

Daniel Levitin

Award-Winning Neuroscientist, Musician, Author

Daniel J. Levitin is James McGill Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Neuroscience at McGill University. He has held Associate Appointments in the School of Computer Science, Faculty of Education, Department of Neurology & Neurosurgery, and School of Music. He received the Principal's Teaching Prize in 2006 at McGill, the University's highest teaching honor. Levitin is also the Founding Dean of Arts and Humanities at the Minerva Schools at KGI and a Distinguished Faculty Fellow in the Haas School of Business at University of California Berkeley.

Dr. Levitin earned his Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology University of Oregon, his B.A. from Stanford in Cognitive Psychology, and completed post-doctoral training at Stanford University Medical School and UC Berkeley. He has been a visiting professor at Stanford University, UC Berkeley and Dartmouth.

Levitin has published more than 100 scientific articles, and over 300 popular articles about music and music technology in magazines including *Billboard*, *Electronic Musician*, *Mix*, and *Grammy*. His research has been featured on the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour, *The New York Times*, *The London Times*, *Scientific American*, and *Rolling Stone*. He is a frequent guest on NPR and CBC Radio.

He is the author of the four consecutive international bestsellers *This Is Your Brain On Music*, *The World in Six Songs*, *The Organized Mind: Thinking Straight in the Age of Information Overload*, and his newest book *A Field Guide to Lies: Critical Thinking in the Information Age*, released in 2016. *A Field Guide to Lies* was winner of the Quebec Writers' Federation Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-Fiction, the National Business Book Award, and named a "Best Book of the Year" by the Washington Independent Review of Books.

As a musician (tenor saxophone, guitar and bass), he has performed with Mel Tormé, David Byrne, Roseanne Cash, Victor Wooten, Sting, Bobby McFerrin, Rodney Crowell, and Blue Öyster Cult. Levitin served as Vice President of 415/Columbia Records (now Sony Records) from 1984 - 1988, and as President in 1989. After 415 was sold to Sony, Levitin ran a successful production company whose clients included every major American record label and several film companies. He has produced and consulted on albums by artists including Stevie Wonder, Steely Dan, and Blue Öyster Cult, and on the films *Good Will Hunting* and *Pulp Fiction*. For his technical and marketing contributions to the recording industry, Levitin has been awarded 14 gold and platinum records.

A popular public speaker, Levitin has spoken to sold-out audiences of 1,200 - 5,000 all over the world. He has given keynote addresses for the Glenn Gould Foundation, Kindermusik, California Music Educators, Canadian Music Week, and Brandtrust Advertising Executives. He has given invited lectures to the United States Library of Congress, the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as well as an invited presentation to the Canadian Ministers of Culture on the future of music and copyright. In 2008, he was chosen to deliver the annual Linus Pauling Memorial Lecture in Portland, Oregon.