

OPEN STUDIOS



SPRING
2022

Current Residents:

Miranda Blennerhassett

Laura Cemin

Fan Chon Hoo

Syaheedah Iskandar

Parsa Kamehkhosh

Alina Khorolska

Mia Makela

Maria Metsalu

Eeva - Liisa Puhakka

Sumugan Sivanesan

Timo Viialainen

Aoi Yoshizawa

HIAP

Helsinki International Artist Programme (HIAP) is an international artist residency organisation which was established in 1998.

The HIAP residency programme offers time and space for developing new work in dialogue with the local art scene. The goal is to support experimental, cross-disciplinary art practices and to actively contribute to topical debates within and around the context of art.

The duration of a HIAP residency ranges from one to eleven months. There are three main residency seasons: spring (March-May), summer (June-August) and autumn (September-November). The open studio events take place in the second half of each season - in May, August and November. The events are an opportunity to see the work-in-progress by the current residents. There is no obligation for the residents to produce finalised pieces of work during their residency.

HIAP TEAM

The members of the HIAP team in Spring 2022 are Juha Huuskonen (Director), Eleni Tsitsirikou (Residency Manager), Mia Mikkola (Office & Residence Administration), Jakub Bobrowski (Residency Assistant), Dana Neilson (Villa Eläintarha Residency Coordinator, Connecting Points Project Coordinator) and Sampo Pyhälä (Technician). HIAP also collaborates with Athanasia Aarniosuo who interviews HIAP residents on a regular basis.

FUNDERS

The main funders of HIAP are The Arts Promotion Centre Finland (Taite), the Ministry of Education and Culture, the City of Helsinki.

CONTACT: HIAP - Helsinki International Artist Programme, Suomenlinna B 28/2, 00190 Helsinki, FINLAND, www.hiap.fi

SUPPORTING CURATOR

The supporting curator visits HIAP approximately once per month to meet up with residents and open a dialogue about their work. The HIAP supporting curator for the Spring season in year 2022 is Milja Liimatainen.

Milja Liimatainen is a curator currently working at EMMA – Espoo Museum of Modern Art. Prior to this she has worked as a curator for collections at Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma and as an assisting curator at HAM (Helsinki Art Museum). She has also produced touring exhibitions in Ateneum Art Museum and worked as a gallery coordinator at Galerie Anhava. Her curatorial experience is predominantly museum bound, with knowledge of the means of exhibition production in institutional museum environment. Milja's understanding of the curatorial practice(s) lies on the principles of fellowship, dialogue and facilitation. She holds a Master of Arts Degree in Art History from the University of Helsinki.

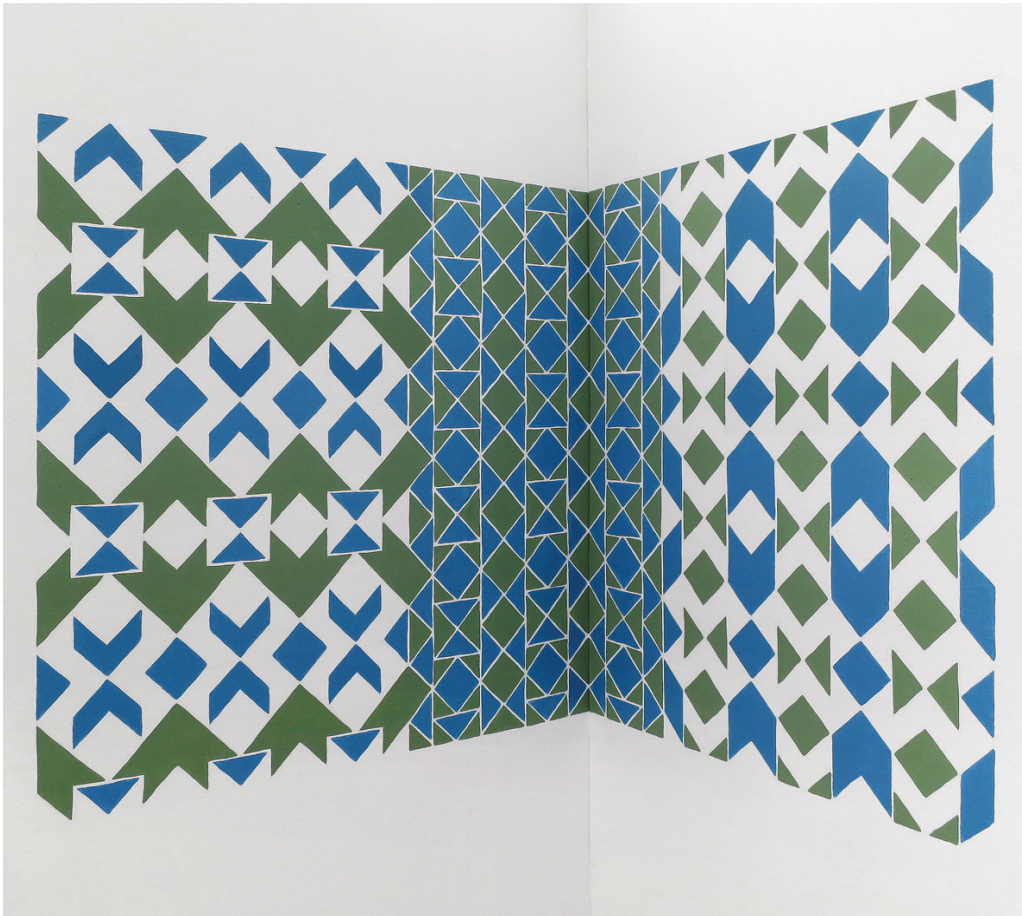
MIRANDA BLENNER- HASSETT

MIRANDA BLENNERHASSETT is interested in the cultural role of pattern and decoration and their relationship to architecture. Through her installation and drawing practice she is currently focusing on domestic textile crafts such as weaving, quilt-making, knitting and embroidery. In making her installations, Miranda is thinking about the relationship between architecture and ornament; between domestic space and institutional space; between the handmade and the mass produced; and about the gendered production of crafts and ownership of spaces. Born in the UK she now works from Ireland and gained her MFA from the National College of Art and Design in Dublin.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

My aim is to move my work towards a combination of 2D and 3D elements. I want to develop my concepts for integrating painted elements with constructed objects, and to produce a new body of work in this direction. On a previous visit to Finland I came across *himmelis* – hanging geometric constructions made from straw. I am interested in their mathematical structure and in the tradition of sharing the methods of their construction with wider communities. I would like to take this practice as a starting point for ideas about fabrication, symmetry, domestic ornament and collective creativity within my own work.

Miranda Blennerhassett's residency is realised in collaboration with Temple Bar Gallery and Studios, Dublin and supported by The Arts Council of Ireland.



Miranda Blennerhassett, *Mosaic #22*, installation view, emulsion paint, 2020
Photo by Miranda Blennerhassett



Miranda Blennerhassett, *Log Cabin*, installation view, emulsion paint and fabric, 2019
Photo by Miranda Blennerhassett

LAURA CEMIN

LAURA CEMIN is a Helsinki-based Italian artist active in the fields of visual and performing arts. Her work, often presented in galleries and non-traditional performance spaces, brings together elements of performance, writing, and temporality with the intention of testing the boundaries between dance and visual art. She received a Master in Fine Arts (2019) from Umeå Art Academy and holds a degree in Ballet and Contemporary dance (2011).

DURING THE RESIDENCY

While in residency, I will extend my ongoing research on the intersection between language and movement by orienting my practice towards larger-scale and collaborative projects. In the spring, I will work on a group performance titled "How the land lies" to be presented during OpenArt Biennial, Örebro (SE), and a duo exhibition "Taming a wild tongue", opening in Tallinn (EE) in July. Both projects are created in collaboration with Oslo-based artist Bianca Hisse.

Laura Cemin's residency is part of the HIAP Residency Programme for Finnish and Finland-based artists and art professionals.





Laura Cemin, portrait, Photo by Keithy Kuuspu



Laura Cemin & Bianca Hisse, *How the land lies*, performance, 2022
Photo by Petri Henriksson

FAN CHON HOO

FAN CHON HOO is a visual art practitioner. He was the co-founder of an art collective Run Amok Gallery (2012-2017). Fan Chon Hoo completed his BA in Photography at the London College of Communication in 2010. He took part in No Man's Land Residency Project in Taiwan (2017-2018). He participated in the 3rd edition of Makassar Biennale and had his first solo exhibition "The World Is Your Restaurant" in Kuala Lumpur recently. His practice explores taste as a cultural and social construct and how our value systems fluctuate as we migrate from one culture to another.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

For this residency, I would like to expand my current ongoing project on Chinese banquet dining culture. Being born into a fisherman's family that used to host and attend seafood banquet services, fish were a mainstay of my family's diet. In recent years fish has been a recurring motif in my practice. Having said that, I would still love to explore the assigned city with an open mind, to be immersed in what the city has to offer, and along the way, discover any form of cultural artefact that might appear strangely familiar to pursue and explore.

Fan Chon Hoo's residency is realised in the context of SEA AiR – Studio Residencies for Southeast Asian Artists, a collaboration between NTU Centre for Contemporary Art (Singapore), HIAP (Helsinki), Villa Arson (Nice) and WIELS (Brussels).





Fan Chon Hoo, *The World Is Your Restaurant*, installation shot, The Back Room Kuala Lumpur, 2022
Acrylic paintings, Chinese banquet dining table with self-rotating Lazy Susan, chandelier, dimension variable



Fan Chon Hoo, *I Feed The Masses While The Masses Provide For Me*, installation shot, OCAC Taipei, 2019
Single channel video, LED scrolling text, woodblock print, ceremonial banner, dimension variable
Photo by Chen Chia-Jen

SYAHEEDAH ISKANDAR

SYAHEEDAH ISKANDAR works with vernacular ideas of seeing, thinking, and being. Drawing from Southeast Asia's visual culture(s), her interest considers entanglements between the unseen, the hypervisual, and their translations from material to new media practices. Recent projects include *Between the Living and the Archive* (2021), *State of Motion: [Alternate/Opt] Realities* (2021), and *An Exercise of Meaning in a Glitch Season* (2020). Syaheedah was the recipient of the IMPART Awards 2020 (Singapore) in recognition of her curatorial practice. She holds an MA in History of Art and Archaeology from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

Who has access to define?

In the Malay-Indonesian language, *tanah air*, defined as “homeland”, comprises two words with individual meanings, *tanah as soil, air as water*. With this residency, I am looking at how we read our relationships to the land, the sea, and the nonhuman while drawing connections from my place in Southeast Asia. In thinking about non-hegemonic knowledge systems, my work with vernacular visuality explores ways of mediating the unseen with the hypervisual, inducing intersections of listening through seeing. Continuing that trajectory, how have these narratives, etymologies, stories or oral traditions – that often bind us collectively – shaped our being?

Syaheedah Iskandar's residency is realised in the context of HICP – Helsinki International Curatorial Programme, a collaboration between Frame Contemporary Art Finland and HIAP.



Postscript:

It is my third week of stay here in Helsinki as I write this note on the quiet island of Suomenlinna. But thinking of these ideas after meeting colleagues and peers who have been nothing but generous, the mind space that I sit in now seems to beget more questions entangling land and hospitality. As we move towards a post-pandemic world and our world(s) open to receive guests as I am in, what does it mean to enter, listen, pass through, and leave spaces with conversations, ideas, remaining shapeless (with no determining outcomes)? Can aligned connections, in these times of uncertainties, remain perpetual when spaces between us eventually become continental distances again?

PARSA KAMEHKHOSH

PARSA KAMEHKHOSH (b. 1985) is a designer, visual, and performance artist, currently based in Helsinki. His practice explores the matter of “being in the world” in the context of the interaction between daily life and the experience of life on the existential level. His work often employs objects and materials that manifest contemporary human everyday aesthetics and various “religious” narratives that define the position of humans in relation to the universe and beyond. His works maneuver on the borders of the inner and external world, natural and supernatural, seen and the unseen.

Kamehkhosh works across media, ranging from sculpture to installation and performance art, and has mostly exhibited in Europe, the Middle East, and the US. He holds a Master’s degree in Visual Cultures, Curating, and Contemporary Art from Aalto University.

parsa-kamehkhosh.com

DURING THE RESIDENCY

One of the projects I’m proceeding with in my studio is a collection of sculptures/objects that revolve around the aesthetics of nearness and joints. This collection is called *Proximity* and it is about an “aesthetic aura” that appears from the juxtaposition of irregularity and geometry, organic and industrial. Since May 2021, I’ve been more engaged with designing and building the different components of the sculptures and over this residency, I’ve had the chance to start the assembly phase and finalize some pieces of this collection to be shown at Tokyo Arts and Space Hongo 2022-23.

The final weeks of the residency are allocated to prepare for an upcoming solo show at Myymälä2 gallery in June. This exhibition shows the documentation of a series of five performances I did last year under the title of “Saturdays”. Besides, I’ve also been developing a performance piece inspired by my daily walks and observations around the Island to be presented during the open studios event.

Parsa Kamehkhosh’s residency is part of the HIAP Residency Programme for Finnish and Finland-based artists and art professionals.



Parsa, Kamehkhosh, Photographic performances: *In the presence of a glass of milk*, MUU contemporary art center, Helsinki 2021
Photo by Iman Kamehkhosh

ALINA KHOROLSKA

ALINA KHOROLSKA is an Ukrainian artist working in the field of media art. In her practice, she explores object forms phenomena. With the help of deconstruction and composition techniques, the artist re-defines the items with new meanings and senses. She uses synthesis of digital and natural components to bring her collages into some new undesignated areas.

As a professional animator Alina is, also, close to the video art medium. She looks for forms of expression including hand embroidery, water-color drawings and oil pastel abstractions.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

I'm happy to come to such an amazing place as the island of Suomenlinna to revise my impressions from the last two months. My aim is to create a series of abstract digital works which reflect personal experience during the war. I'm going to use a mixed medium technique which combines paintings and video art.

Alina Khorolska's residency is part of the Ukraine Solidarity Residencies program started in March by a group of independent art organisations who joined together to pool resources and share information. The current partners are AARK, Connecting Points programme, Fairres, Frame Contemporary Art Finland, Goethe-Institut Finland, HIAP – Helsinki International Artist Programme, Pro Artibus, The Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation, The Finnish Illustration Association and Saari Residence.





Portrait of Alina, photo by Jenia Advokat, Kyiv, 2021



Alina Khorolska, *Basiv Kyt*, A series of river works, Museum of Local Lore, Rivne, 2021



Alina Khorolska, *Lebedyne ozero*, A series of river works, Museum of Local Lore, Rivne, 2021



Alina Khorolska, *Ustya*, A series of river works, Museum of Local Lore, Rivne, 2021

MIA MAKELA

MIA MAKELA is a Finnish multidisciplinary artist and cultural historian.

In her research-based practice she explores more-than-human life, mixing academic theory, science and deep ecology. Makela's latest works are video installations, but she has also led expeditions, created an audio guide, participatory works, performed visuals and written publications. Makela, internationally acknowledged pioneer in the field of live cinema, has shown her work and lectured all over the globe.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

During the residency I will continue my research on bee vision and "flower power" for a video installation, which is part of the opening exhibition "New Imaginations on the Relationship between Human – Art – Nature" to be held in the autumn of 2022 at the new art museum in Tammisaari. I will be also working on a long-term project on minerals and create "rock prints".

Bringing focus into our non-human co-habitants (VIBs -Very Important Beings) has been my mission as an artist for over 10 years.

Mia Makela's residency is part of the HIAP Residency Programme for Finnish and Finland-based artists and art professionals.



Mia Makela
Photo by Hilja Mustonen



Mia Makela, *Into the Wild*, video still, single channel, 2021

MARIA METSALU

MARIA METSALU is an Estonian choreographer and artist. She is creating visual performative works that regardless of the chosen medium place her own body in the epicentre. She views performative experiences and performing deviance as possibilities through which one may reflect upon the state of things and become inspired to act, formats through which collective memory could be created. Her work seeks to advance ambiguities, to proliferate meanings rather than systematise them into a clarity. She views performance as a radical space, capable of creating new meanings, new ways of looking and seeing.

Besides her solo work she is one of the founding members of international art collective Young boy dancing group.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

During the residency I will be creating a zine together with Jaakko Pallasvuo (FI) (as a part of my recent project “The Well”) and will start to work on my next solo “The Sun (performance).”

From the beginning of 2021 I have been having writing sessions together with Jaakko Pallasvuo. A selection of these texts are currently being used in the performance version of “The Well” (premiere in December 2021 at Kanuti Gildi SAAL, Tallinn) and as well as a part of a group exhibition together with Jaakko Pallasvuo and Tarvo Porroson (EST) at EKA Gallery, Tallinn. As a next step we are planning a zine which could exist both together with the performance as well as autonomously.

“The Sun (performance)” is not a theory or a thesis. If it is anything, it is an experience - a radical contemplation about the Sun, the Human and life of a Flower.

Using a keyboard as a tool and excuse, Metsalu questions the arbitrariness of her working life through acts of self-display as an object of spectacle - something that she both embraces and refuses. The show accommodates both chaos and its denial, it varies in bodily intensities like does the torrid, blinding Sun - oscillating between states of pleasure, indifference, passivity and suffering; hope and renewal, alienation and pain.

Maria Metsalu's residency is realised with support from the Nordic Culture Point.





Young boy dancing group, 2019



Maria Metsalu, *The Sun* (performance), 2022



Photo by Stian Foss

EEVA-LIISA PUHAKKA

The practice of EEVA-LIISA PUHAKKA leads the artist herself and the audience to sense. Encountering her works, we should see or close our eyes, smell or hold our breath, and listen carefully while staying silent at the same time. Eeva-Liisa Puhakka works in practices that include olfactory art, installations, sound and text. Themes in her works are the investigation of human and animal dependence, rural depopulation, smell of death and fear, religion and bio-based materials.

Eeva-Liisa was a founding member of Scent Club Berlin, a collective of artists, designers and scientists working in and between scents and smells. Puhakka also works regularly in a curatorial/production role.

Eeva-Liisa Puhakka graduated with an MFA in New Media Art from Valand School of Fine Arts, University of Gothenburg and an MSc in Environmental Engineering from Helsinki University of Technology.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

In my residency time, I work on a smell-o-vision project in which I am researching and investigating the body and the senses, aesthetics, and the cultural perception and construction of the our sense of smell. We smell before we see. Our ability to smell is exceedingly mundane and magical at the same time. Odours have a power of persuasion stronger than that of words, appearances, emotions, or will. They are temporary, but leave a permanent mark on our memory.

In parallel I continue my projects about bio-based materials and for now I am working on a series of sculptures that uses bioplastics I've made.

Eeva-Liisa Puhakka's residency is part of the HIAP Residency Programme for Finnish and Finland-based artists and art professionals.



Picture of me



Eeva - Liisa Puhakka, *A kinetic sound-installation* (old milking units, glass tubes, motors and vacuum pumps from old farms), in collaboration with Jonne Pitkänen, Kunsthalle Turku, 2021
Photo by Miia Paunula

SUMUGAN SIVANESAN

SUMUGAN SIVANESAN is an artist and researcher whose interests span migrant histories, minority politics, activist media, artist infrastructures and more-than-human rights. He earned a doctorate from the Transforming Cultures research centre at the University of Technology Sydney (2014) and was a post-doctoral researcher at the Institute for English and American Studies (Cultural Studies), University of Potsdam (2016) supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). He is active with Black Earth, a Berlin-based collective who address interacting issues of racism, gender, colonialism and climate justice. Sumugan was listed as an artist to watch by the Australian Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, Paul Fletcher, in March 2022.

sivanesan.net

DURING THE RESIDENCY

At HIAP Sumugan has continued to develop fugitive radio, initiated in 2020 as an artistic research project to investigate migrant, queer and anticolonial issues and music in Helsinki, supported by Kone Foundation (2020–21). fugitive radio responds to the uptake of radio in contemporary art by developing collectively-realised modes of ‘performance–radio’ using free and open source tools. Formats have so far included: radiophonic picnic, ‘sound swarm’, audio fanzine and online club. fugitive radio’s monthly podcast, ‘fugitive frequency’ is available on Helsinki Open Waves and broadcast on Freie Radios Berlin-Brandenburg. Sumugan also publishes texts based of fugitive radio activity. He is currently working towards installation outcomes and live art events that emphasise social relations.

fugitive-radio.net

Sumugan Sivanesan’s residency is realised with support from The Australia Council for the Arts.



Sumugan Sivanesan, *RUB8 'silent disco' season finale*, HIAP studios, 2022
Photo by Kamila Sladowska



Sumugan Sivanesan, *fugitive radio: Karaoke Theory*, Pixelache Helsinki Festival #BURN____2021, Oodi Central Library
Photo by Antti Ahonen

TIMO VIIALAINEN

TIMO VIIALAINEN works in the fields of visual art, performance art and sound art. Though most part of his work has been live performances, his contemporary work usually takes its shape in conceptual sculptures that often feature an activating element which engages the viewer. His interest lies in intuitive prelinguistic experience and contradictory concepts that can be found in the various capitalised environments in which we exist.

Timo is a graduate from the Academy of Fine Arts at the University of the Arts Helsinki.

DURING THE RESIDENCY

During my residency I have worked on my solo exhibition "Lossy" that took place in gallery Oksasenkatu 11 in January 2022. The theme of the exhibition is related to an attempt to reach out to things that have happened in another time and place, and the impossibility of it. The word Lossy refers to the lossy compression method used in digital data processing.

Besides the exhibition I worked on a series of performance art pieces that relate to the theme of electricity cut which has been present in my earlier work. The first performance, titled "Engagement part IV", took place on 4th of September in the New Performance Turku Festival. The second one, titled "What did you do as a child when the thunder cut the power?", was presented during the Performance Protocols event and exhibition that was held in Akusmata and Third Space galleries in Helsinki between 18 and 28 September.

Further, I also presented a new performance piece titled "Bulb" in the Helsinki Performance Art Symposium which took place in Mad House on 22 October 2021. A version of this performance was presented in the exhibition "The Posture of Impermanence" (Huokoinen Ele) in Vantaa Art Museum Artsi in January 2022.

During the residency I also worked with my sound/music project *Hur Hur* and *Hevonen*. I played several gigs and recorded some new material.

The spring season I was busy gathering materials and ideas for an exhibition I'm planning to have at the end of the year 2023.

The residency and studio space for Timo Viialainen was granted by The Academy of Fine Arts Foundation in collaboration with HIAP.





Timo Viialainen, *Hiiri*, 2022
Photo by Timo Viialainen



Timo Viialainen, *Kukkopilli*, 2022
Photo by Salla Valle

AOI YOSHIZAWA

AOI YOSHIZAWA is a Japanese artist who lives and works in Helsinki. With a background in textile making and designing, she engages in the experimental processes that apply traditional craft techniques to the creation of contemporary woven textiles. Material and technical explorations are an essential part of her creative practice. Her artworks are driven by repetitive and time-consuming actions, as well as social aspects of the hand-weaving technique.

She also works with a form of installations and performances based on her life experiences. As a part of Harakka Collective, she has created a series of performances viewed online and live on Harakka island in Helsinki.

Yoshizawa graduated from Aalto University in 2015 (MA) and Bergen National Academy of Arts in 2011 (BFA).

DURING THE RESIDENCY

During my stay at the HIAP residency, I will continue my artistic practice of creating larger-scale, hand-woven artworks. Observing the seascapes from the island, I will elaborate my woven language that speaks to strong visual and haptic sensations.

I will also work on the project SPELLS with Petra Vehviläinen in the landscape of Suomenlinna. We will create a woven installation through performative acts to communicate with the surroundings.

Besides weaving projects, I will participate in an ongoing musical collaboration with Petra Vehviläinen and Marika Maijala for our archipelago band, Velvet Ass.

Aoi Yoshizawa's residency is part of the HIAP Residency Programme for Finnish and Finland-based artists and art professionals.



Aoi Yoshizawa, *Aoinkauppa*, 2020
Photo by Kastehelmi Korpjaakko



Aoi Yoshizawa, *I fucking moved on*, installation view, 2020
Photo by Kastehelmi Korpjaakko



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