC): Real-World Deployment Challenges for Rehabilitation and Assistive Robots**
Organisers: Sofia Thunberg, Laura Fiorini, Anouk Neerincx, Andrea Orlandini, Pieter Wolfert, Christian Tamantini, Adam Poulsen, Negin Hashmati, Fumihide Tanaka, Patrick Holthaus, Mark Neerincx
Time: 2 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 2
- **WS07: Robots for Humans (RfH) 3rd Edition: Designing Social Robots That Spark Childrens Creativity**
Organisers: Farnaz Baksh, Francesca Cocchella, Omar Eldardeer, Marco Manca, Marco Matarese, Andrea Rezzani, Eleonora Zedda
Time: 3 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 1
- **WS08: Ethical Design in Human-Robot Interaction**
Organisers: Minja Axelsson, Paige Tuttösi, Jiaee Cheong, Joel Currie, Shalaleh Rismeni, Patrícia Alves-Oliveira, Katie Seaborn
Time: 3 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 3
- **WS09: ASIMOV Adaptive Social Interaction based on users Mental mOdelS and behaVior in HRI**
Organisers: Mariacarla Staffa, Salvatore M. Anzalone, Maryam Alimardani, Lorenzo D’Errico, Giuseppe Palestra
Time: 3 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 2

- **WS10: CRAFT: Creative Robotics & AI for Fair Technologies**
Organisers: Doreen Jirak, Dirk van Rooy, Di Fu
Time: 3 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 2
- **WS11: Configuring Robot Roles for Children: Developmental, Communicative, and Ethical Dimensions Across Contexts and Domains**
Organisers: Nils F. Tolksdorf, Adriana Hanulíková, Sarah Kapp, Franziska Plagwitz
Time: 2 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 1
- **WS12: Embodied AI on Stage: Co-Creating Physical Theatre with a Human–Robot Ensemble**
Organisers: Maleen Jayasuriya, Piumi Wijesundara, Damith Herath, David Cotterrell, Frederic Fol Leymarie, Daniel Berio, Samuele Vinanzi, Gavin Robins, Ruhanie Perera
Time: 1 July 2026, 14:00–17:00
Room: Workshop Room 1
- **WS13: Theatre in the Loop: A Rehearsal-Based Method for Shaping Expressive Robot Behaviour**
Organisers: Ayse Kucukyilmaz, Victor Ngo, Pavlos Panagiotidis, Sean Myatt, Simon Castle-Green, Dominic Price, John Kiran, Jocelyn Spence, Anthony Woods
Time: 2 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 2
- **WS14: HYDROTHERABOTS: HYDROTHERApy using RoBOTS, AI, and VR Technologies for Physical Rehabilitation (2nd Edition)**
Organisers: Gokce Nur Yilmaz, Kutluk Bilge Arikan, John-John Cabibihan
Time: 3 July 2026, 09:00–12:00
Room: Workshop Room 4

10 Debates

The ICSR debates will take place in the Debate Hall (Senate Room) on 2 July 2026. Please refer to the debates page for more details: <https://icsr2026.uk/debates/>

Debate Chair: Roger Moore

D1: A Conversation about Robotics in Education Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Towards a deployable framework

Beatrice Wohl, Ilona Buchem, Jessie Durk, Jose Sepulveda

Time: 09:00–10:15

D2: The Evidence We Cannot See: Are We Missing What Matters in Healthcare Robotics?

Mona Nasser, Oksana Hagen, Angelo Cangelosi, Murray Mackay

Time: 10:45–12:00

D3: How can robotic garment manufacturing be considered social?

Douglas Atkinson, Lynne Craig, Matthew Crowley

Time: 14:00–15:00

D4: Innovation Through Creation: The Case for Building Our Own Social Robots for HRI Research

Carl Strathearn, Emilia Sobolewska and Euclid Robot

Time: 15:00–16:00

D5: In the Age of the Post-Body

Elvira Grob, Jenn Leung, Rebecca Evans, Alexa Pollmann

Time: 16:00–17:00

11 Grand Challenge

The ICSR Grand Challenge presentations, including optional demonstrations, will be held on 1 July 2026 from 14:00 to 17:45 in the Debate Hall. For updates, please refer to the Grand Challenge webpage: <https://icsr2026.uk/competition-finalists/>

Grand Challenge Schedule

Time - Start	Time - End	ID	Team Name	Presenter
Grand Challenge Design				
14:00	14:10	5	AI Ethics Research Hub	Madeleine Rischer
14:10	14:20	6	Team Ipzo	Maciej Makosa
14:20	14:30	29	Remote Racing Crew	Arjun Bhaduri
14:30	14:40	21	Angel Horseshoe Crab	
Grand Challenge Design & Art				
14:40	14:50	8	ClémENCE, the first robotic nun	Gabriele Trovato
14:50	15:00	10	Nicholas Stedman	Nicholas Stedman
15:00	15:10	16	Team ScentDia	Luisa Damiano
15:10	15:20	17	Labububot	Miranda Li
15:20	15:30	19	Assembled	Hersch Nathan
BREAK & Demo (30min) 15:30 – 16:00				
Grand Challenge Art				
16:00	16:10	7	Robartx in the ARC Lab	Eunsun Choi
16:10	16:20	3	RoboSaxGTTM Team	Masatoshi Hamanaka
16:20	16:30	30	Ruth Martinez Yepes	Ruth Martinez Yepes
16:30	16:40	31	Zoe Li	Zoe Qijing Li
16:40	16:50	32	Comb Machine: Almost Intimate	Zoe Qijing Li
16:50	17:00	22	Temple Robotics and AI Lab	Alkesh Kumar Srivastava
17:00	17:10	26	Unveiling Bodies	
Extra demo Time & Q/A 17:10 – 17:30				

Grand Challenge Finalists

ID	Team Name	Team Members
3	RoboSaxGTTM Team	Masatoshi Hamanaka, RIKEN, Japan Gou Koutaki, Kumamoto University, Japan
5	AI Ethics Research Hub	Madeleine Rischer, Helmut Schmidt University Hamburg, Germany
6	Team Ipzo	Sander Blokland, Hogeschool Utrecht, Netherlands Maciej Makosa, Hogeschool Utrecht, Netherlands

ID	Team Name	Team Members
7	Robartx in the ARC Lab	Eunsun Choi, DXARTS, University of Washington, USA Andy Cai, University of Washington, USA Jason Liu, University of Washington, USA Michael Tsien, University of Washington, USA Madison Fleming, University of Washington, USA Tanya Prihar, University of Washington, USA Thomas Glass, University of Washington, USA
8	ClémENCE – the first robotic nun	Gabriele Trovato, Shibaura Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan Salvatore Anzalone, Université Paris 8 & Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Paris, France
10	Nicholas Stedman	Nicholas Stedman, Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada
16	Team ScentDia	Mari Velonaki, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia Manos Gerakinis, Manos Gerakinis Parfums, Athens, Greece Luisa Damiano, IULM University, Milan, Italy
17	Labububot	Miranda Li, MIT, USA Jake Read, MIT, USA Dimitar Dimitrov, MIT, USA Cynthia Breazeal, MIT, USA
19	Assembled	Hersch Nathan, University of Kentucky, USA Zachary Stribling, University of Kentucky, USA Kate Field, University of Kentucky, USA
21	Angel Horseshoe Crab	Song Yunqi, Xiamen University, Tan Kah Kee College, China
22	Temple Robotics and AI Lab	Alkesh Kumar Srivastava, Temple University, USA Nathan Wolf-Sonkin, Temple University, USA Dr. Philip Dames, Temple University, USA
23	ARA Team	Alessandra Musacchio, Università degli studi di Firenze, Italy Giovanni Baldanzi, Università degli studi di Firenze, Italy Filippo Cavallo, Università degli studi di Firenze, Italy Laura Fiorini, Università degli studi di Firenze, Italy
26	Unveiling Bodies	Yue Yao, Columbia University, USA Yitong Wang, Carnegie Mellon University, USA
28	Feminist Robotics Lab	Maeve Huthwaite, UAL, UK
29	Remote Racing Crew	Arjun Bhaduri, UCL, UK Daniel Tozadore, UCL, UK Jennifer Huang, UCL, UK
30	Ruth Martinez Yepes	Ruth Martinez Yepes, Cornell University, USA
31	Zoe Li	Zoe Qi-Jing Li, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China
32	Comb Machine: Almost Intimate	Zoe Qi-Jing Li, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China Yifan Liu, Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen, China

12 Industry Day

Webpage:: <https://icsr2026.uk/industry-day/>

Date: Friday, 3 July 2026

Overview: The ICSR Industry Day will feature a morning workshop hosted by UKRI and an afternoon panel debate exploring the future of social robots in the home.

(1) UKRI Innovate UK Workshop

Workshop Title: Robotics & Advanced Materials in Artistic Innovation

Time: 9.30 am – 12.00 pm

Location: Conference Hall 2 (Chancellors Hall), Senate House, London, UK

Webpage & Registration: https://robotsister.github.io/icsr_ukri

UKRI Organisers

- **Agnes Wamagui**, KTM Robotics, Innovate UK Business Connect
- **Jonathan Walker**, Innovation Lead Electronic Systems, Innovate UK
- **Mili Tharakan**, KTM Smart Materials and Textiles, Innovate UK Business Connect

Confirmed Speakers

Stephen Russell (Robotics Living Lab)

George Campbell (Teslasuit)

Pasindu Lugoda (Texoskeleton)

Robert Nixdorf (AirGiants)

Piotr Mirowski (Imrobotics, DeepMind)

Adriana Cabrera (ACArt Design, Fabricademy)

Tavs Jorgenson (Bridge Studios, UWE)

Alexandre Colle (Konpanion)

Ben Miller (Effective Mass)

Sara Abad Guaman (BioArl)

Roseanne Eckheart (Creative Roboticist & Artist)

Caroline Zheng (University of Nottingham)

Lynne Craig (The University of Edinburgh)

Cody Lukas (Artist)

(2) ICSR+Art – Industry Day Panel

Panel Title: There's No Place Like Home: Exploring The Next Frontier for Social Robots

Time: 2.30 pm – 4.00 pm

Location: Debate Hall, Senate House, London, UK

Panel Homepage: https://robotsister.github.io/icsr_industry/

Panelists

- **Ira Renfrew**, Co-Founder and Chief People Product Officer at Familiar Machines & Magic
- **Craig Allen**, Former Chief Creative Officer at Embodied (now Moxie Robots)
- **Shunsuke Aoki**, Founder of Yukai Engineering
- **Samuel Ader**, VP Growth & Supply at Cera (Genie Connect)

Moderator

Elizabeth Jochum (PhD), Director of Robotics and Automation at RA Capital Management, and Associate Professor at Aalborg University, Denmark.

13 Rising Stars in Social Robotics

Webpage: <https://icsr2026.uk/rising-stars/>

Date: Wednesday, 1 July 2026

Time: 10.30 am – 12.00 pm

Location: Debate Hall, Senate House, London, UK

Invited Speakers

- **Dr Gabriella Lakatos**, University of Hertfordshire, UK
- **Dr Beatrice Wohl**, Creative Computing Institute (CCI), University of the Arts London, UK
- **Prof Praminda Caleb-Solly**, University of Nottingham, UK
- **Dr Bahar Irfan**, Familiar Machines & Magic

14 Evening Shows

The evenings of ICSR + ART 2026 feature a series of special robot shows and performances.

1 July 2026

18:00 18:30

Quantwin

Premiere performance by Silke Grabinger



18:30 19:00

Robot Fashion Show:

Kinetic Couture & Quadruped Fashion Show



2 July 2026

19:00 21:00

Robot Fringe Festival

Hosted by **Heather Knight & Piotr Mirowski**

The inaugural year features nine acts in a variety show format spanning robot-human musical, dance, comedy, puppeteering, improv, clowning, circus, and cyborg storytelling.

Part I

“KI (/ AI): A Budo-inspired Dialogue between Breath, Woodwind, and Machine”

Martine Mussies

3 min

“Ant(igone)” *Gunter Lösel*

5 min

“Diary of a Teenage Robot” *Kate Ladenheim*

6 min

“AcroBot” — **KEYNOTE** *Daniel Simu*

25 min

Part II

“Bodies in Dialogue” *Maleen Jayasuriya & Piumi Wijesundara*

10 min

“Artificial Artificial Intelligence” *Ash Eliza Smith*

5 min

“A ‘Spotlight’ on Human-Robot Clowning” *Naomi Fitter*

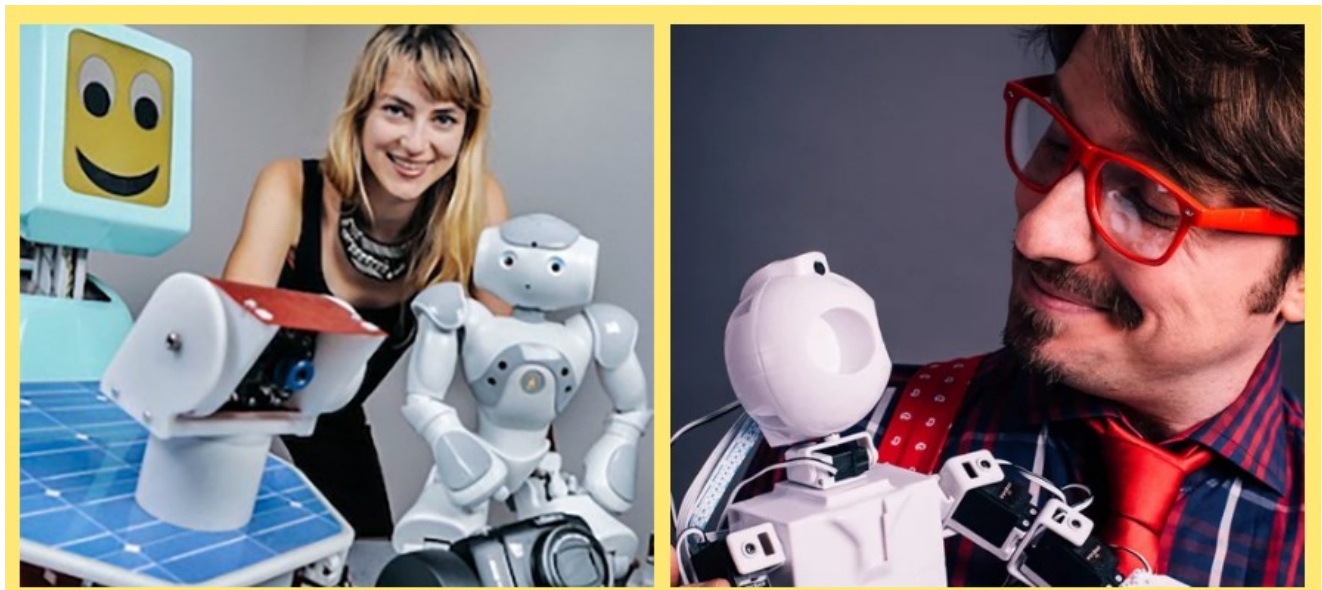
6 min

“Assembled: An R.U.R. Reexploration.” *Hersch Nathan*

6 min

“Jibo Trio A Cappella” *Daniel Pillis*

3 min



3 July 2026

Robot Theatre

20:00 20:30

Argos



20:30 21:00

1001 Nights with Robots



15 Social and Networking events

Registered participants will be invited to a WhatsApp community for arrangements of social and networking events, especially on 4 July 2026.

For overview of social and networking events, please visit:

<https://icsr2026.uk/social-networking/>

16 Sponsors

More information about our sponsors is available at <https://icsr2026.uk/sponsors/>.

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Furhat began as a research project at KTH Royal Institute of Technology and has evolved into one of the world's most widely used platforms for studying human-robot interaction, conversational AI, learning, healthcare, and embodied intelligence.

WHAT IS FURHAT?

Furhat is an embodied conversational AI platform designed for research, education, and innovation.

Combining natural conversation with gaze, facial expressions, turn-taking, and multi-party interaction, Furhat enables researchers to study human behavior in ways that are difficult to achieve with chatbots, avatars, or surveys alone.



✓ Embodied Interaction

Study how physical presence affects communication, trust, learning, and behavior.

✓ Multi-Party Conversations

Track and engage multiple participants simultaneously.

✓ Designed for Research

Built from the ground up to support experimentation, data collection, and reproducible studies.

✓ Rapid Experiment Development

Prototype, deploy, and iterate studies quickly using the SDK and developer tools.

Used by Researchers At



RESEARCH IMPACT

1600+ Publication references

10+ Years of
Social Robotics Research

Growing community of
over **5000+ members**

Used Across Universities, Research
Labs, and Innovation Centers in **40**
countries

Research Published at HRI, ICSR, RO-MAN, CHI, INTERSPEECH and more

EXAMPLES OF USE CASES

Simulating Negotiation with Furhat

Researchers at the University of Twente investigated how people negotiate with the same AI recruiter presented as a physical robot, avatar, or text interface. Furhat served as the embodied AI condition, helping researchers explore how appearance and physical presence influence human decision-making.



Multi-party open-ended conversation with a social robot

Researchers at Ghent University used the Furhat-based conversational system combined face tracking, speaker recognition, diarisation, turn-taking, and large language models to participate in natural conversations involving multiple people. The study explored one of the most challenging problems in social robotics: engaging with more than one person at a time

MEET THE TEAM BEHIND FURHAT!

Feel free to stop by our booth to chat with our charming robot, share your work, ask questions, and, of course, talk robots.



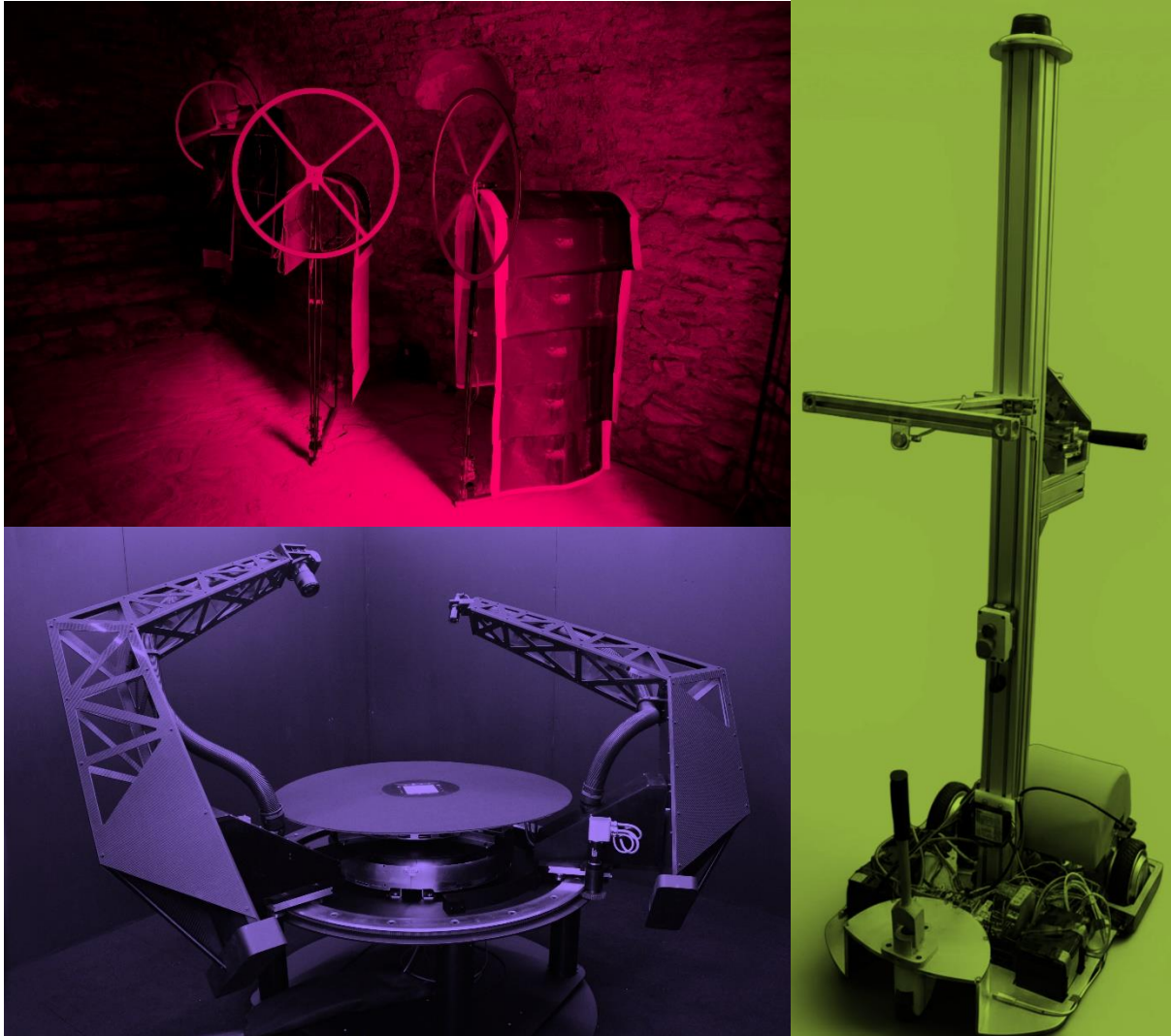
Furhat Robotics

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