## **Online Supplementary Material**

The online supplementary material shows two movies of the  $Ca^{2+}$  events in middle cerebral arteries mounted in a wire myograph. Under control conditions (**Movie 1**) spontaneous, asynchronous propagating  $Ca^{2+}$  waves can be observed in the individual smooth muscle cells. After the addition of L-NAME, the artery contracted and developed vasomotion. Under these conditions, the synchronous  $Ca^{2+}$  oscillations were observed (**Movie 2**). See Figure 1 for traces of tension and  $[Ca^{2+}]_{SMC}$ .