

Silja Puranen

Born 03-07-1961, Elimäki, Finland

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- 2000 University of Helsinki, the Open University, basic studies in aesthetics
1987 Kuopio Institute of Art and Design, Textile designer

Solo exhibitions

- 2012 Hälsinglands Museum, Hudiksvall (SE)
2011 Galleria Katariina, Helsinki (FI)
2010 The Finnish Institute in Estonia, Tallin (EE)
La Galeria, Barcelona (ES)
Stoa Gallery, Helsinki (FI)
2009 Nordic Award in Textiles, Textile Museum, Borås (SE)
Ahjo Art Centre, Joensuu (FI)
2008 Galleria Titanik, Turku (FI)
Galleria Katariina, Helsinki (FI)
2007 LaGaleria, Barcelona (ES)
2006 Belgrade Cultural Centre Art Gallery (CS)
2005 Mältinranta Art Center, Tampere (FI)
2004 LaGaleria, Barcelona (ES)
Galleria Becker, Jyväskylä (FI)
Galleria G, Helsinki (FI)
2003 Nights of the Lights, Tuusula (FI)
2001 Connections, Galleria Sitruuna, Kuopio (FI)
2000 Connections, Galleria 5, Oulu; The Gallery of Hämeenlinna Cultural Centre (FI)
1999 Galleria Bau, Helsinki (FI)
1994 Fictive Souvenirs, VANTAG, Oporto (PT)
1993 Vapauden aukio, Helsinki (FI)
1991 Ixia Galleria, Tampere (FI)
1990 Kirjakahvila Naistenhuone, Helsinki (FI)

Collective exhibitions in Finland (selection)

- 2011 XVI Mänttä Art Festival, Pekilo, Mänttä
UPM – Museum of New Generation, Säynätsalo industrial house, Säynätsalo
NYT11 contemporary art in Naantali and Raisio, The Raisio Museum Harkko
Oon kaupungissa, - Street art exhibition, Helsinki
Perceptions, The Craft Museum of Finland, Jyväskylä
Perceptions, Minna Kangasmaa, Merja Miettinen, Silja Puranen, Salo Art Museum
2010 Textile Art Now! The Raisio museum Harkko
Power of Everyday Life, The Gallén-Kallela museum, Espoo
2009 8th Triennial of Textile Art, Designmuseum, Helsinki
It is Beautiful Here, Fiskars Village
2008 OTTO, Artists O presentation, Vantaa Art Museum
NYT08, Contemporary Art Summer of Naantali and Raisio, The Raisio Museum Harkko
2007 OPEN, Annantalo Cultural Centre, Helsinki
2006 WORKS - Nordiskt Konsthantverk, TR1, Tampere; Design Forum, Helsinki
7th Finnish Textile Triennial, Amos Anderson Art Museum, Helsinki
REMIX, Kuparipaja, Fiskars
New Perspectives, Galleria Johan S, Helsinki
2005 Family portrait, Oulu City Art Museum
Turku Biennial, Aboa Vetus & Ars Nova Museum, Turku
SOFT BITS, the Cultural Centre of Tuusula
2004 120th Anniversary exhibition of the Kuopio Academy of Design

2001-02 ONNI, Museum of central Finland, Jyväskylä
 2000 Artistic life in Halosenniemi, Eero Lintusaari and Silja Puranen as guests for Pekka Halonen, Halosenniemi Museum, Tuusula
 2000 105th Finnish Artists' Exhibition, Helsinki Kunsthalle
 1999-00 Aikasauna, Finnish textile art at the turn of the Millenium, Art Museum of Kerava
 1999 Tekstile triennial 5, Museum of Applied Arts, Helsinki
 1998 5 ruusua, Porvoo Kunsthalle
 1997 Section 102, Finnish Artists' Exhibition, Helsinki Kunsthalle
 1996 Ajantajut, Museum of Central Finland, Jyväskylä
 Woman as Artist - Breaking the Borders of Fine Arts, Lönnström Art Museum, Rauma
 Creative Hands, Art Museum of Kerava
 Raportti, The Finnish Museum of handicraft, Jyväskylä
 1995 5 ruusua, Art Museum of Joensuu
 Northern Fibre Exhibition, Voipaala Art Centre
 1994 5 m, Museum of Applied Arts, Helsinki
 Avoin Kenttä, 26th Jyväskylä Winter Culture Festival; Verkaranta, Tampere
 1993 MATERIA, Helsinki Kunsthalle
 1992 MuodotOn, Art Museum of Kouvola
 1991-92 3rd National Textile Triennial; Tampere; Espoo
 1991 Tosiasioista käsin, Art Museum of Kouvola
 Finnish design 8, Applied Arts Museum, Helsinki
 Muodon Tähdet, Jubilee of Industrial Arts, Helsinki

Exhibitions aboard (selection)

2011 Kaunas art biennale TEXTILE'11, Kaunas (LT)
 Between tradition and future – Finland in Cheongju international craft biennale (KR)
 7th Triennale Tournai 2011, Tournai (BE)
 COLLECT (Galleria Norsu), Saatchi GalleryLontoo (GB)
 Beyond Embroidery - Thinking by a Needle, Gallery X, Bratislava (SK)
 Exempla 2011 – Craf and Innovation, München (DE)
 2010 The Dartboard for Witches, Aberystwyth Arts Centre (GB)
 ARTEGROUND The exhibition of Finnish Arts, Viljandi (EE)
 3rd International Art Festival "Structures of Connections", Kraków (PL)
 2009 Know How, Tallinn Applied Art Triennial, Tallinn (EE)
 TEXTILE 09 (in a collaborative project of Annika Ekdahl and Birgitta Nordström) Kaunas (LT)
 OTTO, Circulo de Belles Artes, Madrid (ES)
 Top of Europe, WCC-Europe Award - from 1992 until now, Karlsruhe (DE)
 2008 Cloth & Culture NOW, Sainsbury Centre for Visual Art, Norwich; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester (GB)
 Treasury of Digital Form, Galerie Handwerk Munich (DE)
 Balkan Fibre Art '08, Novi Sad (SC)
 2007 Kaunas Art Biennial TEXTILE 07, Kaunas (LT)
 Tradition and Innovation, 3rd European Triennial Textile and Fibre Art, Riga (LV)
 WORKS - Nordiskt Konsthantverk, Kunstbanken, Hamar (NO)
 Fiber Art Today, Galerie Handwerk, Munich (DE)
 2006 ARTTEX Triennial of Textile, Liptovský Mikuláš, (SK)
 2005 STITCH Finland - Lithuania, Print Gallery, Kaunas (LT)
 Akademija Gallery, Vilnius (LT)
 Visions in Textiles, Izmir (TR)
 2005 Muokattu Maa, The Art Museum of Jaroslavl (RU)
 2004 2nd European Textile and Fiber Art Triennial "Tradition and Innovation", Riga (LV)
 4th International Fiber Art Biennial "Trame d'Autore", Chieri (IT)
 Around the Body, Percosi dalla Collezione d'arte Civica e contaminazioni fashion, Chieri (IT)
 2003 4th International Textile Art Exhibition, RIGHT AND WRONG SIDES, Kaunas (LT)
 2002 MASTERPIECES, Torino (IT)
 2000-02 5th International Betonac Prize Competition, Sint-Truiden (BE), Tønder (DK);
 Nederlands Textielmuseum, Tilburg (NL); St.Gallen (CH)
 2000-03 European Felt Art / Filz.Filz.Filz / Filz Kunst, Karlsruhe; Krefeld; Dresden;
 Hersbruck; Aschaffenburg (De); Jyväskylä (FIN); Tilburg (NL)
 2000-01 POSSESSION Tallinn Applied Art Triennial, Tallinn (EE)
 2000 Pornainen – Roquebrun 2000 / Tête à tête, Pornainen; Roquebrun (FR)
 1999 Northern Fibre III – HIDDEN TREASURES, Textilforum, Herning (DK)
 Attraktion FILZ, München (DE)

- 1998 Det nyaste inom finsk textilkonst, Finnish Institute, Stockholm (SE)
The Border Land of Tapestry, Jelenia Góra, Krosno, Walbrzych (PL)
NETS, Madrid (ES)
- 1997 Northern Vibrations, Madrid (ES)
3rd International Textile Triennial, Tournai (BE)
- 1996-97 Naisten kuvia, Akademija Gallery, Vilnius (LT)
FLEXIBLE 2 pan-european art, Tilburg (NL); Wrocław (PL); Manchester (GB)
Filt utan gränser, Lillehammer (NO); Torshavn (Faeroe Islands); Hafnafjörður (IS); Herning (DK);
Södertälje (SE)
- 1996 17 Designer-craftsmen from Finland, Centro di Design, Oporto (PT)
Felt Excited, Oldham (GB)
- 1995 Finnish Design: Textiles and Crafts, Manchester Metropolitan Galleries (GB)
Art in Finnish Textiles, Finnish Institute, London (GB)
- 1994-95 Felt Directions, Glasgow (GB); Musée du Feutre, Mouzon (F); Highland Regional Galleries (GB);
Cliffe Castle Museum, Kaighley (GB)
- 1992 3rd International Textile Competition -Kyoto (JP)
- 1990 8th International Biennial of Miniature Textiles, Szombathely (HU)
International Contemporary Felt Art Exhibition, Århus (DK)
- 1989 5th Nordic Textile Triennial (FI; SE; N; DK; IS)

Awards

- 2009 Nordic Award in Textiles (SE)
- 2007 Kaunas Art Biennial TEXTILE 07, Kaunas (LT), Diploma
TRADITION AND INNOVATION, 3rd European Triennial Textile and Fibre Art, Riga (LV),
Special Prize of the Riga City Council
- 2006 ARTTEX, Trienále Textilu 2006 (SK), the Prize of the City Liptovský Mikuláš
- 2003 4th International Textile Art Exhibition, Kaunas (LT), 3rd prize
- 2000 WCC-Europe Award for Contemporary Crafts
- 1998 The Border Land of Tapestry (PL)

Latest grants

- 2011 National Council for Craft and Design
- 2010 FRAME Finnish Fund for Art Exchange
- 2010-12 National Council for Design, 3 years Artist Grant
- 2009 National Council for Design
- 2008 Ornamo Foundation
The Art Council of Finland
- 2007 The Art Council of Finland
- 2006 The Art Council of Finland
Finnish Cultural Foundation, 1-year Artist Grant
- 2005 Cultural Board of Tuusula
Arts Council for Uusimaa
- 2004 The Art Council of Finland
FRAME Finnish Fund for Art Exchange
Public Display Grant for Visual Artists
Cultural Board of Tuusula

Public collections

- Abecita Corsettfabrik Art Museum (SE)
Textile Museum, Borås (SE)
Åbo Akademi Foundation (FI)
Museum of Contemporary Art KIASMA (FI)
Museum of Fine Arts and Lace, Calais (FR)
The State Art Collection (FI)
Oulu City Art Museum (FI)
MIAAO, Museo Internazionale Delle Arti Applicate Oggi, Torino (IT)
Helsinki City Art Museum (FI)
Aune Laaksonen Art Foundation (FI)
Employment Service Agency of Tuusula (FI)
Musée du Feutre, Mouzon (FR)
Kouvola City Art Museum (FI)
County of Tuusula (FI)

Memberships

Finnish Painters' Association
Textile Artists TEXO
Artists O
World Crafts Council - Europe, honorary member

Bibliography

- 2010 The Nordic Award in Textiles - Pris till textilkonstnärer id Norden år 2000-2010 (Stiftelsen Fokus Borås)
Power of Everyday Life - Handcrafted Relationships with Everyday Life and Materials (Maahenki)
- 2008 Contemporary Textiles – The Fabric of Fine Art (Black Dog Publishing)
Cloth and Culture Now (University College for the Creative Arts)
- 2007 Silja Puranen Les Tissus Poétiques”, Cimaïse Magazine d'Art, No 286 Juin_Juillet_Août 2007
- 2005 Art Textiles of the World – Scandinavia vol 2 (Telos Art Publishing)
- 2004 “Written upon the body”, Embroidery Magazine, July / August 2004

Confidential posts

- 2011-13 The Committee for the Purchase of Works for the State Art Collection
- 2007-09 The Board for Public Display Grants to Visual Artists, alternate member
- 2007- Member of the board for Artists O
- 2006 President for Artists O
- 2004-05 President for the Association of textile artists TEXO
- 2003-05 Leader of the organizing team of Northern Fibre 6, International textile art workshop
- 2002-03 Member of the board for the Association of textile artists TEXO
- 1995- Member of the representative body for the Association of Industrial Art ORNAMO
- 1990-92 Chairman for the Association of craftsmen and industrial designers ARTENO
- 1989 Member of the board for the Association of craftsmen and industrial designers ARTENO

Study trips, workshops

- 2008 Balkan Fibre Art, Sremski Karlovci (CS)
- 2002 International Art Symposium ”Birzai 2002”, Birzai (LT)
- 1999 Northern Fibre III, Tuskær Cultural centre, Lemvig (DK)
- 1995 Northern Fibre I, Voipaala art centre (FI)
- 1994 Felt Directions Conference, Glasgow (GB)
- 1991-92 China, South-east Asia and Oceania
- 1991 Industrial felting workshop for artists, Musée du Feutre, Mouzon (FR)
- 1990 International Felt symposium, Aarhus (DK)

Other professional activities

- 2009 Curator for the Finnish participants for 13th International Triennial of Tapestry, Lodz
- 2008 Master Class leader, Cloth & Culture NOW, Withworth Art Gallery; Manchester (GB)
- 2007 Competition for liturgical textiles for the Cathedral of Espoo, jury member
- 2005 Textile 05 Kaunas Art Biennial (LT), curator, member of prize awarding jury
13th ETN conference, workshop leader, conference speaker, Izmir (TR)
WCC Europe Contemporary Craft Award, jury member
- 2004 Northern Fibre 6 - International textile art workshop and exhibition, jury member
- 2002 Workshop conductor, Tilburg (NL)
- 2000 Workshop conductor, International felt Festival, Bergen (NO)
- 1999 Workshop conductor, International Felt Symposium, Petäjavesi (FI)
- 1996-97 Workshop conductor, Felt without borders symposium, Lillehammer (NO); Torshavn (Faeroe Islands); Södertälje (SE)
- 1994 Workshop conductor, Felt Directions Conference, Glasgow (GB)
- 1992-93 Part-time teacher, Children's art school in Järvenpää
- 1990 Part-time teacher, Children's art school in Tuusula
Courses and workshops in the field of textile art
- 1989 Part-time teacher, Annantalo Cultural Centre for Children