

Prof. Dr. Jos De Backer

Full professor at LUCA School of Arts (Leuven) and head of the Bachelor and Master training course in Music Therapy. Professor at the medical faculty, department of neurosciences at the KU Leuven. He is head of the Music Therapy Department at the Psychiatric University Centre KU Leuven, campus Kortenberg where he works as a music therapist treating young psychotic patients. Prof. De Backer is senior researcher in the research group music therapy at LUCA and principal investigator at the centre for contextual psychiatry, KU Leuven.

Prof. Jos De Backer was 9 years President of the European Music Therapy Confederation (EMTC).

He is an expert in clinical improvisation and give presentations and workshops around the world.

Academic Appointments

- Fulltime Professor and coordinator of the BA, MA and PhD training program of music therapy at LUCA School of Arts
- Professor at the Department of Neurosciences, Faculty of Medicine, KU Leuven, Belgium
- Visiting Professor, Master in Music Therapy at the Chulalongkorn university, Bangkok, Thailand
- Head of the music therapy department and music therapist at the University Psychiatric Centre KU Leuven, campus Kortenberg

Other Appointments

- Member of the Advisory Board International Psychoanalytic University (IPU) Berlin
- Member of the Academic Council, LUCA School of Arts
- Board member of the International *Consortium of 8 Universities for Research in Music Therapy*. Melbourne, Jyväskylä, Cambridge, Bergen, Leuven, Aalborg, Oslo and Philadelphia.
- President of the European Music Therapy Confederation (2001- 2009)
- Member of the council of the World Confederation of Music Therapy (2002 – 2009)
- Founder and honored member of the Belgian professional association of Music Therapy

Area of Research

- Scientific disciplines: Clinical Music Therapy, Psychiatry, Autism
- Research topics: Improvisation, Supervision, Group Dynamics in Music Therapy

Research Output

- Advisor/Co-Advisor PhD Projects
- Int. Journal Papers with Peer-Review: 191.; Int. Conf. Papers with Peer-Review: 157.
- Book Chapters and Professional Papers: 39.
- Edited Books in Music Therapy: 3.

Awards

- National award in the category ‘academic innovation’, Young Economic Chamber, 1997.
- Member ad honorem of the Associazione Italiana Professionisti della Musicoterapia, Italy, 2005.

Memberships to Editorial Boards

- Associate Editor, Nordic Journal of Music Therapy
- Associate Editor, British Journal of Music Therapy

Publications

Selected journal articles

- Foubert, K., Gill, Satinder P, De Backer, J. (2020). A Musical Improvisation Framework for Shaping Interpersonal Trust. *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy*:1-18. DOI: 10.1080/08098131.2020.1788627
- Lefebvre, T., Tack, L., Vanneste, H., Van Eygen, K., Stellamans, K., Derijcke, S., Vergauwe, P., De Backer, J., Chandler, R., Lane, P., Boterberg, T., Debruyne, P. with Lefebvre, T. Debruyne, P. (2020). Developing and evaluating a participatory arts programme for cancer patients and their caregivers. *Acta Clinica Belgica*. doi: 10.1080/17843286.2020.1773653
- Foubert, K., Sebreghts, B., Sutton, J., De Backer, J. (2020). Musical encounters on the borderline. Patterns of mutuality in musical improvisations with Borderline Personality Disorder. *The Arts in Psychotherapy*, Art.No. 101599. doi: 10.1016/j.aip.2019.101599
- Foubert, K., Sebreghts, B., Sutton, J., De Backer, J. (2020). Musical encounters on the borderline. Patterns of mutuality in musical improvisations with Borderline Personality Disorder. *Arts in Psychotherapy*, 67, Art.No. UNSP 101599. doi: 10.1016/j.alp.2019.101599
- De Backer, J., Foubert, K. with De Backer, J. (2019). Musiktherapie in Belgien. *Musik und Gesundheit*, Heft 36 (Die Muttersprache in der Musiktherapie), Art.No. 10, 26-27. Open Access
- De Backer, J., Foubert, K., Van Camp, J. (2017). Modalitäten von Übergänge in einem musiktherapeutischen Kontext. *Musiktherapeutische Umschau*, 38 (4), 324-333.
- Foubert, K., Collins, T., De Backer, J. (2017). Impaired maintenance of interpersonal synchronization in musical improvisations of patients with borderline personality disorder. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 8, Art.No. 537. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2017.00537

Edited books (peer reviewed)

- De Backer, J., Sutton, J. (Eds.) (2014). *The music in music therapy: Psychodynamic music therapy in Europe: Clinical, theoretical and research approaches*. London and Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. (professional oriented)
- Wigram, T., De Backer, J. (Eds.) (1999). *Clinical applications of music therapy in developmental disability, paediatrics and neurology*. London and Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. ISBN: 1-85302-734-0. (professional oriented)
- Wigram, T., De Backer, J. (Eds.) (1999). *Clinical Applications of Music Therapy in Psychiatry*. London and Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers. ISBN: 1-85302-733-2. (professional oriented)