

Christian Mayer

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Dr. Christian Mayer

Orcid ID: 0000-0003-3152-5574

Google Scholar: [Click here for full publication list](#)

Website: mayerlab.net

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Italian (conversational)

EDUCATION

Dr. rer. nat. <i>Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics, and Natural Sciences, University of Hamburg</i>	2011 Hamburg, Germany
Graduate Studies in Molecular Biology <i>ZMNH, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf</i>	2007–2009 Hamburg, Germany
Erasmus Exchange Program <i>University of Milan</i>	2004 Milan, Italy
Diplom in Biology <i>University of Konstanz</i>	2001–2006 Konstanz, Germany
Abitur <i>Gymnasium Münsingen (BW)</i>	1992–2000 Münsingen, Germany

CURRENT POSITIONS

Faculty Member <i>International Max Planck Research School for Translational Psychiatry (IMPRS-TP)</i>	2026–present Munich, Germany
SFARI Investigator <i>Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI)</i>	2025–present
EMBO Young Investigator <i>European Molecular Biology Organization</i>	2023–2026
Max Planck Research Group Leader (Free-Floater Program) <i>MPI for Biological Intelligence (formerly Neurobiology)</i>	May 2018–present Munich, Germany
Faculty Member <i>Graduate School of Systemic Neurosciences</i>	2018–present Munich, Germany
Faculty Member <i>International Max Planck Research School for Brain, Behavior and Imaging (IMPRS-BI)</i>	2018–present Munich, Germany

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Researcher <i>Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard with Prof. Fishell</i>	2017–2018 Boston, USA
Guest Scientist <i>New York Genome Center with Prof. Satija</i>	2015–2018 New York City, USA
Postdoctoral Researcher <i>NYU Langone Medical Center, NYU Neuroscience Institute with Prof. Fishell</i>	2012–2017 New York City, USA
Ph.D. Program in Molecular Biology <i>Center for Molecular Neurobiology Hamburg with Prof. Boehm</i>	2007–2011 Hamburg, Germany
Zivildienst (Civilian Service) <i>Paraplegic Center, Universitäts- und Rehabilitationskliniken Ulm</i>	2000–2001 Ulm, Germany

FUNDING, DISTINCTIONS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

The Simons Foundation <i>Pilot Award</i>	2025
The Nancy Lurie Marks Family Foundation <i>Research Grant</i>	2025
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft <i>Research Grant</i>	2025
EMBO Young Investigator Program <i>Award with associated funding and benefits</i>	2023
ERC Starting Grant 803984	2019
Max-Planck Research Group Leader <i>Free-Floater Program</i>	2017
Schaller Research Group Leadership <i>Chica and Heinz Schaller Foundation, Heidelberg; offered, declined in favour of the Max Planck Research Group</i>	2016
EMBO Long-Term Fellowship <i>Research Grant</i>	2012
Gebhard Koch-Promotionspreis für Zellbiochemie und Neurobiologie <i>Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf</i>	2011

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Dvoretzkova Elena, Lynch Connor, Bright Ann Rose, Babal Yigit Koray, Isaev Sergey, Kharchenko Peter, Adameyko Igor and **Mayer Christian** (2026). "Stoichiometric transcription factor partnerships control GABAergic neuron fate allocation". In: **bioRxiv**. doi: 10.64898/2026.05.25.727662
- Dvoretzkova Elena and **Mayer Christian** (June 2026). "GABAergic neuron fate specification and lineage allocation: from development to disorder". In: **Curr Opin Genet Dev** 100, p. 102504. doi: 10.1016/j.gde.2026.102504
- Bright Ann Rose, Kotlyarenko Yana, Neuhaus Florian, Rodrigues Diana, Feng Chao, Peters Christian, Vitali Ilaria, Dönmez Elif, Myoga Michael H, Dvoretzkova Elena and **Mayer Christian** (2025). "Temporal control of progenitor competence shapes maturation in GABAergic neuron development in mice". In: **Nat Neurosci**. doi: 10.1038/s41593-025-01999-y
- Deryckere Astrid, Choudhary Saket, Lynch Connor, Limperis Lian Kirit V. P., Affatato Pauline, Woych Jamie, Gumnit Elias, Ortega Gurrola Alonso, Satija Rahul, **Mayer Christian** and Tosches Maria Antonietta (2025). "A conserved logic for the development of cortical layering in tetrapods". In: **bioRxiv**. doi: 10.1101/2025.10.01.679862
- Dvoretzkova Elena, Ho May C, Kittke Volker, Neuhaus Florian, Vitali Ilaria, Lam Daniel D, Delgado Irene, Feng Chao, Torres Miguel, Winkelmann Juliane and **Mayer Christian** (2024). "Spatial enhancer activation influences inhibitory neuron identity during mouse embryonic development". In: **Nat Neurosci**. doi: 10.1038/s41593-024-01611-9
- Adameyko Igor, Bakken Trygve, Bhaduri Aparna, Chhatbar Chintan, Filbin Mariella G, Gate David, Hochgerner Hannah, Kim Chang Nam, Krull Jordan, La Manno Gioele, Li Qingyun, Linnarsson Sten, Ma Qin, **Mayer Christian**, Menon Vilas, Nano Patricia, Prinz Marco, Quake Steve, Walsh Christopher A, Yang Jin, and et al. (2024). "Applying single-cell and single-nucleus genomics to studies of cellular heterogeneity and cell fate transitions in the nervous system". In: **Nat Neurosci**. doi: 10.1038/s41593-024-01827-9
- Del-Valle-Anton Lucia, Amin Salma, Cimino Daniela, Neuhaus Florian, Dvoretzkova Elena, Fernández Virginia, Babal Yigit K, Garcia-Frigola Cristina, Prieto-Colomina Anna, Murcia-Ramón Raquel, Nomura Yuki, Cárdenas Adrián, Feng Chao, Moreno-Bravo Juan Antonio, Götz Magdalena, **Mayer Christian** and Borrell Víctor (2024). "Multiple parallel cell lineages in the developing mammalian cerebral cortex". In: **Sci Adv** 10.13. doi: 10.1126/sciadv.adn9998
- Bandler Rachel C and **Mayer Christian** (2023). "Deciphering inhibitory neuron development: The paths to diversity". In: **Curr Opin Neurobiol**. doi: 10.1016/j.conb.2023.102691
- Bandler Rachel C, Vitali Ilaria, Delgado Ryan N, Ho May C, Dvoretzkova Elena, Ibarra Molinas Josue S, Frazel Paul W, Mohammadkhani Maesoumeh, Machold Robert, Maedler Sophia, Liddelow Shane A, Nowakowski Tomasz J, Fishell Gord and **Mayer Christian** (2022). "Single-cell delineation of lineage and genetic identity in the mouse brain". In: **Nature**. doi: 10.1038/s41586-021-04237-0

- **Mayer Christian**, Hafemeister Christoph, Bandler Rachel C, Machold Robert, Batista Brito Renata, Jaglin Xavier, Allaway Kathryn, Butler Andrew, Fishell Gord and Satija Rahul (2018). "Developmental diversification of cortical inhibitory interneurons". In: **Nature**. doi: 10.1038/nature25999
- **Mayer Christian**, Jaglin Xavier H, Cobbs Lucy V, Bandler Rachel C, Streicher Carmen, Cepko Constance L, Hippenmeyer Simon and Fishell Gord (2015). "Clonally Related Forebrain Interneurons Disperse Broadly across Both Functional Areas and Structural Boundaries". In: **Neuron**. doi: 10.1016/j.neuron.2015.07.011

SERVICE TO THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

International Jury Member <i>PEPR Cell-ID Programme, France 2030 / ANR</i>	2026
Co-editor <i>Current Opinion in Genetics and Development; 2026 Developmental Patterning and Evolution issue</i>	2025–present
Co-organizer, Keynote Lecture Series and Emerging Scientist Series <i>MPI for Biological Intelligence</i>	2022–present Munich
Commission Member, Animal Welfare Commission <i>MPI for Biological Intelligence & MPI of Biochemistry</i>	2023–present Munich

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Lecturer <i>GSN Fundamentals in Neuroscience: "Neurogenesis" and "Axonogenesis".</i>	2025–present LMU, Munich
Seminar Instructor <i>Faculty of Biology, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich</i>	2022–present Munich
Lecturer and Course Instructor <i>CAJAL Summer School (FENS and IBRO)</i>	2022 Bordeaux, France
Lecturer and Course Instructor <i>Graduate School of Systemic Neurosciences (GSN)</i>	2019–present Munich, Germany
Lecturer <i>Max Planck Research School for Molecular Life Sciences</i>	2019–present Munich, Germany
PROFiL Basic Seminar in University Teaching <i>LMU Munich; completed basic course (teaching, communication, advising and mentoring)</i>	2023

SELECTION OF RECENT SCIENTIFIC TALKS

Inhibition in the CNS Gordon Research Conference (GRC), USA (<i>invited</i>)	2027
EMBO Workshop on Neurodevelopmental disorders, Otsu, Japan	2026
INMED Seminar, Marseille, France	2026
SFARI Investigator Meeting, New York City, USA	2026
IN-CODE Lecture Series, SFB/TRR 384, University of Freiburg, Germany	2026
ICM Conference Series, Paris, France	2025
QBI–MCN Symposium (Queensland Brain Institute / Munich Center for Neurosciences)	2025
FENS Regional Meeting (FRM2025), Oslo, Norway	2025
Paris–Munich Epigenetics Symposium, Paris, France	2025
Developmental Specification of Complex Behaviors Conference, HHMI Janelia Research Campus, USA	2024
Neuroscience Seminar, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, USA	2024
Golgi Meeting 2, Château Suduiraut, France	2024
Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry, Munich, Germany	2024
Developing Brains Conference, Karolinska Institute, Sweden	2024
Neuroscience Seminar, Columbia University, New York, USA	2023
Université de Genève, Switzerland	2023
Neuroscience Seminar, University of Heidelberg, Germany	2023
DNF Symposium, Université de Lausanne, Switzerland	2023
"Sunposium" – Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience, Jupiter, USA	2023

REVIEWING ACTIVITIES (SINCE 2018)

Reviewer for international research funding agencies and academic journals, including:

- CellPress research journals
- European Research Council (ERC)
- French National Research Agency (ANR)
- German Research Foundation (DFG)
- MAVRI Program, Israel Science Foundation (ISF)
- Nature research journals
- Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)
- Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
- European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO)

COLLABORATORS

Igor Adameyko <i>Analysis of Barcode Lineage Data</i>	Medical University of Vienna, Austria
Victor Borrell <i>Comparative Neurogenesis</i>	Instituto de Neurociencias, Spain
Axel Borst <i>Combinatorial Codes of Transcription Factors in Drosophila</i>	MPI for Biological Intelligence, Germany
Yukiko Gotoh <i>Adult Neurogenesis</i>	University of Tokyo, Japan
Magdalena Götz <i>Neural Stem Cell Biology</i>	Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, Germany
Peter Kharchenko <i>Single-cell Genomics and Computational Biology</i>	Institute of Molecular Biotechnology (IMBA), Vienna, Austria
Rüdiger Klein <i>Development of the Amygdala</i>	MPI for Biological Intelligence, Germany
Tom Nowakowski <i>In-vivo Barcode Lineage Tracing</i>	University of California, USA
Anne C. Rios <i>Pediatric Brain Tumor Models</i>	Princess Máxima Center for Pediatric Oncology, The Netherlands
Maria Tosches <i>Comparative Lineage Tracing</i>	Columbia University, USA
Juliane Winkelmann <i>Genetics of Restless Legs Syndrome</i>	Helmholtz Center Munich, Germany

REFERENCES

Prof. Herwig Baier <i>Max Planck Institute for Biological Intelligence</i>	herwig.baier@bi.mpg.de +49 89 8578 3210
Prof. Rahul Satija <i>New York Genome Center and New York University, USA</i>	rsatija@nygenome.org +1 212 992 6951
Prof. Gord Fishell <i>Harvard Medical School and Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard</i>	gfishell@broadinstitute.org +1 617 432 5335