

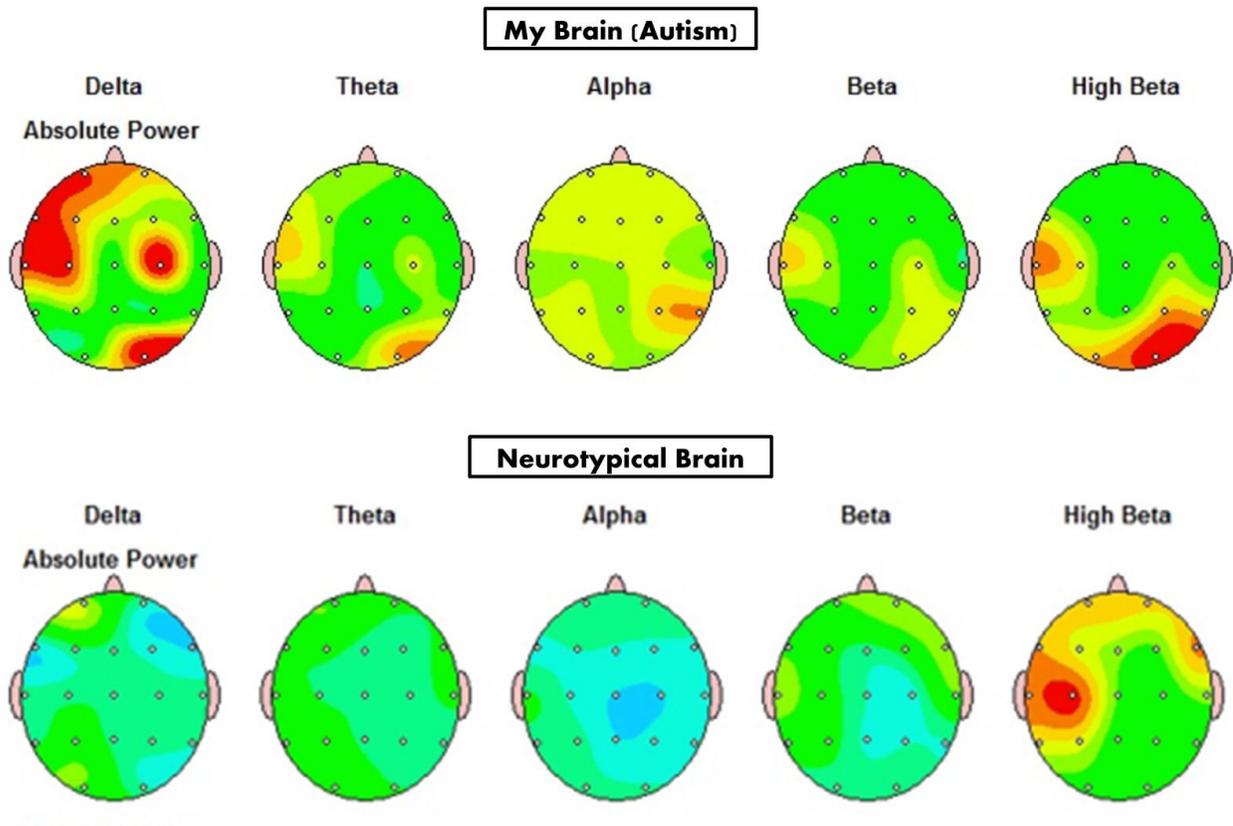
ANNATOMY
My Brain

As many of you know, I recently had a QEEG scan. I have explained all about this in previous posts, but I got the results back yesterday, so I wanted to share them with you.

The thing that kept blowing my mind as I went through each scan was just how much my brain map was telling me about WHY I am the way I AM. It was uncanny. It is really weird that a simple diagram can explain so much about me.

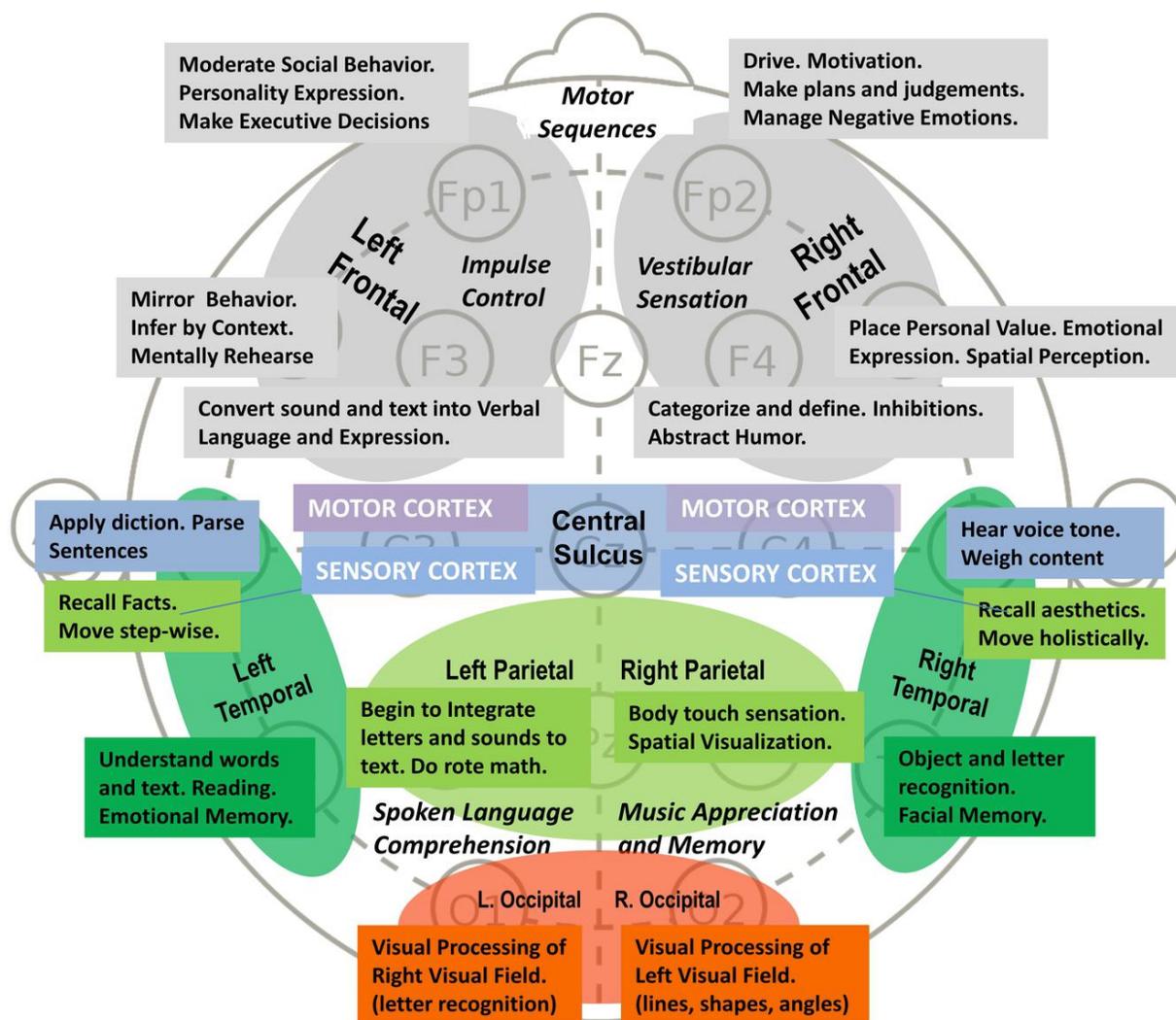
That is what is so intriguing about the brain. Its architecture is determined by our own actions and behavior, and yet that architecture determines our actions and behavior. Honestly, it makes me wonder why having a QEEG isn't mandatory for anyone with special needs. But... that's a topic for another day.

Here is one of the QEEG maps of my brain as compared with a neurotypical brain.



I am showing it to you just so you can see how simple and easy they are to look at and understand. Everything is color-coded. I wrote up a whole report detailing what is going on in each specific area of my brain, but I am not going to bore you with that. I have sent that on to my brother, who is perhaps the only one who would be interested enough to slog through it.

But for the purposes of this blog, I have gotten a bit creative.

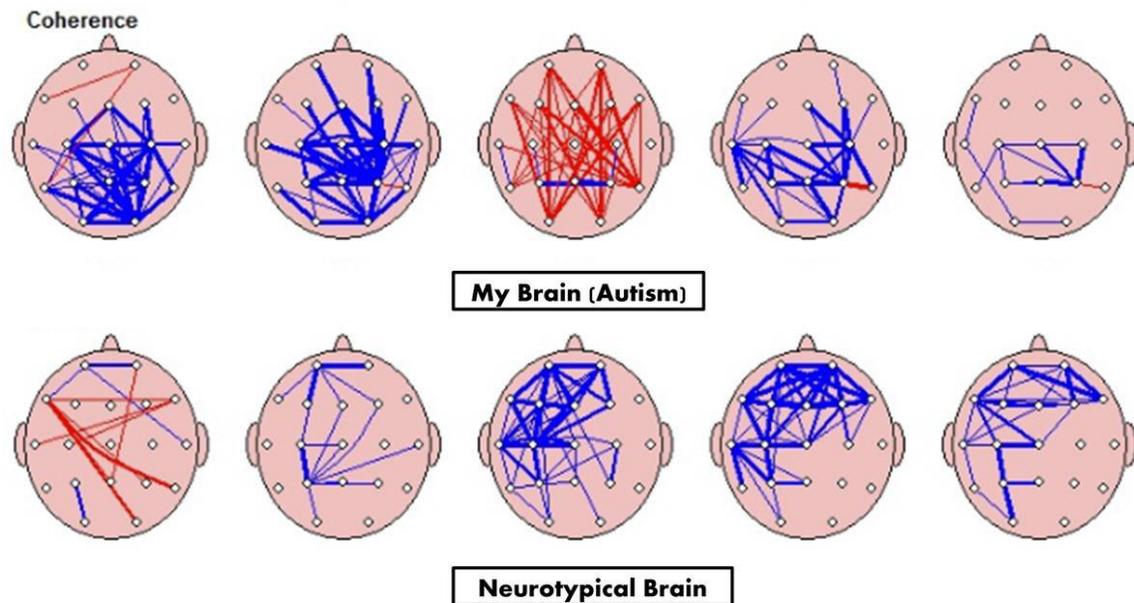


Okay, I might have gone a bit overboard with the creativity. But my intent was to show you, at a glance, how my brain operates. In general, the red area (Occipital Lobes) is where I have the highest beta waves, which explains why my vision is so hypersensitive. Then you have the green area (Parietal and Temporal Lobes) where my

functioning is within normal limits. There are fluctuations in some areas, but weaknesses are balanced out by strengths.

The Central Sulcus, in light blue, is the area where all sensorimotor processing is carried out. Here things begin to break down because of screwed up sensory input failing to integrate properly, resulting in varying degrees of dysfunctional motor feedback.

In general, ASD processing goes downhill from there. Everything shaded in gray is pretty much wasteland. NOT because there isn't any brainwave activity going on in the frontal lobes, but because this "higher level" functionality is more hit or miss, due to the lack of coherency in our circuitry. As the diagrams below illustrate, our circuitry is mostly jammed into the back end of the brain, while in the typical brain it is primarily concentrated in the front end.



The most important thing about all this is that we now have the technology that enables us to see EXACTLY HOW our brains work. We can see that the neurotypical brain appears to have more connectivity on the left side in the *FRONTAL LOBES*, while the autistic brain has more connectivity across the *PARIETAL* and *TEMPORAL LOBES*. Regardless of how this came about, the inescapable fact of the matter is that *AUTISTIC BRAINS ARE DIFFERENT*; they are more disjointed and highly specialized than neurotypical brains.

This isn't necessarily a bad thing. It's simply a fact. It makes us who we are.