

The artists for the XXVIII Mänttä Art Festival have been announced – the exhibition will revolve around spaciousness and spatiality

The artists for and theme of the Mänttä Art Festival 2024 have been announced. The exhibition, entitled *Puhallus* (“The Blast”), will revolve around themes of light, perspective, spaciousness, and spatiality. A total of 36 artists and pairs of artists have been invited to contribute to this year’s festival.

“There will be nothing stiff or static about this summer’s festival”, vows curator **Heli Ryhänen**. “In my selection of pieces, I have emphasised the three-dimensional, the breathable, as well as surprising qualities and varieties of scale. All the works of art in the exhibition will also be in dialogue with the exhibition space. The selected artists are all imaginative and skilled in the use of materials, and each and every one of them has a unique style. They come from all over Finland and are at different stages of their careers”, she continues.

The XXVIII Mänttä Art Festival will include both large-scale installations and small pieces that require a closer look – collages, photographs, light art, drawing performances, and origami. Visitors can dive down staircases, explore ancient forests through felled areas and micro-organisms, and encounter familiar materials in unexpected contexts. Novel spaces are created through shifts in coloured light in installations, while video pieces take us back decades through their portrayal of friendship and diversity in the past.

“The name of the exhibition, *Puhallus* (“The Blast”), calls to mind motion – vibrations in the air. And many of the works of arts exhibited indeed feature subtle movement and multi-sensory elements. Nature is also present in many ways. The artists have derived inspiration from both very personal and very societal sources”, Heli Ryhänen says.

The artists for the XXVIII Mänttä Art Festival

- Timo Ahjotuli
- Antti Arkoma
- Sara Bjarland
- Michal Czinege and Maija Laurinen
- Erika Erre
- Reetta Gröhn-Soininen
- Timo Hannunen
- Alma Heikkilä
- Johannes Heikkilä
- Touko Hujanen
- Kaisa Huotari
- Anna Hyrkkänen
- Essi Immonen
- Inka-Maaria Jurvanen
- Riikka Keränen
- Ritva Kovalainen
- Juho Könkkölä

- Laura Lilja
- Hanna Marno
- Jussi Matilainen
- Anne Meskanen-Barman
- Haidi Motola
- Salla Myllylä and Laura Vainikka
- Reima Nevalainen
- Petri Nuutinen
- Antti Oikarinen
- Katri Paunu
- Maria Pääkkönen and Ingeborg Blom Andersskog
- Anni Rapinoja
- Anne Roininen
- Melissa Sammalvaara
- Nora Sederlöf
- Sanni Seppo
- Rosalia Silber
- Maria Tani
- Hanna Vihriälä

The Mänttä Art Festival, which celebrated its 30th anniversary last year, is the largest summer exhibition of contemporary art in Finland, and its merits have been recognised by the Ministry of Education and Culture in the form of the Finland Award (Suomi-palkinto). The XXVIII Mänttä Art Festival will be open daily from 16 June to 31 August 2024. www.kuvataideviikot.fi/en

Further information

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