

Roberta Sessoli

Date of birth:	June 23, 1963
Nationality:	Italian
Position:	Associate Professor of Chemistry, University of Florence (Italy)
Education:	1982 Liceo Scientifico G. Castelnuovo, Florence 1987 Laurea in Chemistry, University of Florence 1992 PhD in Chemistry with Prof. D. Gatteschi, University of Florence 1991 Doctoral and postdoctoral studies under the supervision of Dr. P. Rey, Centre d'Études Nucléaires, Grenoble (France) 1993 Doctoral and postdoctoral studies under the supervision of Dr. J. P. Renard, Institut d'Électronique Fondamentale, Orsay (France)
Professional associations:	1997–2000 Associate Researcher, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Florence 2000–Present Assistant Professor of General and Inorganic Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Florence
Awards:	2000 Nasini Medal for the best young Italian inorganic chemist 2002 Agilent Technology Europhysics Prize
Current research interests:	Magnetic interactions in inorganic compounds and organic radicals; electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) and magnetometry; low-dimensional magnetic materials; spin dynamics in molecular materials; magnetism of lanthanide ions; organization of molecules on surfaces
Hobbies:	Reading, watching my three sons play rugby, and trekking (when possible)



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The author presented on this page has recently published her **10th article** since 2000 in *Angewandte Chemie*:
"Record Hard Magnets: Glauber Dynamics Are Key", R. Sessoli, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 5590–5592; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2008**, 47, 5508–5510.

My most exciting discovery to date has been... that molecules can have a magnetic memory.

The biggest challenge facing scientists is... to find renewable and sustainable energy sources.

If I could have dinner with three famous scientists from history, they would be... Galileo Galilei, Michael Faraday, and Richard P. Feynman.

The three things I would take to a desert island would be... a piano, a course to learn how to play it, and a history book. Being unable to memorize names, dates, and facts, it would last for a while.

My biggest motivation is... curiosity.

In my spare time I... what spare time?

The secret of being a successful scientist is... to be a dreamer.

The best advice I have ever been given is... that the mesoscopic phase of molecular clusters could be interesting (from my mentor).

My ultimate goal is... to teach talented students to do better than me.

I would have liked to have discovered... a cancer treatment more efficient but less toxic than cisplatin.

If I could be a piece of lab equipment, I would be... an espresso machine; the most creative science is discussed in front of it.

A good work day begins with... being the first to arrive in the lab and to find an empty e-mail inbox (with the exception of good news from journal editors).

If I could be described as an animal it would be... a mastiff, some would say.

My worst habit is... to feel guilty because I work too hard.



My five top papers:

1. "Magnetic Bistability in a Metal-Ion Cluster": R. Sessoli, D. Gatteschi, A. Caneschi, M. A. Novak, *Nature* **1993**, 365, 141.
2. "Cobalt(II)-Nitronyl Nitroxide Chains as Molecular Magnetic Nanowires": A. Caneschi, D. Gatteschi, N. Lalioti, C. Sangregorio, R. Sessoli, G. Venturi, A. Vindigni, A. Rettori, M. G. Pini, M. A. Novak, *Angew. Chem.* **2001**, 113, 1810–1813; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2001**, 40, 1760–1763.
3. "Quantum Tunneling of Magnetization and Related Phenomena in Molecular Materials": D. Gatteschi, R. Sessoli, *Angew. Chem.* **2003**, 115, 278–309; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2003**, 42, 268–297—featured on the cover, (see above right).
4. "Spin Chirality in a Molecular Dysprosium Triangle: the Archetype of the Noncollinear Ising Model": J. Luzon, K. Bernot, I. J. Hewitt, C. E. Anson, A. K. Powell, R. Sessoli, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **2008**, 100, 247205.
5. "Magnetic Memory of a Single-Molecule Quantum Magnet Wired to a Gold Surface": M. Mannini, F. Pineider, P. Saintavrit, C. Danieli, E. Otero, C. Sciancalepore, A. M. Talarico, M. A. Arrio, A. Cornia, D. Gatteschi, R. Sessoli, *Nature Mater.* **2009**, 8, 194–197.

DOI: 10.1002/anie.200900389