



## Michael J. Ryan, Ph.D.

Regents Professor of Integrative Biology

The University of Texas at Austin

Born in 1953 in New York City  
Studied Neurobiology and Behavior at Cornell University and Zoology at Rutgers University

---

### PROJECT

## The Evolution of Natural Beauty

Sexual selection by female choice has generated some of the more spectacular and aesthetically pleasing traits in the animal kingdom. Yet outside of the field of sexual selection, there is only a very poor understanding of how evolution generates these traits. I will begin work on a book that will bring this stimulating field of evolutionary biology to a larger, well-educated lay audience.

### Recommended Reading

Ryan, M. J. (1985). *The Túngara Frog: A Study in Sexual Selection and Communication*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

- (1990). "Sensory Systems, Sexual Selection, and Sensory Exploitation." *Oxford Surveys in Evolutionary Biology* 7: 157-195.

- (2010). "The Túngara Frog: A Model for Sexual Selection and Communication." In *Encyclopedia of Animal Behavior*, edited by Michael D. Breed and Janice Moore, 453-461. Oxford: Elsevier Science, Academic Press.

Ryan, Michael J. (Princeton, 2018)

A taste for the beautiful : the evolution of attraction

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=1641394544>

Ryan, Michael J. (2017)

Environmental conditions limit attractiveness of a complex sexual signal in the túngara frog

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=1006739963>

Ryan, Michael J. (2011)

Signal perception in frogs and bats and the evolution of mating signals

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=825951925>

Ryan, Michael J. (2011)

Relative comparisons of call parameters enable auditory grouping in frogs

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=825949793>

Ryan, Michael J. (Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 2011)

An introduction to animal behavior : an integrative approach

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=642649375>

Ryan, Michael J. (2010)

Complexity increases working memory for mating signals

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=75693379X>

Ryan, Michael J. (2010)

Determination of onset of sexual maturation and mating behavior by melanocortin receptor 4 polymorphisms

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=756933323>

Ryan, Michael J. (Washington, DC, 2008)

Sex-specific perceptual spaces for a vertebrate basal social aggregative behavior

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=825950236>

Ryan, Michael J. (2008)

Categorical perception of a natural, multivariate signal : mating call recognition in túngara frogs

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=756932904>

Ryan, Michael J. (Washington, DC [u.a.], 2001)

Anuran communication

<https://kxp.k1oplus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=31979444X>