Galerie

TOOLBOX Berlin

Published by Toolbox Books

Galerie TOOLBOX is a new gallery in Berlin, in the locality of Mitte, and it addresses social questions by means of visual arts. It is a cooperative of seven Finnish modern artists, who have a long experience as art professionals.

Art is a method of communication in social world, where the meaning of experiences is always abstract on some level, and to pass along these experiences requires diverse techniques and forms of art. The power of art is in its capability to transmit social experiences, that help us to learn, to broaden our thinking, to share experiences and to have discussions.

If the commercial view is solely emphasized when considering the contents of art, then art is regarded only as a source of livelihood, bound by the logic of merchandise. The works of art must comply with the ideas of social consumption, not with the thinking that criticizes it and creates new propositions. Hence, the commercial way of thinking restricts art's possibilities to work as a tool of social discussion and communication. Commercial products are planned and adapted to act as a means of commercial benefit and not to work through social criticism. Commercial products try to please as wide a mass of society as possible.

Our opening exhibition deals with the changing European society and its social problems: isolation, alienation, solitude and indifference. The seven founding members of the gallery are represented in the exhibition with sculpture, paintings, drawings and video art.

The artist members are *Maija Helasvuo*, *Minna Jatkola*, *Mika Karhu*, *Jukka Lehtinen*, *Niina Räty*, *Juha Sääski* and *Jan Kenneth Weckman*.

MAIJA HELASVUO, SCULPTOR

b. 1968 Helsinki Finland
mhelasvuo@gmail.com
www.maijahelasvuo.com www.artists.fi/sculptors www.kuvataidematrikkeli.fi

Art Education
1990-1994 Lahti Institute of Fine Art, 1989-1990 Hyvinkää Art School

Exhibition by Invitation
2011 Rovaniemi City Art Museum, Gallery Maaret Finnberg Turku
2010 Ludwig Museum Koblenz, Kerava Art Museum
2009, 2010, 2012 Hyvinkää City Art Museum
2008 Galleria Manes Prag, Espoo Modern Art Museum, Jyväskylä City Art Museum
2006 Exhibition of Uusimaa Art Council
2004 Rauma Art Museum
2003 Postpaces Hyvinkää Lönnström, Oulu and Joensuu Art Museums, Hämeenlinna Art Museum, Bad Hersfeldt Germany
2002, 2010, 2011 Visual Art Exhibition Mänttä, 2002 Tuttlingen City Gallery, Germany
1999, 2006 TAJU Hyvinkää,1999, 2006 Country and Urbane Lappeenranta
1998 Pirkanpohja Art Center
1997 The Finnish Glass Museum Riihimäki, Hämeenlinna Culture center, Gallery of Hyvinkää Artists Association

Group Exhib,itions
2007 Five Rooms, Kunsthalle Helsinki
2006 KIC-Nordic Art Rendsburg Germany
2005 TAJU05 Hyvinkää, Part of Sculptors 05 Exhibition
2004, 2003 Wunderbaum, Kemi, Joensuu, Jyväskylä and Savonlinna Art Museums
2001 Annual Exhibition of Finnish Artists, Jyväskylä Museum of Middle-Finland
2000 Hyvinkää Art Museum, Gallery Titanik Turku, Gallery Becker Jyväskylä
1997 Mältinranta Art Center Tampere, Gallery Joella Turku
1996 Hyvinkää Art Museum, Mältinranta Art Center Tampere
1994 Lahti Art Museum

Private Exhibitions
2010 Kuma Gallerie Berlin, Gallery Tyko Nurmes
2009 Gallery Sculptor Helsinki
2006 Gallery Mania Tampere
2001 Gallery Bakeliittibambi Helsinki, Gallery of Hyvinkää Artists Association

Maija Helasvuo: *Series of Chances Flowers 2008*

Maija Helasvuo: *Death of the Peacock 2011-12*

2011 William Thuring main award
Sculptor Maija Helasvuo, Hyvinkää, Finland:

We associate Maija Helasvuo (born 1968) above all with the material of her sculptures, different types of wood. The living, warm surface texture of the natural material gives her sculptures their own humanity. Helasvuo's awareness of her material comes delicately into being through her expression of emotional or social life. Maija Helasvuo's material, work methods and tools are traditionally male, but the spectrum of feeling contained in her work is broad, and doesn't exclude the humour of everyday life.

2000 Gallery Titanic Turku
1999 Gallery Bakeliittibambi Helsinki, Gallery Kipinä Lahti
1997 Gallery Worshop Helsinki
1996, 2008 Hyvinkää City Art Museum

Prizes
1999 Dukaatti-prize, 2011 William Thuring Main Prize

Works in Collections
Wihuri Foundation, State of Finland, City of Hyvinkää, Lutheran Congregation of Joensuu, Finnish Businesschool, Heino Collection

Public Works
Big Heart, Punaoja Kindergard Hyvinkää, Mirror Hyvinkää City Hall
3-part terracotta sculpture Wanha Villatehdas Hyvinkää,Terracotta Sculpture Villan Kahvila Hyvinkää, co-operate whith Sculptor Anneli Sipiläinen

Grants
2006 State of Finland 3-years Artists Grant, 2010 5-years Artists Grant
2004 The Finnish Cultural Foundation, one year stipendium
2001, 2003, 2009 State of Finland,1997, 2001 Alfred Kordelin Foundation

Memberships
Associations of Finnish Sculptors, Ars Häme, Arcadia Society
(Culture Society of Finnish Parlament memebers ans Artists)

Position of Trust
President of the Association of Finnish Sculptors 2009-2011, Vice president 2012-
Member of the Finnish Artists Studio Foundation council, vice chairman 2003-2008
Member of Finnish Art Magasine council 2003-2008
Chairman of the Finnish Artists Association Representatives 2002-2003
Member of the Helsinki Art Hall council 2001-2003

Research material
TV: Kuvastin 2 Finnish Sculptors YLE 2005

Publication
Mänttä Visual Art Week 2002, 2010, 2011. Who is who in Finland 2011. Pain Kerava Art Museum 2010.
Memory Traces, Zeitgenössische Kunst aus Finnland, Silvana Editoriale 2010.
Wood of the hands of the Sculptors, Espoo Modern Art Museum 2008.
Dukaatti the Finnish Art Society 1846-2006, Rovaniemi Art Museum, Collection of Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation 2000, 2010. Five Room Konsthalle Helsinki 2007. Made by wood Metsäkustannus 2007.
Machtproben, Gallerie der Stadt Tuttlingen 2002

MINNA JATKOLA

b.1974 in Raahe, Finland, lives and works in Helsinki, Finland
jatkolaminna@gmail.com www.minnajatkola.com

Studies:

2012- Aalto University, School of Arts, Design and Architecture,
Art Education for Professionals, MA, Helsinki,
1998-2001 University of Art and Desing, Pallas Fine Arts, MA, Helsinki
1994-1998 The Institute of Fine Arts, Lahti University of Applied Sciences, Lahti
1997 Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weissensee, Berlin, Germany
1993-1994 Liminka Art School, Liminka,
1993 Matriculation Examination, Raahe

Solo exhibitions

2013 Galerie TOOLBOX, Berlin,Germany
2011,10 Galleria Kajava, Helsinki
2009, 06, 04 Galleria Heino, Helsinki
2007 Galerie výtvarného umeni v Moste, Gallery of Fine Art in Most, Czech Republic
2006 Galleria Myötätuuli, Raahe
2005 Galleria Mania,Tampere / Galleria Orton, Helsinki
2000 Kaapelin Galleria, The Cable Factory, Helsinki,
1998 Galleria Nuovo, Lahti
1997 Häme-Galleria, Lahti / Library of Lahti Polytechnic, Lahti
1994 Hansa Gallery, Raahe

Group exhibitions:

2012 Galerie TOOLBOX, Berlin, Germany / Tutkielmia muutoksesta, Galleria Rantakasarmi,
Suomenlinna, Helsinki / Via Arte, Viitasaari
2010 Toden näköistä, Helsinki Art Museum, Helsinki / Jatkola, Sääski, Uutinen, Memory Traces,
Finnland-institut, Berlin, Germany / Memory Traces, Ludwig Museum, Koblenz, Germany
2009 Ars Auttoinen, Auttoinen, Padasjoki
2008 Brave New World, Gallerie Manés, Praque, Czech Republic
2007 Art Copenhagen, Forum, Copenhagen, Denmark / Transgressio, Artists Association of Finland,
South-Karelian Art Museum, Lappeenranta
2006 Kiila 75th anniversary, Art Hall, Helsinki / 35th anniversary of Institute of Fine Art Lahti,
Taidepanimo, Lahti / Kultainen leikkaus, Oulu City Art Museum, Oulu
2005 Christmas Show, Galleria Mania, Tampere / Taidekeinojen Ekumenia, Lappeenranta /
Artists 2005, The 110th Annual Exhibition of Finnish Artists, Kunsthalle, Helsinki
2004 RajatOn, The National Young Artists' Exhibition, Art Center Ahjo, Joensuu /
Kunnian polut taiteessa, Galleria Pihatto, Lappeenranta
2003 Ideologia II, Nordic Biennale of Contemporary Art, Göteborg, Sweden / Keksi,
Iinternational Summer Exhibition, Taidepanimo, Lahti / Jälkitilat-group, Hyvinkää City Art Museum,
Lönnström Art Museum, Rauma / Oulu City Art Museum, Joensuu City Art Museum

2002 Masters of Arts, Forum Box, Helsinki
2001 The National Young Artists' Exhibition, Kunsthalle, Helsinki / Art of Analyste Competition, The Cable Factory, Helsinki
2000 Mäntän tuliaiset, Studio Mezzo, Helsinki / 5th Mänttä Art Festival, Mänttä / Pallas-exhibition, Otso Gallery, Espoo
1999 BREAK 21, International Festival of Young Artists, Lljubljana, Slovenia / Hakaniemen Kauppahalli, Helsinki / Pallas, Otso Gallery, Espoo
1997 The Young Artists' Exhibition of Päijät-Häme, Matinpalo-Museum, Nastola / Stoa, Helsinki / Fullhouse, Promenadigalleria, Hyvinkää
1996 Comment, The National Young Artists' Exhibition, W&G, Espoo /Vanha Palolaitos, Raahe / Summer of Länsiharju Lahti / Janssonin Galleria, Piehinki
1995 Vanha Palolaitos, Raahe / The Instiute of Fine Arts, Matinpalo-Museum, Nastola / Summer Exhibition, Janssonin Galleria, Piehinki
1994 Halpaa mutta Taidetta, Vanha Kulttuuritoimisto, Lahti
1993 Liminka Art School, Liminka

Public works
Highschool of Raahe, Helsinki Club, Helsinki, Lahti Polytecnic Library, Lahti

Awards
2004 Fine Arts Association of Finland, Ducatprize

Grants
2010, 06, 01 Finnish Cultural Foundation
2009, 2007 National Council for Visual Arts, grant for the period of one year
2008 Arts Council of Helsinki Metropolitan Region / Art Council of Finland Travel Grant
2007 Frame – Finnish Fund for Art Exchange
2005, 2003 Finnish Cultural Foundation Uusimaa Regional Fund
2005, 2003 National Council for Visual Arts
2004 National Council for Visual Arts, Public display grant
2003 Sleipnir Travel Grant / Fine Arts Association of Finland
2002 Helsinki City
1997, 1995 Raahe City
1994 Liminka Art School

Collections
Helsinki City Art Museum (2009, 2001), Sara Hildén Art Museum (2010, 2009),
Oulu City Art Museum (2003), Paulo Foundation (2004), Lahti University of Applied Sciences (1998),
Raahe City (2009, 2006), Sokos Hotel Helsinki (2001), Sokos Hotel Klaus Kurki, Helsinki (2004),
West Helsinki College of Music (2000), Higschool of Raahe (2009, 2006),
Private Collections in Finland and Germany

Memberships
Finnish Painters' Union, Helsinki Artists' Association, Kuvasto

Minna Jatkola: *Geometry of separateness, 2007-09, acrylic and oil on canvas, 260 x 400 cm, private collection*

Minna Jatkola: *Chain of Days, 2010, acrylic and oil on canvas, 150 x 170 cm, Sara Hildén Art Museum Collection*

Minna Jatkola (b. 1974) has become known for her large oil paintings that comment broadly on today's phenomena. According to Jatkola painting portraying several elements and events is not necessarily easy to understand. She considers the process of examination as a possibility of choosing several paths. The pictures and elements telling a story in an artwork are approachable from different angles. If many vanishing points and different, separate spaces are present in a painting, they are outlined as one single entity that is not limited by specific timeframe or simultaneous events. Elements that exist in different levels of time are perceived simultaneously when they have a common theme. Jatkola wishes to contextualize and question the visible world and accept the possibility of several viewpoints that do not need to rule each other out. This is possible in a painting that does not imply a manner of representation based on solely photographic visual perception, a reproduction of a make-belief part of reality, but rather on how elements feel or could feel seen from several perspectives.

www.minnajatkola.com

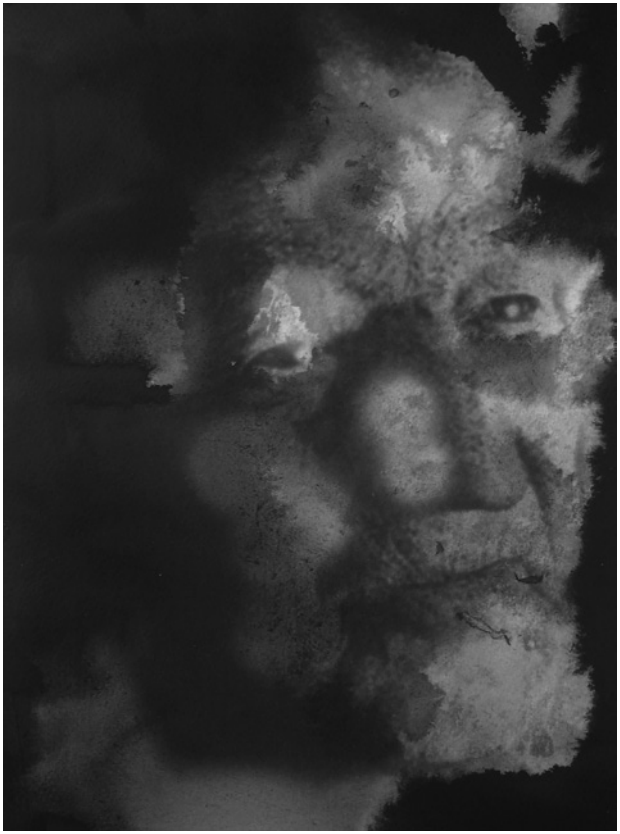
MIKA KARHU

Master of Arts, (PhD 2012) visual artist, researcher
born 1969, Joensuu, Finland
Live and work in Hyvinkää / Hämeenlinna, Finland, Berlin Germany

Education
2002– 2012 University of Art and Design, post-graduate student
1998–2000 University of Art and Design, PALLAS fine arts – master's degree programme
1994–2012 University of Helsinki, theoretical philosophy, microbiology, neuropsychology
(Open university)
1991–1993 Lahti University of Applied Sciences, Department of Printmaking
1989–1991 Hyvinkää Art School
1985–88 North Karelia College of Arts and Design

Represented (Select)
Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Helsinki
State Art Collection
Helsinki City Art Museum
Joensuu Art Museum
Hyvinkää Art Museum
Vantaa Art Museum
Artists' Association of Finland
Arts Council of Häme
City of Hämeenlinna
City of Riihimäki
Joensuu Evangelic Lutheran Congregation
Tuttlingen, Germany
Fine Arts Association of Finland
Heino Collection, Finland
Swanljung Collection, Finland
EMMA Espoo Museum of Modern Art
Turku Art Museum
Ludwig Museum Collection, Germany
Kerava Art Museum

Grants and Awards (Select)
2011 National Council for Visual Arts, 3-year grant
2010 Arts Council of Finland Finnish Cultural Foundation,
Central Fund Grant
2009 City Of Hyvinkää, Special Prize
Ars Fennica Candidate
2008 William Thuring Award, Fine Arts Association of Finland



Mika Karhu: *Portrait of a Writer Timo K. Mukka, 40 x 30 cm, ink on paper, 2012*

Solo Exhibitions (Select)

2012 ArsHäme, GalleriaKONE, Hämeenlinna
2010 Galerie Krüger, Koblenz, Germany
Galerie Maud Piquion, Berlin, Germany
Galleria Maaret Finnberg, Turku
2009 Galleria Heino, Helsinki
2008 Galleria Aarni, WeeGee, Espoo
Hyvinkää Art Museum
2007 Galleria Heino, Helsinki

Group Exhibitions

Participated in many group exhibitions in Finland and Europe.

Academic Merits

Participated in many scientific conferences and seminars in Finland and in Europe.
Author of 34 scientific papers in Finland and Europe.

Mika Karhu: *Bark Hornet,*
487 x 466 x 118 cm, 2006-2012,
birch bark, fiber glass, moss, wood

Art is a vehicle for thinking and knowing. Art creates knowledge unformalized in a traditional sense compared to scientific knowledge. The knowledge that is art brings form to experiencing changes in time, as changes of experience. Art brings about meaning. Art organizes our experiences combining historically evolving skills and knowledge with the present – in our action.

Art mediates our perception and saves our experiences on to memory. Thinking arises out of raw matter of experience and is manipulated by artistic thinking into a meaningful form.
The significance of art grows form the experiential context, networks of behavior and habits often non-verbally affecting our actions in highly compulsive ways.
Experiences grow in interaction with the environment.
Experiences become a cumulative knowledge of action. Through experience we organize and re-evaluate the mediate or historical as well as the immediate, the here and now and relations between these two. We live, as it were, our history in the future.

Earlier experiences define our life and the imminent blends with the recent creating a new experience. When, similarily, former experiences get a new viewpoint, this changes the states of departure for future experiences. Experiences give us a possibility to re-examine our future actions .

Meanings appearing in emotions are difficult to describe verbally. Our experiences bring along dimensions impossible to define in a final sense. Artistic work builds on structuring emotional meanings. Emotions could be labeled as reservoirs of meaning.

Elements tied to experience are thematic and functional to art. By this I mean that artists use elements yet to be structured in his/her work, such as they are developing in experience and in ineraction with the world. Emotions are indicators of bodily existence, expressing nodes of interaction between humans and enviroment making a diversity of life possible.

Mika Karhu

JUKKA LEHTINEN

Sculptor

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mobile: +358 50 3366031
e-mail: jukka.lehtinen@pp.phnet.fi

Art studies
Lahti Institute of Fine Arts 1982-1986

Selected one man shows
2008 City Art Gallery, WSP Finland Oy
2007 Galleria Sculptor
2005 Galleria 21, Malmö
2005 Nörtällje Konsthall
2001 Galleria Valo, University of Lappland, Rovaniemi
Retretti Art Centre, Punkaharju, Finland
1999 Gallery Sculptor, Helsinki, Finland
1996 Gallery Sculptor, Helsinki, Finland
1995 Lahti Art Museum, Finland
1992 Gallery Sculptor, Helsinki, Finland
1990 Gallery of the Society of Finnish Graphic Artists, Helsinki, Finland

Environmental Art Works
2000 Public Piece / Transplant Heart project, Santiago de Compostela, Spain
2000 Public Piece /Tranplant Heart project, Hakaniemi market place, Helsinki

Selected group exhibitions
2011 Getting Warmer / Climate Change in Art, , Joensuu Art Museum
2008 Rauma Biennale Balticum “Flower Power”, Rauma Art Museum
2006 11th Mänttä Art Festival, Finland
2005 Nimettömät-kalsarikulttuuria, Helsinki City Art Museum
11th Mänttä Art Festival, Finland
Sculptor 2005, Salon taidemuseo
2003 Korkea kohta, Hämeenlinna Art Museum
8th Mänttä Art Festival, Finland
Korkea kohta, Oulu Art Museum
2002 Identity, Birmingham, England
Se käy, Ars Nova Aboa Vetus, Turku
Se käy, Varkauden taidemuseo
Soul, Korea, European printmaking
2000 100 exhibition, 90 designers, 10 artists, VR makasiinit, Helsinki

1999 4th Manttä Art Festival, Finland
Taju, Hyvinkää, Finland
1998 Visions, Tammisaari, Finland
1997 22nd International Biennial of Graphic Art, Slovakia
1997 3rd Mänttä Art Festival, Finland
1996 Sopmuseet, circulating exhibition, Sweden
1995 Nordic Well, Reykjavik, Island
1993 Annual Exhibition of the Artists Association of Finland, Karkkila
9th Tallin Print Triennial, Estonia
Happoa, exhibition of the Society of Finnish Graphic Artists, Helsinki City Art Museum
1990 Exhibition of Young Artists, Helsinki Art Hall, Finland
1989 94th Annual Exhibition of the Artists Association of Finland
Pro Graphica, Lohja, Finland

Publications
Monipuolinen serigrafia, Lehtinen, Mörö, Reijonen, Ilmari design publications, 2002

Public Art Works
Ahtiala Church, Lahti 2006
Kallion virastotalo, Helsinki 2005
”Where the straberrys gro”, Little Parliament House, Helsinki 2007

Competitions
1st price, Little Parliament Art Work competition, location 1

Invitation Competitions
Physicumi art competition, Departement of Physics Departement oc Science, Kumpula 2001
Art competition in Mäntyniemi, the official residence for the President of the Republic of Finland 2010

Artistic activities
Representation Digital Surface conferens, 2003, Tate Britain, London
www.digitalsurface.net

Works in collections
Town of Kouvola
Town of Lahti
Helsinki City Art Museum
Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma
Oulu Art Museum

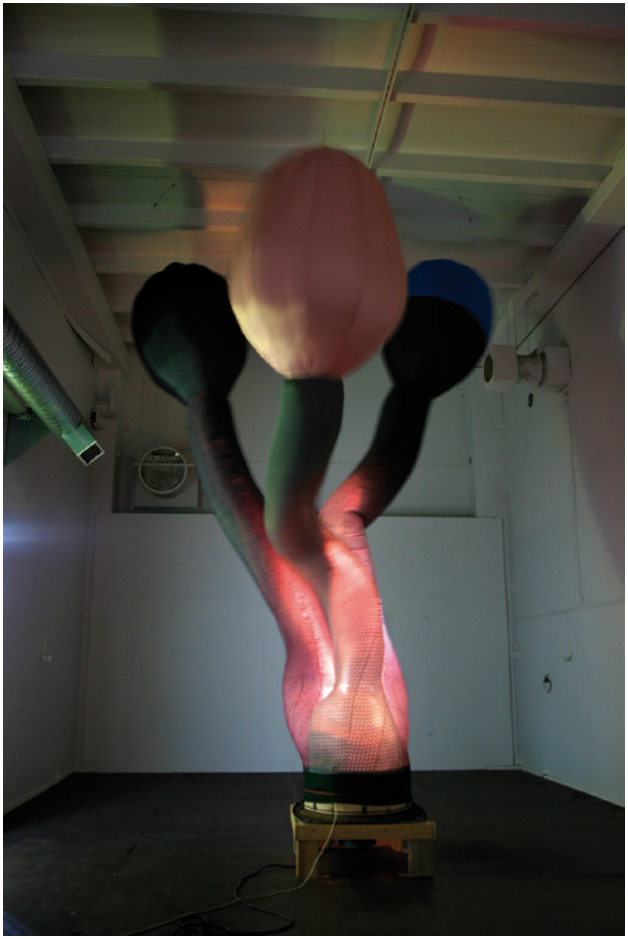
Jukka Lehtinen:
Bunch

I live and work on countryside in Orimattila . Living out of town gives some peace. Teaching fine art on university and polytechinic level has been part of my profession for 25 years.

My work is mostly three dimensional and spatial. I use 3D modelling and industrial production methods together with traditional sculpturing with clay and plaster. Using new methods and tools is my working method – a useful boyish way to get into troubles. It brings new blood in my art.

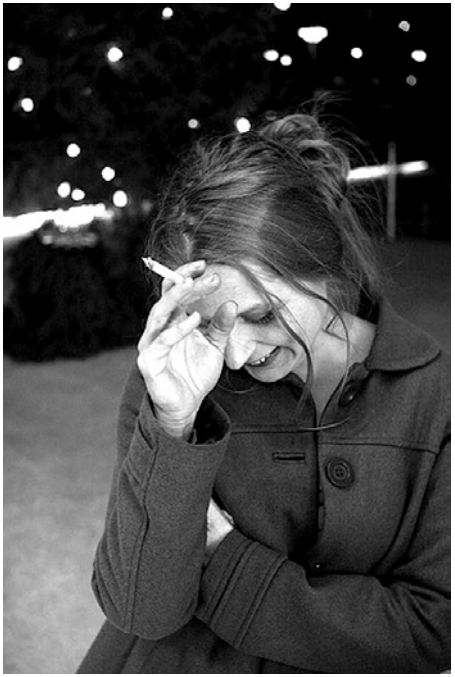
I use recognizable forms in my objects and I like to scale things bigger. At times there is some silent visual humour in my work though I think that lately I have become more serious.

With my art I try to express something that is not possible to produce with other means. Spatial experience is immediate. It's not a mediated story but a direct thrill. I hope to bring up so strong experiences that the viewer forgets first for an instant to think and reason.



Jukka Lehtinen: *Fluttering legs*

NIINA RÄTY



born 1973 in Lahti

Education
1995-1999 Lahti Institute of Art, BA
1997 Akureyri School of Visual Arts
1993-1995 Liminka Art School

Solo exhibitions
2012 Galerie TOOLBOX, Berlin
2010 Galleria kajava, Helsinki
2009 Galleria Aarni, Espoo
2008 tm galleria, Helsinki
2006 Galleria Mania, Tampere
2006 Galleria Orton, Helsinki
2004 Kluuvin galleria, Helsinki, Kotona (At home), paintings
2000 Galleria Marian Portti, Lahti, drawings
1999 Galleria Marian Portti, Lahti, paintings
1998 Gallery at Institute of Design and Fine Arts,
Lahti University of Applied Sciences
1997 Häme Galleria, Lahti, Hiili (Charcoal)

Joint exhibitions
2003 Kunsthalle, Helsinki, The Young Artists Exhibition by
The Artists' Association of Finland

Group exhibitions
2012 Galerie TOOLBOX, Berlin
2010 Kipu (Pain), Kerava Art Museum
2008 Uusi maalaus (New Painting), Lahti Art Museum
2007 Käsittämätöntä mutta totta (Inconsiveable but true), The Helsinki City Art Museum, Meilahti
2007 OPEN, Annantalo Arts Centre, Helsinki
2004 Forum Box, Helsinki
2003 Taidepanimo, Lahti, Keksi
2001 Pax Animi, Imatra
2000 Kaapelitehdas, Helsinki, The Art of Analyste competition exhibition
2000 Autartic Comics, Brussels
2000 Kaupunkitarinoita (Urban stories), Helsinki Comics Festival, Helsinki
1995 Liminka Art School, Liminka

Public works of art:
1998 mural, ESAN printing house, Lahti

Grants
2012 Arts Council of Uusimaa
2009 Arts Council of Uusimaa
2008 Arts Council of Uusimaa
2007 Suomen taideyhdistys (Finnish Arts Union), Young artists' grant
2005 Finnish Cultural Foundation, Uusimaa Regional Fund
2004 Arts Council of Finland, Project grant for visual arts
2002 Arts Council of Finland, as part of a group grant
1999 European capital of culture 2000 fund, as part of a group grant

Works within collections
The Helsinki City Art Museum
Diakoniainstituutti, Lahti
The Western Helsinki music institute
Private collections

Memberships
Finnish Painters´ Union, Painters´ copyright organization Kuvasto

I mostly paint large multi-part series of works.

I create my own photo album via painting, depicting close people and places as seen through my own experiences. I seek the things that life and existence attach to. I choose a situation or a space that is private and universal like a family gathering, holiday in a summer cottage or a plate on a kitchen table. In my paintings, just like in front of a camera there is a composition; a wedding couple just like other wedding couples around the world, a tourist in front of a local sight forms a picture – a composition that we all are familiar with from our own holiday photos.

We try to capture important moments in our own album and as we take the pictures they represent the form of the event. Compositions using this formula illustrate our own life story. Perhaps through this mechanics of social and spatial being we have a fleeting chance of understanding other people.

Surely painting, restructuring the world on a canvas into a more comprehensible shape is always also a form of self-therapy, organising and tidying up one's own place, choosing a perspective which helps to tolerate life's chaos. This aspect of the creative process is, besides sharing and reaching out for another person, central to my artistic work.

Niina Räty: *Outside, Markku and Maija, 2010, oil on canvas, 170 cm x 160 cm*

Niina Räty: *Outside, Aimo, 2010, oil on canvas, 170 cm x 270 cm*

JUHA SÄÄSKI

visual artist, born in Helsinki 25.2. 1952
lives and works in Åminnefors, south-west of Finland www.saunalahti.fi/jsaaski/
Member of The Finnish Painters´ Union since 1977 jsaaski@saunalahti.fi

Studies
The Academy of Fine Arts of Finland, Helsinki 1973-77
The Art College of Savonlinna 1969-72

One Man Shows
40 one man shows in several finnish galleries (mostly in Helsinki) and art museums.
Abroad: Galerie TOOLBOX, Berlin, Germany 2013, Galeriehaus Nord, Nurnberg, Germany 2010, Galerie Sebastianskapelle, Ulm, Germany 2008, The Art Museum of Estonia, Tallinn 1991

Group Exhibitions in Finland
more than 200 group exhibitions in Finland, for instance: Pain-exhibition,
Kerava Art Museum 2010, The Sense of reality- exhibition, Hyvinkää Art Museum 2009.
The annual Exhibition of The Finnish Artists´ Association, Helsinki Art Hall 1976-1990, 2001,
The Mänttä Art Festival Exhibition 1995, 1999,
The annual Young Artists´ Exhibition, Helsinki Art Hall 1974-1985

Group Exhibitions Abroad
“Social Box” The opening exhibition of Galerie TOOLBOX, Berlin, Germany 2012,
“Street-art”, Galerie Richter-Masset, Munich, Germany 2012,
Together with Minna Jatkola and Marianna Uutinen, the Finnish-German Culture Institut Gallery, Berlin, Germany 2010,
“Memory traces”, finnish contemporary art, Ludwig Museum, Koblenz, Germany 2010,
“Märkesåret 200”, finnish contemporary art, 4 finnish painters, Galleri Konst, Karlstad, Sweden 2009,
Estonia (Tallinn) 1997, East Germany (DDR) 1987, Sweden 1980,
Germany (Hamburg) 1979, Poland, Hungary, Jugoslavia 1979, Norway, Sweden, Denmark 1973

Collections
Represented in several private and public collections of cities, art museums, banks, concerns

Monumental Works
Wallpainting of The Finnish School of Costa del Sol (Colegio Finlandes), Fuengirola, Spain 2011,
Large scale painting in Kannas school in Lahti, city tunnel-painting in Lahti, outside wall painting in Helsinki, International wallpainting project with Judith Baca, South America, USA, Finland, Soviet Union, Japan, Australia, Africa, Spain

Activities in Artists`Organisations
Chairman of the Representative Body of the Artists`Association of Finland 2003,-04,-05, chairman of the Finnish Painters`Union 1993-94, 1995-96, chairman of the Atelierhouse Foundation of Helsinki
1986-89. Leadeship-member and vice chairman of many other artists`organisations.

Working as a Teacher
Several art schools and art courses around Finland since 1973, the University of Art and Design, Helsinki, art department since 1984, Aalto University, Helsinki, since 2010

Publications
Voima magasin, interview by Otso Kantokorpi 2012 / Art-in Berlin, online art magasin, interview by Teresa Köster 2010
Memory Traces exhibition-book (Silvana Editoriale S.p.A, Italy) 2010 / Painexhibition catalogue, Kerava Art Museum 2010
Gallery Jangva 15 years cataloque 2009 / Juha Sääski exhibition cataloque Muu-Gallery, Galerie Sebastianskapelle, Zebra-Gallery 2008
Orton Gallery cataloque Nro 6, 2007 interview by Otso Kantokorpi / Kiila 70 years exhibition cataloque 2006
Juha Sääski exhibition cataloque, Gallery Forum Box 2006
Taide art magasin 1/2005, interview by Mika Karhu
TM-Gallery cataloque 2005
Kiila´s Album 2005
Kaiku-Echo exhibition cataloque, Tallin Art Hall 1997
Juha Sääski exhibition cataloque, Lahti City Art Museum 1980

Juha Sääski: *A hard day´s hard night, oil on canvas, 160 x 200 cm, 2010*

Juha Sääski: *Monitoring the realities, oil on canvas, 160 x 210 cm, 2011-12*

Tragicomicality

I was born in Helsinki in 1952. The last 13 years I´ve been living and working in south-west of Finland, in the village of Åminnefors, 90 kilometers from Helsinki. After the art-college of Savonlinna 1969-72 and the Academy of Fine Arts of Finland in Helsinki 1973-77 I´ve been working as an artist and art-teacher in several art-schools, the longest period in the University of Art and Design Helsinki, since 1984, which is nowadays a part of the Aalto University. I was working twenty years in the artists´ associations, for instance the chairman of The Finnish Painters´ Union 1993-96. I´ve also been working as a curator.

From the very beginning I was interested in the dimensions of art and society. My art education was totally based on modern art theory but at the same time in the seventies social art, pop-art and socialistic realism were strongly affecting in the finnish art-scene. All those influences can be seen in my works.

I´m striving toward scetching a portrait of the spirit of the times. Becoming alienated and suffering of the structural violence of the society and the market-economy is capturing the situation more perfectly day by day. The diminishing of social justice and equality is decreasing the feeling of community and ability for empathy.

Tragicomicality is often the basic setting of my works. Joy and hope are my driving forces. Using alienation, humour, satire and irony I comment on the cultural state of affairs. I compare simplified naiveties, cliches, happy or optimistic things and aesthetics to the serious and sad subject matters.
By combining these tragicomic, conflicting elements I´m aiming for expressing the paradoxal nature of human life and showing the true nature of subjects and phenomena. Along with experiencing the work of art the main questions that should hopefully arise are: Am I living awake, is this good life ? If not, what´s the solution ?

According to Charlie Chaplin: ” Life is tragic in the close up, but comedy from the distance”.

JAN KENNETH WECKMAN

born 10.2.1946 in Helsinki. Lives in Rusko, works in Turku

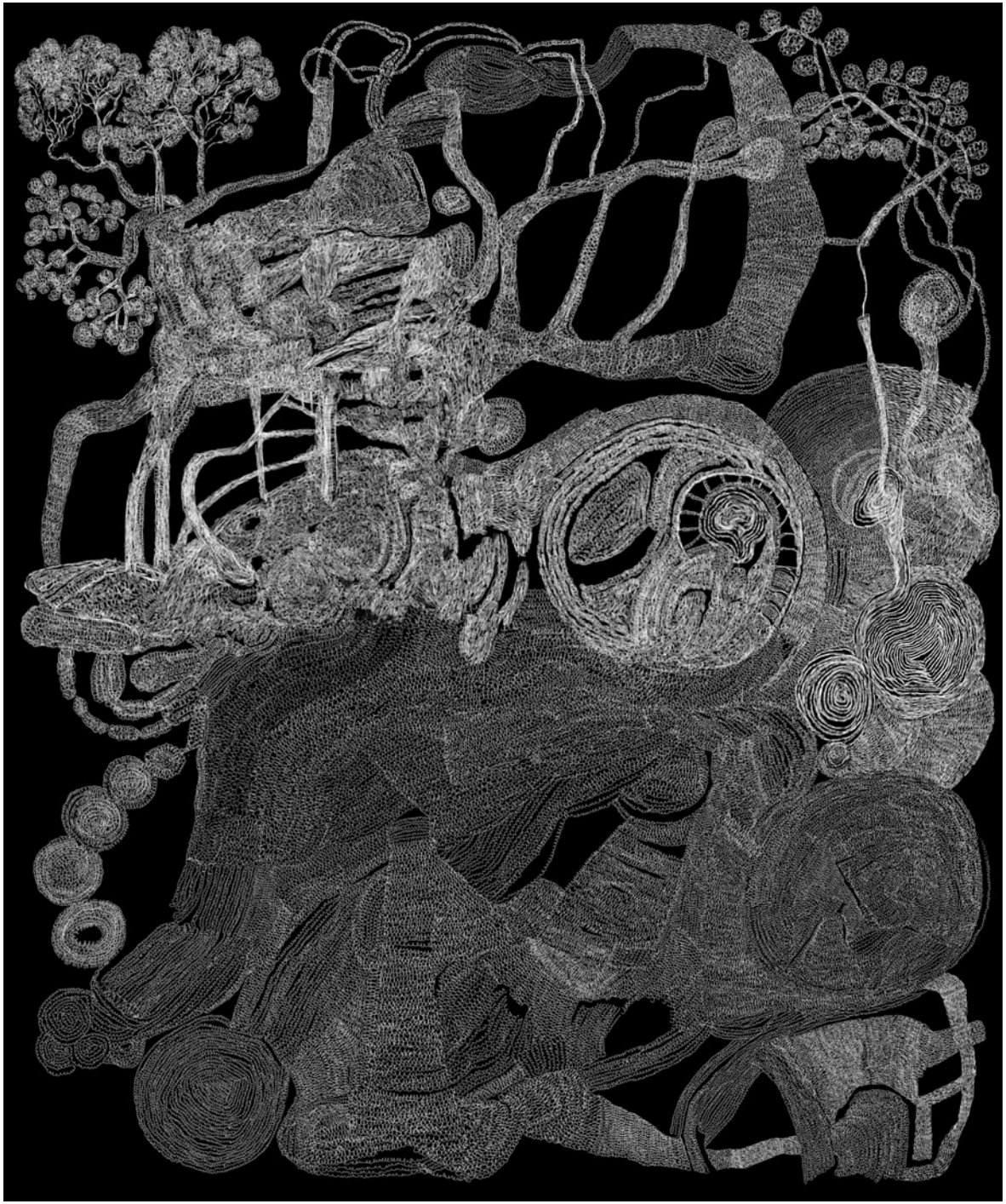
Represented in collections
Finnish state Art collection, Swedish State Art collection, Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art, Kiasma, Helsinki, Moderna museet, Stockholm, Göteborgs konstmuseum, Helsinkis City Art Museum, TUrku Art Museum, Ars Nova Aboa Vetus Museum, Turku, Lahti Art Museum, Art collections of Borvoo, Espoo, Hyvinkää, Joensuu, Vasa, Imatra, Kemi, Oulu, Nüremberg Germany. Private art collections in Finland, France, Sweden, United States

Awards
Young Artists, Helsinki Art Hall;
1978 Award at the International Drawing Triennale, Nürnberg, Germany;
1979 Award of the Festival International de la Peinture, Cagnes-sur-Mer, France:
1981 The Art Award of the Finnish State;
1983 Marcus Collins Art Award1996; Svenska Kulturfonden, Art award 2009

Selected Solo shows 2011-2000
2011 Gallery Heino Helsinki
2008 Corpus revisited, Wäinö Aaltonen Art Museum Studio, Turku
2008 Gallery Heino, Helsinki
2007 Gallery Nefret, Turku
2005 Gallery Nefret, Turku
2003 ! Ars Nova & Aboa Vetus, Turku; Galleria Krista Mikkola, Helsinki; Galleria Harmaja, Oulu
2001 ”As if”, Forum Box, Helsinki
2000 Amos Anderson Museum of Art, Helsinki

Selected group exhibitions 2011-2000
2010 Gallery Maaret Finnberg, Turku
2010 Dialogues in Space, Mimara-museum, Zagreb, Croatia
2010 Mänttä Art Festival, Mänttä-Vilppula
2009 Outside the Rules, Norway-Finland Instute of Culture, Oslo, Norway
2009 Gallery Heino, Copenhagen Artfair, Copenhagen, Denmark
2009 Gallery Nefret, ARTVILNIUS’09, Vilnius, Lithuania
2009 Kuopio Art Museum, Kuopio 2008 Icon@BraveNewWorld, Galleria Manés, Prague
2008 Outside the Rules, Härnösand Konsthall, Sweden
2008 Kristiansund Konsthall, Kristiansund, Sweden
2007 Outside the Rules, Renlund museum, Kokkola, Cable Factory, Helsinki;
Taju, Hyvinkää Art museum; Gallery Heino, Helsinki
2004 Näkemisen virta (The Stream of Seeing) Amos Anderson Museum of Art, Helsinki
2002 Uniikki (Unique) Fiskars

Jan Kenneth Weckman:
Hard Facts,
pigment print
on acid-free paper
approx. 90x 75 cm,
2012



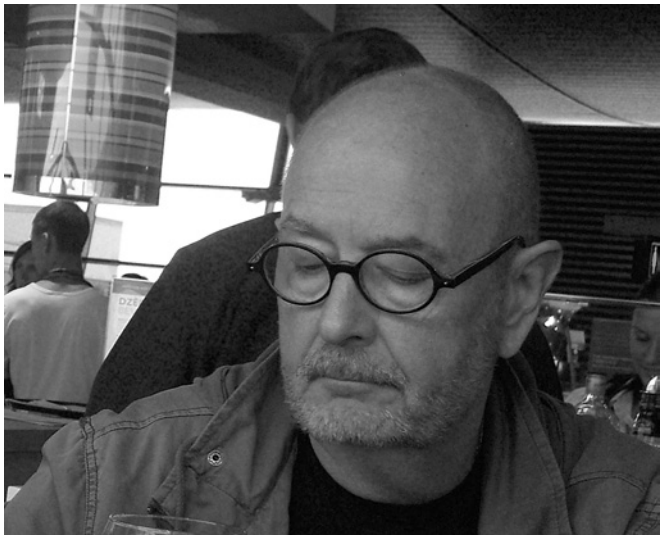
Statement

As such, hard facts are wrapped in culture and used for whatever we can get our hands on, to survive, to prosper and to rule. This is an idea as good as any other worth a strip cartoon, a game, a graphic drawing.

My graphic work evolve out of a number of interests. For one, my background in drawing and painting give one source. Another source is the ambivalent notion of image as illusion and a starting point for discursive thought. This amounts to a range of ways that make for habit based production and use of signs, text, image, mindmaps. Here I follow Charles Sanders Peirce that introduced a triadic system of signs, from icon over to index and symbol. I am inspired by images that work as maps, landscapes, that is, as icons while at the same time being embedded in symbolic functions and practices we know from everywhere around us. We can not sustain without sign processes. Political and cultural power need signs as we do.

These works shown at the first Toolbox gallery exhibition is a variation of a series of digital that belong to a large work called Tabletop Shortline - we all want to see our railroad go somewhere, 108 prints shown at Mänttä Art Festival 2010. From that installation (Use keyword Mänttä at http://jankennethweckman.fi) I have extracted works belongning to the series that go by the title Hard Facts and continue around the lines of a confusion between mindmaps, allegory and a sci-fi landscape registered from a high ground, or space where cameras orbit the moon revealing some kind of cultural or biological life.

Jan Kenneth Weckman at Toolbox gallery, Berlin, September 2012



Jan Kenneth Weckman:
Another day on the planet HardFacts, pigment print on acid-fee paper approx. 90 x 75 cm, 2012

Galerie TOOLBOX
Exhibitions 8.9. 2012 - 31.8. 2013

8.9.–6.10.2012	Opening exhibition Social BOX
13.10.–10.11.2012	Social Isolation, Drawing exhibition
17.11.–14.12.2012	Maija Helasvuo
18.12.–5.1.2012–13	Visit BOX
12.1.–9.2.2013	Jukka Lehtinen
16.2.–16.3.2013	Ars Häme
23.3.–20.4.2013	Jan Kenneth Weckman
27.4.–25.5.2013	Juha Sääski
1.6.–22.6.2013	Mika Karhu
29.6.–27.7.2013	Minna Jatkola
3.8.–31.8.2013	Niina Räty