

## **Annalisa Maria Ventola, B.A.**

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Executive Director  
Parapsychological Association, Inc.  
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### **Education**

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1995 – 1997 **Ohio State University**, Columbus, OH  
1999 - 2002 B.A. Music (major) Religious Studies (minor)

2001 **Institute for Parapsychology of the Rhine Research Center** Durham, NC  
Summer Study Program in Parapsychology (completed with honors)

### **Professional Experience**

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2008 – Present Executive Director, Parapsychological Association  
[www.parapsych.org](http://www.parapsych.org)  
Columbus, Ohio

1999 – Present Owner/Operator, Whitney & Ventola Music Studios  
[www.whitneyandventola.com](http://www.whitneyandventola.com)  
Columbus, Ohio

2018 – Present Community Engagement & Social Media Manager  
Society for Scientific Exploration  
[www.scientificexploration.org](http://www.scientificexploration.org)

2006 – Present Editor, Public Parapsychology  
[www.publicparapsychology.org](http://www.publicparapsychology.org)

### **Academic Affiliations and Appointments**

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Center for Research on Consciousness and Anomalous Psychology, Lund University, Sweden  
(Associate)

*Journal of Exceptional Experiences and Psychology* (Review Board Member)

*Mindfield: The Bulletin of the Parapsychological Association* (Co-Editor)

Parapsychological Association (Professional Member and Book Award Committee Member)

*Revista Académica Sobre Anomalías del Comportamiento [Journal of Behavioral Anomalies]*  
(Scientific Advisory Board Member)

Society for Scientific Exploration (Full Member)

### Journal Articles

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**Ventola, A.**, Houran, J., Laythe, B., Storm, L., Parra, A., Dixon, J., & Kruth, J.G. (2019). A transliminal 'dis-ease' model of 'poltergeist agents'. *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*, 83(3) 144-171.

Hill, S.A., Laythe, B., Dagnall, N., Drinkwater, K., O'Keeffe, C.O., **Ventola, A.**, & Houran, J. (2018). "Meme-Spirited": II. Illustrating the VAPUS model for ghost narratives. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 19(1), 117-152.

Hill, S.A., O'Keeffe, C.O., Laythe, B., Dagnall, N., Drinkwater, K., **Ventola, A.**, & Houran, J. (2018). "Meme-Spirited": I. The VAPUS model for understanding the prevalence and potency of ghost narratives. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 18(2), 117-152.

Laythe, B., Houran, J., & **Ventola, A.** (2018) A split-sample psychometric study of 'haunters'. *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*, 82(4), 193 – 218.

**Ventola, A.**, (2016). There is no gate: On the PA and the AAAS. *Mindfield: The Bulletin of the Parapsychological Association*, 8(3), 54-67.

Terhune, D.B., **Ventola, A.**, & Houran, J. (2007). An analysis of contextual variables and the incidence of photographic anomalies at an alleged haunt and a control site. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 21, 99-120.

### Conference Presentations

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Ventola, A. (2019). *A transliminal 'dis-ease' model of 'poltergeist agents'*. Paper presented at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Parapsychological Association, 4-6 July 2019. Paris, France.

Ventola, A. (2017) *Ten reasons to celebrate the last ten years of parapsychological research*. Presentation given at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parapsychological Association Celebration. 17 June, 2017. Columbus, Ohio.

Ventola, A. (2016). *There is no gate: On the PA and the AAAS*. Paper presented at the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Parapsychological Association, 19-24 June, 2016. Boulder, Colorado.

Ventola, A. (2009). *Context, individual differences, and media type in the evaluation of photographic anomalies*. Full paper presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the Parapsychological Association, 6-9 August, 2009. Seattle, Washington.

Ventola, A. (2007). *Evaluating Photographic Anomalies: Examining the roles of photographic expertise, context, paranormal belief, and tolerance of ambiguity*. Research Brief presented at the 50th Annual Convention of the Parapsychological Association, 2-5 August, 2007. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Ventola, A. (2007). *Web logs and wikis: 21<sup>st</sup> century tools for public scholarship*. Workshop presented at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Parapsychological Association, 2-5 August, 2007. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Ventola, A. (2002). *Anomalous Orbs: The New Face of Spirit Photography*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest American Academy of Religion. Chicago, IL.

### Book and Website Reviews

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Ventola, A. (2007). [Review of the books *Miracles: A parascientific inquiry into wondrous phenomena*, *The search for yesterday: A critical examination of the evidence for reincarnation*, and *Our psychic potentials*]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration* (in press).

Ventola, A. (2007). [Review of the books *A casebook of otherworldly music* and *A psychic study of the music of the spheres*]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 21, 174-176.

Ventola, A. (2006). [Review of the website [www.anomalist.com](http://www.anomalist.com)]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 20, 346-347.

Ventola, A. (2006). [Review of the book *The gift: ESP, the extraordinary experiences of ordinary people*]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 20, 134-135.

Ventola, A. (2005). [Review of the book *The inner source: Exploring hypnosis*]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 19, 268-269.

Ventola, A. (2004). [Review of the book *Unleashed: Of poltergeists and murder: The curious story of Tina Resch*]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 18, 703-705.

Ventola, A. (2004). [Review of the book *Immortal remains: The evidence for life after death*]. *Journal of Scientific Exploration*, 18, 156-159.

Ventola, A (2003). [Review of the book *Investigating the Paranormal*]. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 3, 65-69.

### Undergraduate Research Experience

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- 2003      Research Internship (under James Houran)  
Department of Psychiatry  
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine  
Springfield, Illinois
- 2000 – 2002      Undergraduate Research Assistant (under Caroline Palmer)  
Music Cognition Laboratory  
Department of Psychology, Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio
- 2001 – 2002      Undergraduate Research Assistant (under William Raymond)  
The Variation in Conversation Project  
Department of Linguistics, Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio

### Grants and Scholarships

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- 2007      Skeptiko Media Monitor Grant  
Awarded for monitoring and improving the accuracy of information about parapsychology on the web in various ways.
- 2006      Parapsychological Association Research Endowment  
*Evaluating Photographic Anomalies: Examining the roles of photographic expertise, context, paranormal belief, and tolerance of ambiguity*  
(with Devin Terhune)
- 2003      Society for Scientific Exploration  
*Quantitative investigation of naturalistic anomalous experiences at target and control sites*  
(with Devin Terhune)
- 2001      Rhine Research Center / Institute for Parapsychology  
Scholarship for attendance at the Rhine Research Center Summer Study Program