

## HIAP OPEN STUDIOS AUTUMN 2021

While exhibitions are the most common way for the visual arts audience to get in touch with art, Open Studios as a visual arts event is a rare opportunity to get into the artist's private workspace, where the ways of working and the art making processes may be visible. Additionally, it is a great chance for artists to open up their practise for larger audiences than in the usual one-to-one studio visits. The 2021 autumn season Open Studios feature a variety of practices, media and makers from different phases of their lives and artistic careers.

As the supporting curator of the autumn 2021 residency season I have been contemplating the importance of the process for the artist. The residency is a great opportunity to orientate with one's own process, to get to know it. The studio visits with the artists have been rather peer-to-peer-type of meetings than curator-artist meetings where I have wanted to create an atmosphere in which uncertainties are allowed to appear and no obligations are set. So that the process is emphasized over the outcome.

Otto Byström, HIAP supporting curator in Autumn 2021

### PROGRAMME

*It is not necessary to sign-up in advance to visit the HIAP Open Studios unless this is specifically stated. Welcome!*

**THU 18 NOV 17:00–21:00**

**FRI 19 NOV 17:00–21:00**

#### **Freja Bäckman**

Location: HIAP Gallery Augusta (entrance hall)

A collection of scenes from the body of work *I was told I chop wood like a ballet dancer*. Audio of a work in progress.

#### **Michaela Casková**

Location: HIAP Gallery Augusta (entrance hall)

*What is the journey of nettles collected on one sunny summer day?*

*What is the taste and colour of your memories of one particular rainy day?*

*Which shades of weather do you remember?*

*With whom do you share the weather?*

So far the process has been absorbing: It has been about taking in and soaking up. It has been about wandering around with baskets full of nettles, bark, stones, clay. Walking in company, with scissors, plastic bags full of rotten mushrooms and then freezing, boiling, drying, dyeing, separating, observing, learning, forgetting, getting excited and disappointed.

During the Open Studios, the artist Michaela Casková will let the visitors sneak peak into an experimental laboratory where forged materials turn into inks and pigments and create, share, taste and experience the colour code of the island and other weather.

### **Bitá Razavi**

Location: HIAP Gallery Augusta (second hall)

*Inhabitants of Our Planet*

HD, Color, sound

duration: 12' 7"

Language: English

*Inhabitants of Our Planet* is a nature documentary filmed in the environment of video games. It draws on the relation between organic and digital, combining the familiar format of nature documentary and the idealized world of videogames.

Relying on the artist's background as a documentary filmmaker, the work explores different styles and techniques of storytelling, sound design, and cinematography, employed in nature documentaries and examines the potentials of a game controller to be used as a camera.

This documentary is a departure from the artist's consideration of political mechanisms and social behavior, focusing instead on the solitary space of video gaming and the sensation of melancholy evoked by the distance between the insular gamer and nature. This sense of alienation is explored via the graphics of video games such as Far Cry 5, Hunter: Call of the Wild, Red Dead Redemption, Witcher 3, and Flight Simulator 2020.

Writer and Director: Bitra Razavi

Camera: Saku Kämäräinen, Bitra Razavi, David Kozma, Martti Anttila

Editor: Bitra Razavi

Sound and Music: Saku Kämäräinen

Narrator: Joe Szymanski

### **Kate Brehme**

Location: HIAP Project Space (Community Room in the entrance hall)

**Thu 18.11. at 18:00–18:45: Presentation by Kate Brehme followed by discussion between Kate and Jussi Koitela. Register [here!](#)**

Participation open – registration required due to limited seating

Language: English

Kate Brehme will give an overview of her practice as Curator and arts educator focusing on access inclusion and disability, including her organisation Berlinklusion, and give a quick update on her research into reflections of motherhood and disability within contemporary art.

The presentation will be followed by discussion between Kate and Jussi Koitela, Head of Programme at Frame Contemporary Art Finland.

### **Minou Norouzi**

Location: HIAP Project Space (Community Room in the entrance hall)

**Fri 19.11. at 18:30–20:00: Short films by Sasha Pirker and discussion between Pirker and Minou Norouzi. Register [here!](#)**

Participation open – registration required due to limited seating

Language: English

Inaugural screening of three short films by Sasha Pirker:

*60 Elephants. Episodes of a Theory* (2018)

*WOMEN: Walter Pichler and St. Martin* (2016)

*John Lautner, The Desert Hot Springs Motel* (2007)

Pirker's films work against the grain of the biographical, heroic telling of architectural history. Instead, Pirker seeks "little stories" drawing poetic visual portraits of space and "makes buildings talk" (Mélanie van der Hoorn, 2018).

*60 Elephants. Episodes of a Theory*

Michael Klein & Sasha Pirker, 22 min., Austria/France 2018

A reappraisal of utopias touching on Yona Friedman's architectural and urbanistic Theories.

*WOMEN: Walter Pichler and St. Martin*

Sasha Pirker, 25 min., Austria 2016

Narrated by the wife and daughter of Austrian artist, sculptor and architect Walter Pichler, "family history and art history interpenetrate one another" (Martin Pieper).

*John Lautner, The Desert Hot Springs Motel*

Sasha Pirker, 10:34 min., Austria/USA 2007

A chance encounter with William Burroughs, California Modernism and the writer Steve H. Lowe. After purchasing and renovating the Lautner motel in 2000, Lowe hosted guests for the first time in decades.

The screening is followed by a conversation between Pirker and HIAP artist-in-residence Minou Norouzi.

The screening & talk are organized in collaboration with the Austrian Embassy, Helsinki.

**Yoichi Kamimura**

Location: HIAP Studios

Max nr of simultaneous visitors in the studio: 10

The soundscape that fills the studio is made up of environmental sounds related to ice that I have been collecting through field recording over the past few years. These are the sounds of the melting ice that have been affected by environmental changes on the earth or traces of the ice which have already disappeared. For example, the sound of drifting ice in Shiretoko, Hokkaido, Japan, which continues to be a phenomenon caused by global warming every year, reminds us of the beautiful and fragile landscape of disappearing ice. In my watercolor drawings, I try to capture the fragility of air, water, light, and ice in a changing environment. During my stay in Finland, the light and colors of the unique Scandinavian landscape contributed to the fragility of my feeling.

Yoichi Kamimura's residency is realised with support from TOKAS – Tokyo Art and Space, Pola Art Foundation, Nomura Foundation, The Asahi Shimbun Foundation and Ogasawara Zaidan.

## **Timo Viialainen**

Location: HIAP Studios (2nd floor)

Max nr of simultaneous visitors in the studio: 4

Presenting current work processes and materials related to the solo exhibition which will open in January 2022 at Oksasenkatu 11 -gallery in Helsinki.

## **Sarah Hillebrecht**

Location: HIAP Studios

Max nr of simultaneous visitors in the studio: 5

wood sculpting work in progress

WORK TITLE: kuvanveistotaide | about finnish sculpture art

contemporary artwork in tradition form, handcrafted, made from natural material that has grown on the island suomenlinna. meet new wood sculptures inspired by the finnish sculptor walter runeberg (1839 - 1920) and the helsinki based illustrator eero lampinen. see and understand how sculpture creates real encounter and rise questions about contemporary identity. learn about tools and material. Be welcome.

## **Minjee Hwang Kim**

Location: HIAP Studios

Max nr of simultaneous visitors in the studio: 5

Presenting current work processes and materials.

## **Khaled Kaddal**

Location: HIAP Studios

Max nr of simultaneous visitors in the studio: 5

*THE LAST ABODE*

The work is a collection of generated AI Data Artworks embraced by an immersive physical space, under the title *The last Abode*. Kaddal used machinery intelligence to train five independent neural networks to recreate visual textures that are symptomatic of different ecological phenomena.

Trained on selective and qualitative datasets of more than 84,000 images, the artificial painters re-imagine the aesthetic of the horizon, sunsets, planet earth,

volcanic eruptions, portraits and fungal colonies. The dynamic visuals change their shapes and colors, showcasing a unique and immersive representation of machinery intelligence.

1. The Horizon Dweller: Trained on a dataset of nordic horizon landscapes taken in lapland in Finland.
2. The Melted Pearl: Composed of two separate neural networks, the first has been trained on icelandic volcanic eruption. The second has been trained on a dataset by NASA of the planet Earth taken by the International Space Station.
3. Deployer of Sunset: Trained on a collection of sunsets photos in different seasons and landscapes.
4. Portraits of Fungi: The neural network module has been trained on two different datasets, the first is the original training of human faces by NVIDIA corporation. The second is a dataset of Fungi colonies.

Khaled Kaddal is an International Resident Fellow at the Academy of Fine Arts in Helsinki. The residency is part of The Academy of Fine Arts' International Openings Programme funded by the Saastamoinen Foundation in collaboration with HIAP – Helsinki International Artist Programme.

### **Lucila Mayol & Pedro Riva (Turbida Lux)**

Location: HIAP Studios

Max nr of simultaneous visitors in the studio: 5

Six videos displayed continuously in a loop:

*Weekend*, single channel video, 00:32 min, 2015, Turbida Lux

*Kokkoliche*, single channel video, 16:58 min, 2015, Turbida Lux

*Welcome to my secret garden*, single channel video, 06:11 min, 2016, Turbida Lux

*Nine minutes before the agape*, single channel video, 11:47 min, 2020, Turbida Lux

*Acquaintances*, video-installation, 14:38 min, 2017, Lucila Mayol

*Melodrama*, single channel video, 11:37 min, 2020, Pedro Riva

Turbida Lux is an art duo formed by Lucila Mayol and Pedro Riva. We work with text, found footage, video and media art with an interest in the poetics that appear when unveiling other interpretations of archival material. Turbida Lux took part in residencies in Finland, Russia, Argentina and Germany. Their recent work has been funded by the Office of Contemporary Art, Bergen Kommune, and Kulturrådet in

Norway, and Nordic Culture Point, and has been shown in Hordaland Kunstsenter, and The Museum of the History of Photography.

---

## Measurements for a safe visit

In order to ensure a safe visit, we are limiting the simultaneous number of visitors in our studios. **Please check the max. allowed number of visitors for the studios under each artist's information.** If the venues reach their capacity, please be prepared to wait a little.

In our effort to ensure a safe visit, we strongly advise you to consider and follow the guidelines listed below:

- Refrain from visiting, if you have any symptoms of illness.
- We strongly recommend the use of a face mask in all our locations (recommended for visitors over 15-years-old).
- If you have forgotten yours, we offer face masks on-site.
- Keep a safe distance from others.
- Use hand sanitiser upon entering our locations.
- Cough or sneeze on a tissue or your sleeve.

## Locations

- **HIAP Studios** (marked with nr 34 on the [Suomenlinna map](#))  
Suomenlinna B 44-45
- **HIAP Gallery Augusta & Project Space** (marked with nr 33 on the map)  
Suomenlinna B 28 / 2

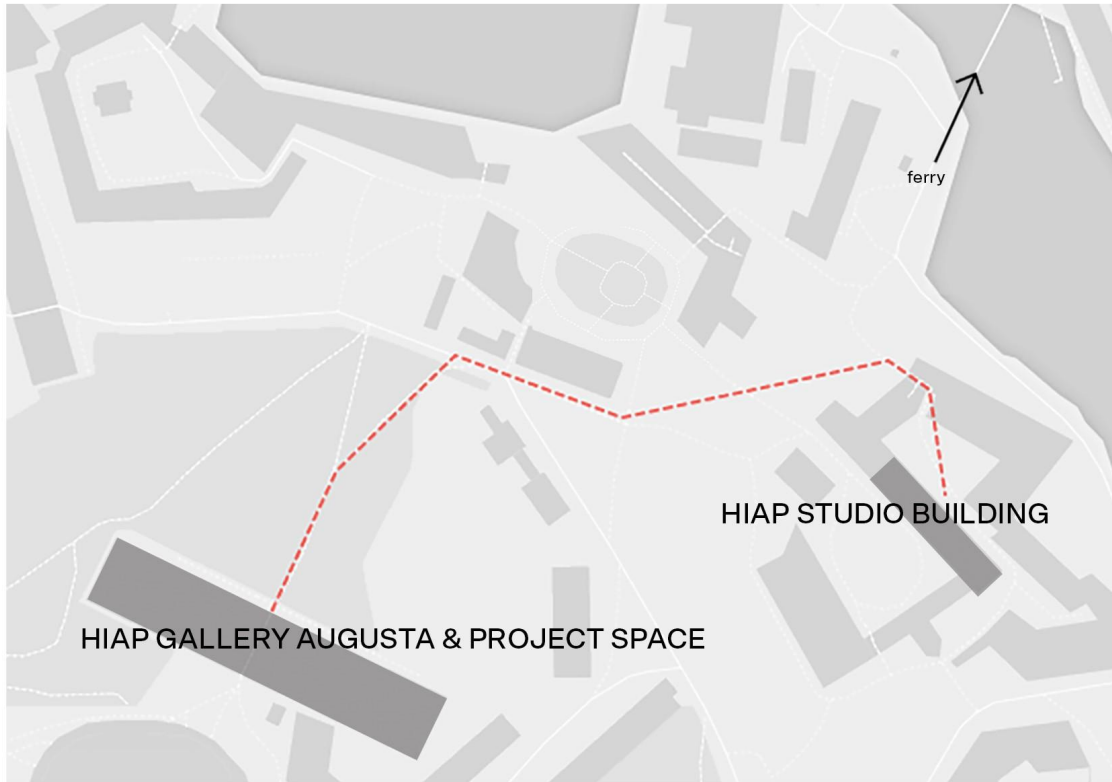
## How to get there

The HSL ferry leaves from the Market Square (Kauppatori). Ferry timetable [here](#)

## Accessibility

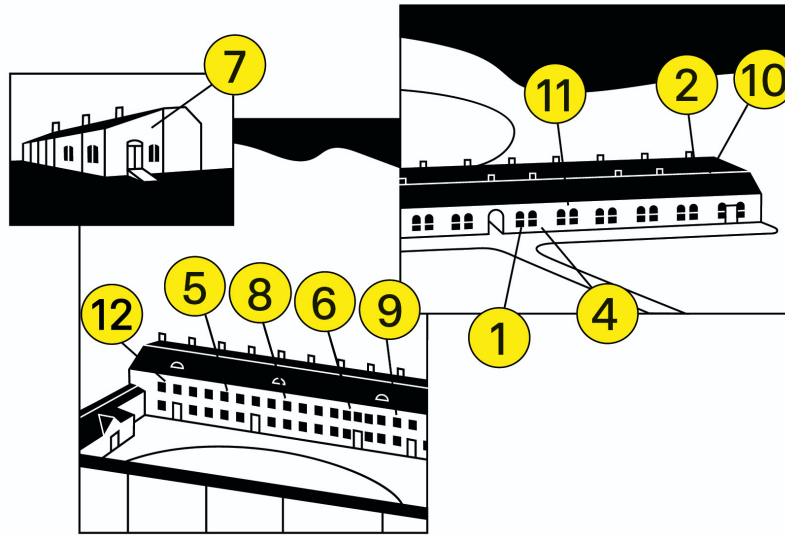
Accessing Suomenlinna by wheelchair is possible but we recommend being accompanied by a person assisting. We are happy to help you plan your visit. Please contact HIAP for additional information, and read more on accessible routes for visitors on Suomenlinna [here](#).

## MAPS OF THE HIAP OPEN STUDIOS LOCATIONS





## LOCATIONS & PROGRAMME SUMMARY



**1. FREJA BÄCKMAN, HIAP Gallery Augusta** (entrance hall, 18–19.11.)

**4. MICHAELA CASKOVÁ, HIAP Gallery Augusta** (entrance hall, 18–19.11.)

**11. BITA RAZAVI, HIAP Gallery Augusta** (second hall, 18–19.11.)

**2. KATE BREHME, HIAP Project Space** (Community Room in the entrance hall)

18.11. at 18:00–18:45: Presentation by Kate Brehme followed by discussion between Kate & Jussi Koitela. Registration required due to limited seating. Language: English

**10. MINOU NOROUZI, HIAP Project Space** (Community Room in the entrance hall)

19.11. at 18:30–20:00: Short films by Sasha Pirker and discussion between Pirker and Minou Norouzi. Registration required due to limited seating. Language: English

**7. YOICHI KAMIMURA, Studio Johan Tobias** (studio building, 18–19.11.)

**12. TIMO VIIALAINEN, Workspace** (studio building, 18–19.11.)

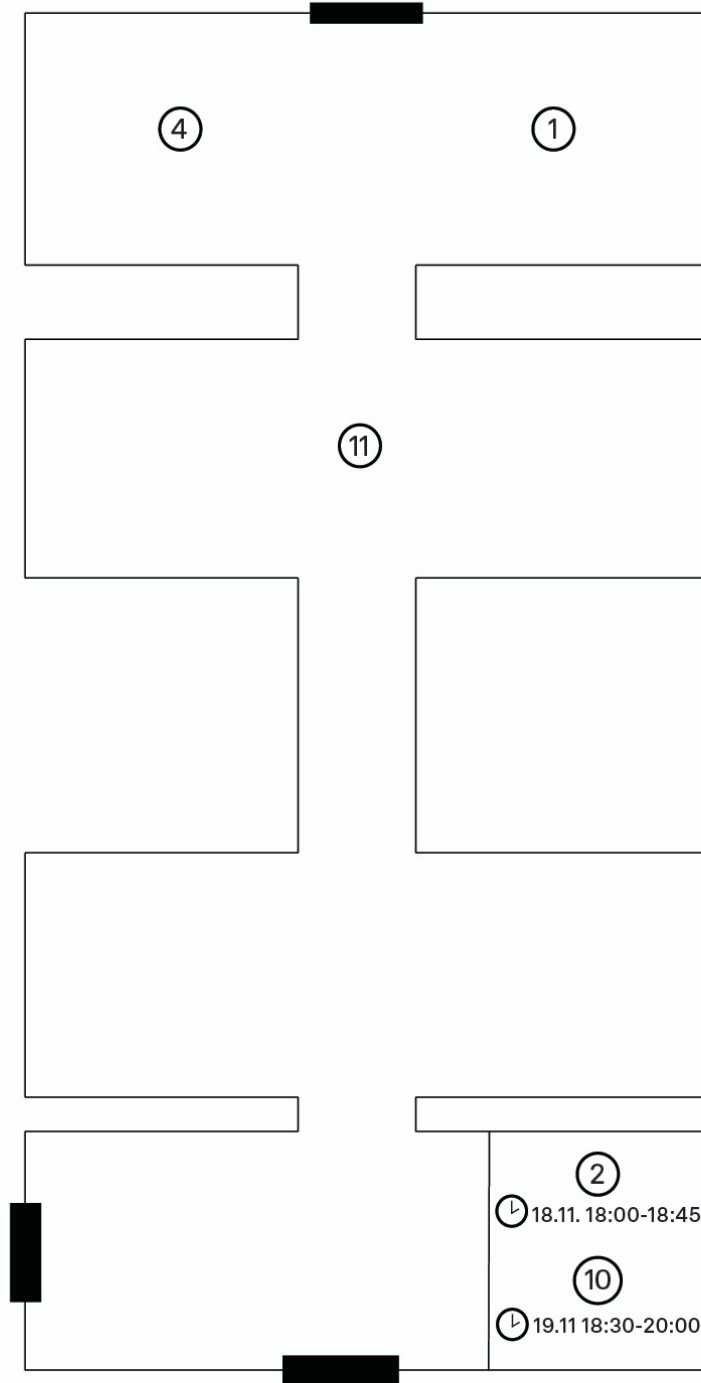
**5. SARAH HILLEBRECHT, Studio Carl August** (studio building, 18–19.11.)

**8. MINJEE HWANG KIM, Studio Elias** (studio building, 18–19.11.)

**6. KHALED KADDAL, Studio Emanuel** (studio building, 18–19.11.)

**9. LUCILA MAYOL & PEDRO RIVA (Turbida Lux), Apt Nina** (studio building, 18–19.11.)

# HIAP GALLERY AUGUSTA & PROJECT SPACE



# HIAP STUDIO BUILDING

