Sammia Habbas, 30, a French citizen, holds a PhD from the Institut de Biochimie et Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire (IBBMC), at Paris-Sud XI University, Orsay, France. She is a Post-doc student in Prof. Andrea Volterra lab’ at the Département de neurosciences fondamentales at UNIL.

What are you working on?
I’m investigating the role of astrocyte TNFα signalling in the synaptic and behavioral alterations underlying anxious-depressive states.

Why did you choose neuroscience/psychiatry?
I was always interested to know how the brain works.

Where will you be in 20 years?
Professor of course! No I’m joking, I really don’t know and it’s why this job is not easy...

The scientific breakthrough you are waiting for?
I really think that astrocytes are cells more important than what people think...

A movie to see?
Into the wild, directed by Sean Penn.

Desert island book?
Sorry, I’m not really a book reader but maybe something to learn how to survive in a desert island ;-

Sundays are made for...
Depending of the emergency, it could be for working, for cooking, for sleeping, for seeing family/friends...

Being part of the NCCR Synapsy is...
Stimulating.

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