

ARTISTS' ISLAND – a different contemporary art exhibition in the beautiful Helsinki archipelago

The exhibition is on view 10.8.–26.9.2021 on Harakka island. The island is situated outside Kaivopuisto, right by Helsinki city centre. Harakka is a beautiful destination, with historical buildings, nature reserves, the Nature Centre and the Artists' House.

The 31 artists and artisans in the exhibition work in Harakka Artists' House. The exhibition has been curated by Veikko Halmetoja. Artists' Island has come together through a collective process, where the emphasis of the curatorial role has been on ideas and planning of the final presentation.

I wanted to make this exhibition together with the artist collective in Harakka. They know the island best and have brought me there in different seasons and under various weather conditions. During this process, I have become attached to the island. I believe that many exhibition visitors will discover Harakka, like I have, and add it to their permanent destinations, Halmetoja says.

Nothing additional was brought to Artists' Island. It is not a spectacle, nor does it declare anything. The exhibition is a suggestion for another way of working, complementary to the international art events: a local group of artists, committed to its work environment and context, working together across divisions of generation and genre. The aim was not to build but to lift into view from what was already there.

The exhibition grows from the atmosphere and environment of the island. Almost all the works on view have been created in the studios of the Artists' House. The core of artistic work is clearly communicated: the desire to express oneself so that others can see and experience something important. The exhibition is a gift from the island's artists to its visitors.

Entry to the exhibition is free. There is a small fee for the ferry. The exhibition takes the visitor to the different buildings on the island, such as the Artists' House and the atmospheric casemates. There are also works in the Nature Centre's spaces, together with the permanent collection.

The artists:

Sirkku Ala-Harja, Annette Arlander, Pira Cousin, Lotta Djupsund, Aino Favén, Noora Geagea, Kalle Haapala, Siiri Haarla, Iiris Hälli, Olof Kangas, Liisa Kallio, Osmo Kivimäki, Kastehelmi Korpijaakko, Matti Kähönen, Anni Leppälä, Pekka Luhta, Marika Majjala, Päivi Maunu, Soili Mustapää, Heikki Mäntymaa, Tuula Närhinen, Tuomo Rainio, Kai Rentola, Kaisa Salmi, Heli Sihvonen, Johanna Sipilä, Johanna Suonpää, Petra Vehviläinen, Virpi Vesanen-Laukkanen, Kari Yli-Annala, Aoi Yoshizawa

The exhibition has received support from Arts Promotion Centre Finland, the Arts Council of Uusimaa and the City of Helsinki.

For additional information:

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ARTISTS' ISLAND

10.8.–26.9.2021

Open: Tue-Fri 13–18, Sat-Sun 12–17

Opening on Monday the 9th of August, the day of Tove Jansson and Finnish art, at 17–20, Welcome!

More information about the exhibition and the Harakka Artists' House can be found on the new website:

www.harakka.fi

Instagram: @harakan_taiteilijatalo

Facebook: @harakantaiteilijatalo

