



*A Sample of Contemporary
Arts in the Turku Region*



ART TKU FIN

A SAMPLE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS IN THE TURKU REGION

Turku, located in the South-West corner of Finland by the Archipelago Sea is the fifth largest city in Finland with its population of about 175,000 inhabitants. Turku has always served as a gate for Western cultural influences into Finland, and the contemporary visual arts in the Turku region today are strong and diversified. The region is active in all fields connected to contemporary art: education, research, exhibitions, events, museums, galleries, communities and artist run organisations.

ART ASSOCIATIONS

There are several art associations for professional artists in Turku. Most of the artists are involved in at least one of the regional associations as well as in one of the national associations. There are approximately 150 professional artists altogether in the Turku region.

The associations run their own galleries and residencies and organize events. They also diligently keep their members informed about upcoming events etc.

MUSEUMS

Turku has three major museums for contemporary art: the Turku Art Museum, Aboa Vetus & Ars Nova and Wäinö Aaltonen Museum. The museums' exhibitions range from large international group exhibitions and thematic exhibitions to focused retrospectives of national heroes.

EDUCATION

The Turku School of Fine Arts was established in 1830 and was the first in Finland. At present the school is called Turku Arts Academy and is part of Turku University of Applied Sciences. The Degree Programme of Fine Arts offer four year studies of photography and fine arts with high quality, is active part of local and national art field and has good connections abroad.

Turku also has two universities with art history as a curriculum subject.

ARTS COUNCIL OF SOUTH-WEST FINLAND

The Arts Council of South-West Finland promotes and supports arts in its region by awarding grants, organizing development projects and offering information, expertise and contacts for artists and art-based projects. A Regional Arts Council is the local representative of the national arts administration of the state of Finland.



2011 CULTURE? WHAT'S THAT? IN 2011, YOU WILL HAVE THE WHOLE YEAR TO FIND OUT.

In 2011, Turku is the European Capital of Culture and each day of the year is filled with abundant reasons to visit the city. Turku 2011 comprises about 150 projects and a multitude of individual events. The year promises to offer international names and local stars, grand events and smaller encounters, one-night shows and sustaining cultural relationships.

The Capital of Culture year will be constructed by many competent hands and burning hearts. Among the contributors are the residents of Turku, a large group of cultural enthusiasts, and the city of Tallinn, Estonia, the other Capital of Culture in 2011.



B-GALLERIA

—B-galleria is a non-profit art gallery founded in 2004 and run by a group of artists, designers, graphic artists, musicians, and cultural activists. The main purpose of the gallery is to provide an inexpensive and easily approachable gallery space for young emerging artists and their ideas. The gallery doubles as a project room for gigs, film screenings, lectures, workshops and other art activities and happenings. B-galleria has also collaborated with several international artists and galleries.

CONTACT INFORMATION

B-galleria
Aninkaistenkatu 5 L 5
20100 Turku
Finland

Tel. +358 (0) 442 845 381
bgalleria@gmail.com
<http://bgalleria.net>



Cheap Art Party 2007



Johanna Porola: Garment, Collection 2



Hertta Kiiski: Your right, 2009



Margarita Rosselló Ramón: Pig, 2009



Ulla Maija Pitkänen: Koivun herkkä iho, 2009



Elina Minn: Paper installation, 2008



JÖÖTTI - SCULPTORS ASSOCIATION

—Jöötti's bronze casting foundry was founded by sculptors in Turku in 1990, and has been operating since. The association runs a versatile, well-equipped art foundry in the old army barracks area of Pääskylvuori. The foundry is designed with work safety, ergonomics and fire safety in mind. As members Jöötti accepts professional artists with a proficiency in cire perdue bronze casting. Jöötti also organizes exhibitions and workshops.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pääskylvuoren kasarmi
Talvitie
20610 Turku
Finland

puheenjohtaja@jootti.org
sihteeri@jootti.org
www.jootti.org

THE SCULPTORS

Béla Czitrom, Outi Eronen, Kari-Petteri Kakko, Veikko Karskela, Sinikka Mäki-Lertola, Erik Mäkinen, Mika Natri, Maarit Nissilä, Markku Ojala, Sampo Parkkonen, Merja Pitkänen, Jani Rättyä, Sofia Saari, Jyri Sammallahti, Silja Selonen, Juhana Tainio and Juha Welling



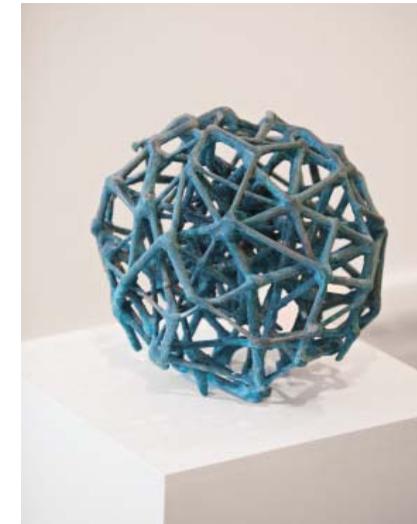
Maarit Nissilä: Jompi-kumpi and Köllä, 2007, bronze



Jani Rättyä: I receive (ochre) 2009, plaster pigment wood



Mika Natri: Rubbery Fields Forever, plastic and rubber, 2008



Sinikka Mäki-Lertola: Structure II, 2009, bronze



Merja Pitkänen: Troop, 2008, aluminium, iron, installation



PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTRE PERI

—Photographic Centre Peri is a regional photographic centre founded in 1987 to operate in the southwest region of Finland and in Turku district.

The main function of the photographic centre is to promote and develop photographic art and culture in the region. The centre has an extensive exhibition program presenting approximately 12 exhibitions a year of Finnish and international contem-

porary photographic and video art. Photographic Centre Peri also runs an artist in residence program, organizes seminars and various projects exploring photographic art.

WWW.KATSE.ORG

katse.org is a web magazine published by Peri focusing on Finnish photography and photographic research.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Photographic Centre Peri
Itäinen Rantakatu 38
20810 Turku
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Tel. + 358 (0) 226 208 50
info@peri.fi
www.peri.fi



(from top)
Katerina Mistal,
Iina Esko,
Juliana Harkki
Sasu Sorpio

Wilma Hurskainen,
Elina Relander,
Tamara Piilola, Luce
Moreau, Nanna Saar-
helo, Marko Karo

Photographs by
(from left)





TURKU PRINTMAKERS ASSOCIATION

—The Turku Printmakers Association is a professional printmakers' organization, the aim of which is to promote graphic art. The association was founded in 1933, and has 93 artist members. It runs its own gallery Joella, which has 14 exhibitions annually. All artists can apply for an exhibition in the gallery. The association organizes group exhibitions in Finland as well as abroad annually, and maintains contacts with European printmakers associations. The association has its own printmaking studio, which is open also for non-members.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Galleria Joella
Läntinen Rantakatu 21
20100 Turku
Finland

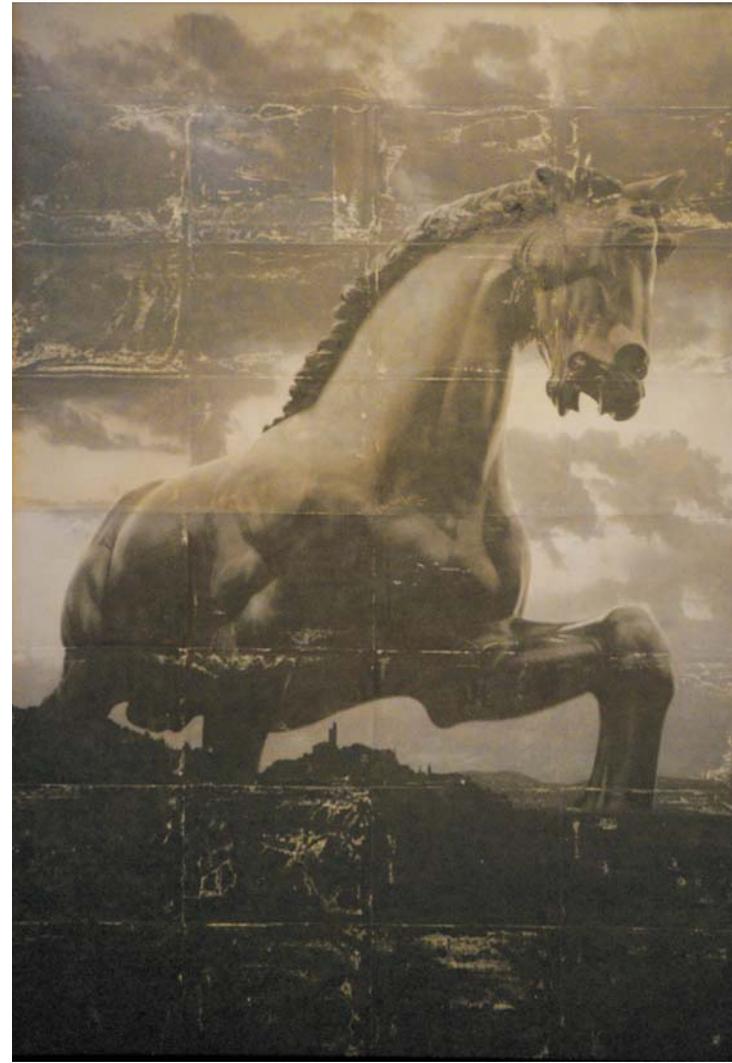
Tel. +358 (0) 223 299 96
www.turun-taidegraafikot.fi
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Markku Haanpää: Family tree, 2008, cyanotype



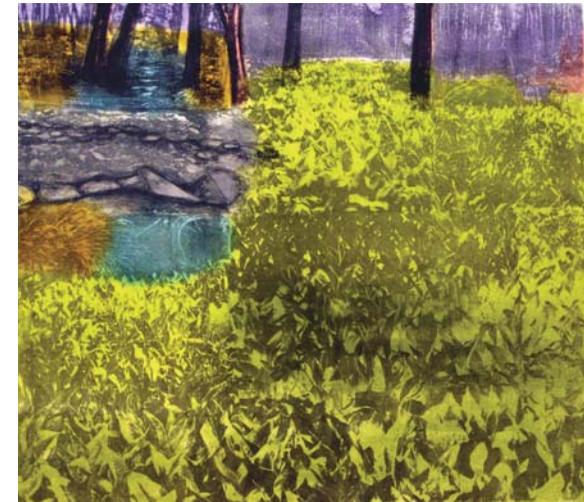
Tonja Goldblatt: Autumn, 2007
engraving and ink on a window frame



Laura Miettinen: Solitude, 2008, pigment transfer and acrylic on MDF board (detail)



Matti Helenius: Tattered Heart,
2008, collagraphy



Marita Mikkonen: Bridge to the forest with the lilies of the valley
2008, lithography, rolling from a wood plate



GALLERY TITANIK

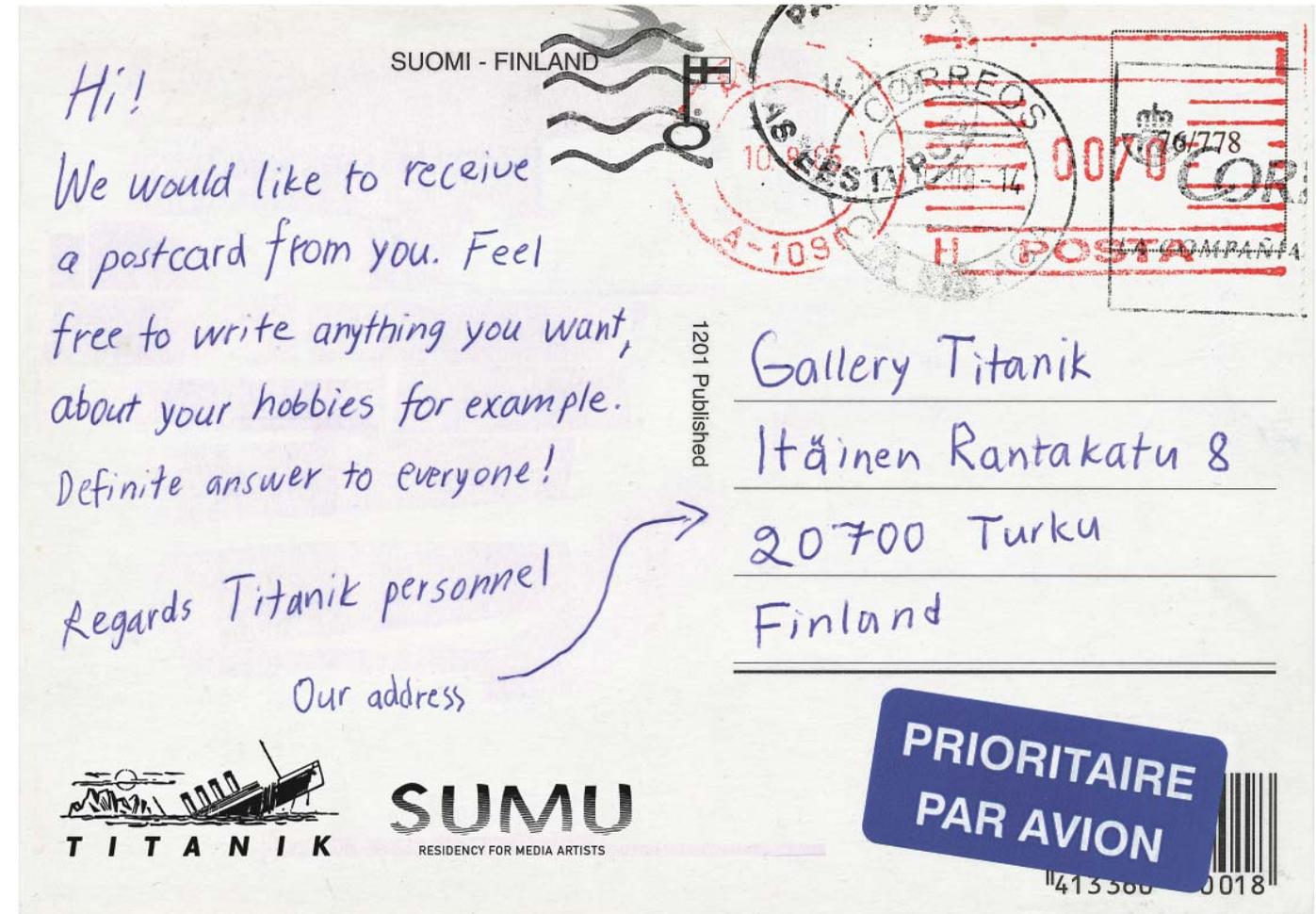
—Artists' Association Arte has its own artist-run gallery space Gallery Titanik in the very heart of Turku on the banks of the Aura River. The gallery was established in 1988 in a space previously occupied by a public lavatory. Since its founding, Gallery

Titanik has introduced good quality contemporary art, hosted hundreds of interesting exhibitions and acted as an alternative choice in the local art scene. Besides exhibitions the gallery space contains the office of Arte as well as the Sumu Residence studio.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Gallery Titanik
Itäinen Rantakatu 8
20700 Turku
Finland

www.titanik.fi





GALLERY Å

—Turku Artists' Association is the oldest and largest artists' association in Turku. It is artist-run and has over 160 members. The main purpose of the organization is to look after the interests of artists and to promote both art and artists.

The association runs its own gallery, Gallery Å, in Turku. The gallery has around 14 exhibitions a year, with emphasis on present-day contemporary art.

Turku Artists' association organizes various exhibitions both in Finland and abroad, an annual exhibition open to all artists in the Turku region as well as the international environmental arts event Flux Aura.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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www.turuntaiteilijaseura.fi



Kaisu Koivisto's exhibition in Gallery Å, 2010



Ilona Niemi, 2006, Bodybags, oil on wood, sewn & stuffed vinyl



Tiina Vainio: Conflict of interests, 2006, paintings in bacteria growing dishes



Markku Haanpää: Aura, 2009, white-collar shirts, acrylic modules, wire cable



ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCES

SUMU

Since 2006, Artists' Association Arte has offered international media artists 1–3 month long residencies in its media art residency Sumu. The residency program is meant for international media artists, working in the intersection of new technologies and contemporary art. The artists are provided with a studio adjoined to Arte's Gallery Titanik, and the accommodation is arranged in a nearby guesthouse by Åbo Akademi University. Transportation and other living expenses are not included in the program funding. The residency artists have the possibility to have an exhibition either in the Sumu studio or on Titanik's website, and they can arrange workshops or public screenings during the residency if they want to. International artists can apply for a residency at Sumu once a year with an individual submission. www.arte.fi

ARTIST EXCHANGE

Finnish-French artist exchange programme is a permanent co-operative project run by the Photographic Centre Peri, the Northern Photographic Centre, the Union of Artist Photographers and the Embassy of Finland in France. French partners involved in the project are Piece of Cake, Pole Image Haute Normandie, Centre Photographique d'Ile de France, Association Diaphane and the French Cultural Centre. The programme offers one Finnish photographer the chance of one month's residency in France, and, correspondingly, the same to a French photographer in Finland. www.peri.fi

PERIODI

Periodi is an international residency project for photographer artists and researchers of photographic art. In spring, an international photographer artist is enjoying a residency and in the autumn the artist will meet a researcher of art as a working partner. The aim of the autumn residency is the creation of an interactive relationship between an artist and an art researcher. www.peri.fi

MAJALA RESIDENCE

The Majala Inn, restored by the city of Salo, was opened for use in the year 2004 as the Majala Artists' Residence. The Majala Artists' Residence is administered and is co-ordinated by Salo Art Museum. Majala was built in 1810 and is situated on the west side of Salo. The distance from the centre of Salo is two kilometres. Salo city (55,000 inhabitants) is located 50 kms from Turku and 115 from Helsinki. The Majala Artists' Residence includes premises for 1 - 4 month stays in the residence for two artists simultaneously and also the possibility for working in the Salo Artists' Association's graphics workshop situated in the building. Activities of the Majala Artists' Residence in Salo will increase and improve contacts between local artists and domestic and foreign guest artists. They will also promote interaction between artists and local people. A stay at Majala gives the artist a chance to work undisturbed, a quiet retreat. www.majala.fi

TAF TAF

Turku Artists' Association has a communal residency in a suburb in Dakar. It is part of a co-operation project, which works for the general improvement of the poor neighbourhood. The residency is situated in the project's own cultural centre where the locals arrange literacy classes, other activities and run one of the few public libraries in Senegal. Residencies are open for Finnish and foreign artists and other professionals as well as for students of different fields. www.turuntaitelijaseura.fi

Finnish artists and local children are making a mural about children's rights. Photo: Minttu Sipola



Photo: Heli Konttinen

SAARI RESIDENCE

Saari Residence is a manor owned and maintained by Kone Foundation as a research and production facility for researchers and artists. Interested applicants can apply for 2 to 3 month stays at the residence. In summertime the residence functions as a group residence. The residence has a wide range of workspaces, from a hall for theatre and dance to researchers' rooms and artists' studio. Saari Residence has capacity for 8 researchers and artists at any one time. For the group residences, larger numbers are possible. The residence also offers possibilities for family accommodation. Saari Residence has good connections with many different artists' organizations and universities. Residence staff can assist the residents to find the possibilities for collaborative work which best suit their individual needs. www.koneensaatio.fi/en/manor/



FLUX AURA 2011

—Flux Aura 2011 is an international environmental art event, which takes place in Turku by the Aura River in summer 2011. The event is part of the Turku 2011 European Capital of Culture. The art pieces of Flux Aura are connected to the Aura river – to running water, to the city, to life and nature around the river. The participants of the event are artists from Southwest Finland, who have chosen a partner to work with from either Finland or abroad. Flux Aura is linked to several other riverside cities around the world, in which the event is realized with the same format. The project's progress can be followed at the Live2011.com website. www.turuntaiteilijaseura.fi



Antti Jussila and Jari Kallio participated Living Room 2008 with "Room"

LIVING ROOM 306,4 KM²

—Living Room 306,4 km² is a city art festival arranged in Turku annually in early June by the Living Room Art Society. The festival lasts for four days, but some of the art works may stay in place longer. The site-specific and communal nature of the art pieces is important criteria in the selection of the works, and the call for applications is international. The number of realized art works varies from less than ten to around twenty depending on the year, and there are also club events and workshops arranged. For the duration of the festival Turku is transformed into a living room for the people, a space in which art is available to everyone with no entrance fees or borders.

www.olohuone.org



Fluxations 2009: Tiina Valkeapää: Plastic globe



LIFE ON A LEAF

—The Finnish artist Jan-Erik Andersson's leaf shaped house Life on a Leaf, has been completed. The unique house, which functions as a home for Andersson's family in Turku, was first conceived in 1999. The house is the main part of Andersson's Doctorate in Fine Arts at the

Academy of Fine Arts in Helsinki. In it Andersson imaginatively explores several issues which address the relationship between art and architecture, and between a house and its surroundings: Can you live in a picture or a sculpture?



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Jani Rättyä: Space, 2009, acrylic on masonite

GALLERIA JOELLA



- ↳ VARSINAIS-SUOMEN TAIDEKOMITEA
- EGENTLIGA FINLANDS KONSTKOMMISSION
- ↳ REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL OF SOUTH-WEST FINLAND

