

Programme

16:00 Welcome

PROF. HANS-GEORG KRÄUSSLICH,
Chica and Heinz Schaller Foundation

Laudatio

PROF. PETRA BOUKAMP,
*IUF – Leibniz-Institut für
umweltmedizinische Forschung*

Schaller Prize Lecture:

“Haematopoietic Stem Cells Under
Inflammatory Stress”
MARIEKE ESSERS, *HI-STEM and DKFZ*

16:45 Laudatio

PROF. RÜDIGER HELL,
COS, University of Heidelberg

Schaller Prize Lecture

“Spatial Metabolomics”
THEODORE ALEXANDROV, *EMBL*

Presentation of the Chica and Heinz Schaller Research Award

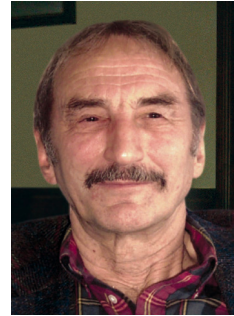
PROF. KAROLY NIKOLICH,
PROF. ROHINI KUNER,
Chica and Heinz Schaller Foundation

17:30 Reception

Prof. Dr. Chica H. Schaller



Prof. Dr. Heinz Schaller



Chica and Heinz Schaller were distinguished molecular biologists, whose professional lives centred on three of Germany's leading academic institutions. At EMBL Heidelberg and Hamburg University, Chica was recognised for achievements in developmental neurosciences. At Heidelberg University, Heinz was among the pioneers who helped to translate the still-emerging field of molecular biology into practical, life-saving applications. What they shared throughout their lives was the excitement and promise of discoveries in biomedicine.

The Foundation is the legacy of Chica and Heinz Schaller and their remarkable careers.

Chica and Heinz
Schaller Foundation



For the
Advancement of
Biomedical Research

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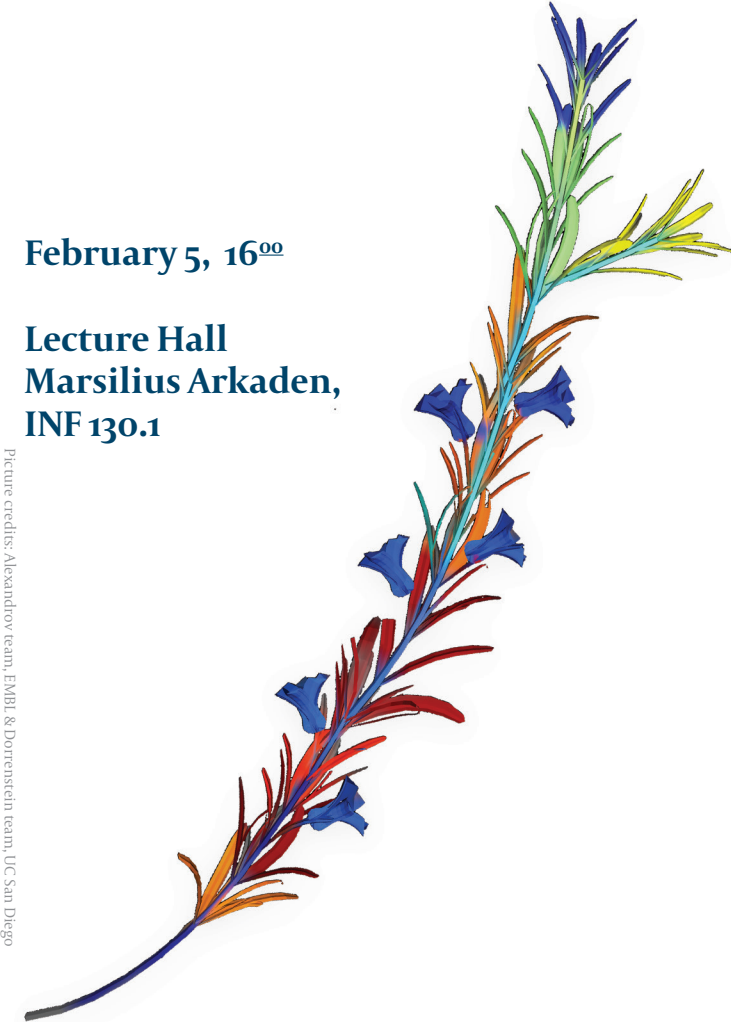
The Annual Chica and Heinz Schaller Research Award

**DR. MARIEKE ESSERS
&
DR. THEODORE ALEXANDROV**

February 5, 16⁰⁰

**Lecture Hall
Marsilius Arkaden,
INF 130.1**

Picture credits: Alexandrov team, EMBL & Dorrnstein team, UC San Diego



The Annual Chica and Heinz Schaller Award

The Chica and Heinz Schaller Foundation for the advancement of biomedical research was funded by the scientists, Heinz and Chica Schaller, with the aim of supporting exceptional young researchers in Heidelberg. By providing flexible, unbureaucratic funding, the Foundation facilitates the realization of independent and innovative research projects.

One important funding instrument is the annual “Chica und Heinz Schaller Research Award”, endowed with 100.000 Euro, which honours excellent, innovative work in the field of molecular biomedical research. For the year 2017, the award is presented to Marieke Essers from HI-STEM and the DKFZ and Theodore Alexandrov from the EMBL in Heidelberg.

Marieke Essers



During her PhD thesis work in the division of Biomedical Genetics from the University Medical Center Utrecht, Marieke Essers focused on the role of FoxO transcription factors in quiescence and stress responses in cells. She then moved to the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research in Lausanne for post-doctoral research in Genetics and Stem Cells.

Since 2009, she heads her own junior research group at the Heidelberg Institute for Stem Cell Technology and Experimental Medicine and the German Cancer Research Center, where her main focus lies on understanding the link between inflammation and haematopoietic stem cells. Her work provides also new tools and ideas on how the activation of malignant leukemic stem cells is triggered, ultimately improving the efficacy of leukemia treatments.

Theodore Alexandrov



Theodore Alexandrov received a PhD in mathematics in Russia in 2007. He performed his postdoctoral research at the University of Bremen, Germany, where he later became a group leader and the head of the MALDI Imaging Lab, while being a visiting researcher at the University of California San Diego.

Since 2014, he is a team leader at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory in Heidelberg and the head of the EMBL Metabolomics Core Facility. He received an ERC Consolidator grant and coordinates the European METASPACE project, an initiative to push metabolite imaging to a new level. The overarching aim of his research is to picture metabolism across different spatial scales by creating technologies and in particular by translating big spatial metabolomics data into molecular knowledge.