

June -  
November  
2010

TURKU

2011

European Capital of Culture,  
here and now.

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Cover image: Perttu Saksala

The Turku European Capital of Culture 2011 magazine provides information on the Capital of Culture programme, the people behind the programme and Turku in general. There will be five issues of Turku 2011 (issues 1, 2 and 4 also in English): Issue 1: 10.6.2010 | Issue 2: 16.11.2010 | Issue 3: 8.2.2011 | Issue 4: 17.5.2011 | Issue 5: 30.8.2011



## Setting the Spirit of Turku Free

Turku is the European Capital of Culture 2011. So what? And what does that really mean? Turku already is a city of culture. As are Tampere and Mänttä, both candidates for the 2011 Capital of Culture.

So, how are we different? Turku's Capital of Culture year will not just be another big festival or summer event; a year-long show with successive star performances. No, there's a lot more to the year than that.

For us, the Capital of Culture embodies great expectations and greater anticipation. It feels as if we are building, little by little, a giant signal beacon out of the matches and firecrackers of our artistic potential. A cultural signal beacon that, when we light it, will be seen burning spectacularly from around the world.

And even better, the Capital of Culture year is more than a year. It is a long process that started with the submission of the application to the EU in 2006, and whose effects will continue long after 2011. The Capital of Culture year will have a permanent impact on the city, on the cultural environment, on the way we work and on everyone who takes part.

For Turku 2011, we want to merge culture with the other aspects of life, sometimes gently, sometimes more powerfully. This will produce invigorating new combinations: culture and sports, cultural well-being, science and culture, diverse artistic genres working together, world-class stars and local talent, different religions and philosophies, high culture and counter culture.

By definition, the European Capital of Culture is international. However, the true essence will be defined by the local spirit, *genius loci*. As we capture that spirit, everything we do will be genuine and personal, unique to us.

We consider Turku as an open gateway to the world where we welcome new thinking and points of view to Finland. And the gateway works both ways - Turku and its people have provided the world with a wealth of ideas. Now we stand at the gate, proudly setting ideas free - we have a lot to give.

Every time artistic expression is inspired by the other elements of human activity, something new and wonderful is born.

That's culture.

Cay Sevón  
CEO, Turku 2011 Foundation



# Switch to your finest.



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Accordion Wrestling is a pilot performance for the Battle 2011 performance during the Capital of Culture year. The performance combines combat sports with Kimmo Pohjonen's music. Performances at Paavo Nurmi Stadion on 31 August and 2-3 September 2011.

Mikki Kunttu

# Accordion Wrestling

Fight. Strength. Tension. Sweat. Wrestling.

**KIMMO POHJONEN'S** performance doesn't really fall into any traditional artistic genre. Accordion Wrestling is at once a sincere and serious tribute to Finland's most successful Olympic sport; and a hilarious theatre performance to boot.

The performance will include a documentary-style narration, dancing, acrobatic athletics and orders barked out on an accordion. The accordion conveys Pohjonen's emotions as he assumes different roles - like that of an outspoken wrestling referee or a supportive coach.

Kimmo Pohjonen has built a brilliant career in improvisation, rock, folk, avant-garde

and classical music. He has performed at over 500 international festivals and in the most prestigious concert halls throughout the world. However, he considers Accordion Wrestling special.

"Usually, I'm the one to grab the bull by the horns at the first opportunity. But this time, I've planned extensively and given a lot of thought to the project. Initially, it was scary. But now I'm totally excited, we have the best possible crew."

Along with Pohjonen, director/choreographer **Ari Numminen**, sound designer **Heikki Iso-Ahola** and **Mikki Kunttu**, who is responsible for the vis-

ualisations, will be involved in producing the performance. The Helsinki Nelsons wrestling group were surprisingly keen to adapt to their role as art performers.

If you want peace and serenity, this concert will not be for you. If you're looking for excitement, you might even want to get in the ring!

Audiences in Turku and Helsinki have already witnessed the seriously hilarious Accordion Wrestling. Tampere and Stockholm are up next.

19.-22.8.2010  
Teatterimonttu, Kalevantie 4, Tampere.

## Capitals of Culture to Visit Helsinki

"The programme will include musical shows, dance, live music and a youth circus,"



**ON FRIDAY** June 11th 2010, during Helsinki Week, a message will be delivered to Helsinki from the 2011 Capitals of Culture - Turku and Tallinn. In the announcement, the cities will present what's in store for 2011.

A running courier will deliver the message from Turku and the Tallinn message will arrive by boat.

The Turku and Tallinn Capital of Culture 2011 Teams will be in Helsinki for the entire weekend, with both cities presenting what's on offer from the combined Capital of Culture programmes through concerts, club events and exhibitions.

The messages will be delivered to the Helsinki Senate Square, where the mayors for the three cities will be meeting to launch the concert at 7pm. Turku will provide the programme for Friday and Tallinn for Sunday. Both City Teams will be present throughout the weekend.

The Friday concert performances will have a Turku theme. **The Aino Choir** will perform music by **Ressu Redford** and **Neon 2**. In addition, the **Riku**

**Niemi Orchestra** and **Tommi Läntinen** will take the stage. Naturally, music by **Matti and Teppo** - singing brothers from Turku - will also be featured.

"On Sunday, we will have a fun day for the entire family and we're hoping for good weather. The programme will include musical shows, dance, live music and a youth circus," says **Andri Maimets**, Communications Manager for the foundation responsible for the Tallinn Capital of Culture year.

On Sunday, the Senate Square will also host a food market, which will present gastronomic treats from Tallinn and Helsinki. Turku will join the party by sending its leading chefs to the event.

So, Helsinki residents can look forward to some pretty tasty and inspiring treats during the second weekend in June.

Elina Venesmäki

**Senate Square:**  
**Fri 11 June at 7pm-9.30pm:**  
Turku, Turku Concert  
**Sun 13 June at 11am-5pm**  
Tallinn Day

## Bird's Nest

Watch the Bird's Nest animation at [www.turku2011.fi/ani](http://www.turku2011.fi/ani)



Sanni Lahtinen, Turku 2011 Programme: Mobile Animation, TUAS Arts Academy

## Turku Looks



**Josefin 23,** "The jacket and bag are second hand, the hat is from Sokos Wiklund, the dress from Gina Tricot, the shoes from Din Sko. I love hats, dresses and high heels. I usually shop at small boutiques in Sweden.

Here in Turku, people are not as fashion conscious as they are in Sweden where I come from. People have their own fun and personal style in clothes."



**Johnny 24,** "Lately, my style has become more adult. I wear jeans as rarely as possible. I like short, narrow Chinos pants, dress shorts and casual shoes. My style is based on the mod and skinhead cultures, which I got into five years ago."



**Elina 85,** "I like simple clothes that are easy to wash, like these Marimekko shirts. I chose these shoes, because the others make my feet ache. I don't like trousers - I always wear a skirt. My late husband couldn't stand women that wore trousers.

I don't follow fashion. I follow my own style."

The Turku Looks photography exhibition on 11 June - 8 August 2010 at Korjaamo, Töölönkatu 51b, Helsinki.



## Riding the Cultural Express

The bus connection between Turku Airport and the harbour has been dubbed the Cultural Express. Our Street Team interviewed some of the travellers on the bus.

### How do you recognise culture?

Text and pictures: Tuuli Toivanen



**Tiina Hurme**, college secretary, Sauvo: "I think it can be seen in the cultural education in the city."



**Jesse**, bun wrapper, Turku: "On the side of the bus."



**Khaled**, bus driver, Mahabat, Kurdistan: "Culture is everywhere and in everything: clothes, religion, language, food. Teaching your children is culture. For us, the entire family is culture."



**Kirsikka Laurikko**, school girl, Turku: "I recognise culture in everything people do. Culture is how you spend your free time and what your lifestyle is."



**Taimi Nieminen**, pensioner, Karelia: "Culture is in all kinds of leisure activities, like cinema and theatre. On the other hand, there is culture in baking as well. People nowadays really can't make decent bun dough anymore."



Fanny Salonen

**THE SHINGLED** roofs were ablaze and the storm fanned the flames in 1827, when Turku burned to ash in the largest ever urban fire in the Nordic countries.

Who was to blame? Russian soldiers, men of the woods, dissenters, the Archbishop or that poor maid Maria?

Now, the Great Fire of Turku story will thunder into life, as the Turun Nuori Teatteri theatre group creates a heavy metal musical on the theme. The young vocal cords of Turku will be put to the test as the air becomes heavy with the fire of the greatest all time classics of foreign and domestic heavy metal.

This time, even the drummer will be ablaze. A truly incendiary performance!

The 1827 - The Infernal Musical will be directed by **Juha-Pekka Mikkola**, artistic director and actor for Turun Nuori Teatteri. Mikkola will be accompanied by a Turun Nuori Teatteri colleague, writer and role-playing game designer **Mike Pohjola**, who is responsible for the script.

Premiere 20.1.2011 at Logomo, Turku

Other performances 22.1. / 25.1. / 27.1. / 28.1. / 29.1. / 2.2. / 4.2. ja 5.2.2011

## My Best Turku Memory

### Wearing a pink Jokapoika Marimekko shirt

**I WAS ENJOYING** my first paid summer vacation in early 2000s and I bought a travelcard that included three train trips across Finland during the summer. One of my destinations was the beautiful, cultural city of Turku.

For a young girl trying to find herself, the city was sunny and beautiful. My small hostel room was bathed in sunlight and so I let my feet lead me through new streets.

I discovered a flea market with a bookstall selling all their books for two euros each. My backpack wound up full of treasures, and I still have those precious books today.

During the same walk through the city, I bought a Marimekko shirt at a real bargain price from the UFF store. I wore my new,

outrageously pink, Jokapoika shirt to a local live music venue that some of the local youngsters recommended to me. The venue was an old wooden building, a few blocks off the city centre, local Turku acts **TV Resistori** and **Wojciech** were on stage and I remember becoming totally enchanted with the magical music of the bands.

After the heat of the summer day, the evening breeze felt wonderful, as I walked back to my hostel, smiling.

Mia W.

The Radio Helsinki web site collected some of the best Turku memories during late 2009. Share your Turku memories at [www.turku2011.fi/muisto](http://www.turku2011.fi/muisto)

## 876 Shades of Darkness Will Illuminate Turku's Autumn

Darkness holds power, intimacy and warmth.

**THE 876 SHADES** of Darkness, coordinated by the Turku Cultural Office, is a series of projects that will take three different approaches to darkness: How can we shed more light on the long, dark, cold season? How can we find inspiring ways to discuss even the gloomy topics? How does science explain darkness and how do we experience it?

876 Shades of Darkness is a combination of art, science, theatre, co-creation and moments of private silence. The key idea is to concentrate on the experience rather than watching the performance.

The first shades of darkness will be experienced as early as this autumn.

The Huts of Darkness by the Arte ry association will be brought to the city centre in October. The huts will be open during the morning and afternoon rush hours, providing a safe haven for relaxing by a fire

in the middle of the crowded city. When closed, the huts will act as stand-alone artworks.

The Many Faces of Death exhibition at the Wäinö Aaltonen Museum of Art will present this ordinary yet painful topic through artworks spanning the years from the late 1800s to recent times.

The Turku Main Library will run a line-up of programmes on the darkness theme. On a very eventful Night of Reading, the Main Library will be open till late at night. The event will discuss, among other topics, how light and shadows can change the reading experience and how darkness is portrayed in literature and music.

**Many Faces of Death, 22.10.2010 - 20.3.2011**, WAM, Itäinen Rantakatu 38, Turku  
**Night of Reading 12.11.2010**, City Main Library, Linnankatu 2, Turku

## Middle-Aged Turku Residents as Musical Stars

"Just when you thought it was all over... *Psychedelia is back!*"

The musical, *Hair*, is set to provide that wonderful sense of excitement when electrifying drama meets passion and enthusiasm. A group of Turku residents decided not to let middle-age get to them, but to do their bit for the Capital of Culture year.

The musical, directed by **Marja-Leena Kuronen**, choreographed by **Mikko Ahti**, and brought to life by these newfound aficionados of the theatre, will be revitalised, bringing the spirit of the 60s bang up to date.

Many of the participants are drawing inspiration from their personal childhood memories. For example, **Tuula Rankonen** remembers seeing the musical at the Turku City Theatre when she was 15.

Rankonen, who is into dance and exercise and has travelled the hippy trail to Tibet and Nepal, now finds a world of excitement right here at home.

"It's great to find a big adventure right on your doorstep. I recently saw a documentary on TV where elderly citizens, got a huge kick from going on stage to perform, to the delight

of their audiences. This has exactly the same thrill to it," says Rankonen.

Approximately 200 performers are currently rehearsing for the musical, led by singing teacher **Marianna Länne**.

"The musical is full of singing, so learning the lyrics is a major effort," says Länne.

There were very few entry criteria for the *Hair* cast - just having loads of enthusiasm was enough. Länne is proud of the multi-talented crew.

The *Hair* musical is part of the Middle-Aged *Hair* project, based on an idea by **Maisa Kuusela**, Service Manager for Turku Social Services and Health Care Department. The project includes a well-being aspect: volunteers will be able to take advantage of health checks and lifestyle advice.

Kuusela firmly believes that culture has a positive impact on well-being. In the musical, this positive impact will be generated by exercise and team work.

Katja Kaartinen

**Musical Hair during February 2011 at Logomo, Köydenpunojankatu 14, Turku.**



*The Radio Helsinki listeners' excursion toured the most interesting shops and bars in Turku before dancing the night away at Dynamo.*

The Night Moves club nights will bring the Turku sound to Helsinki



Vilhelm Sjöström

## Ambassadors of Rhythm

ON JUNE 11TH, **Jori Hulkkonen**, **Esko Routamaa**, **DJ Fog** and a legion of other electronic music and DJ performers will be cueing, looping, scratching and juggling beats at the Kuudes linja and Siltanen clubs in Kallio, Helsinki.

"Kuudes linja will present a range of electronic dance music while Siltanen will concentrate on indie and pop," says **Sampo Axelsson**, aka **DJ Anonymous**, of the Turku Modern Festival fame and the man behind the programme.

Turku has an extensive background in electronic and electrifying music, as the shores of the River Aura were the source of underground music as far back as the 1960s.

Turku has a lot to give. Modern electronic sound arrived in the old capital city in the summer of 1989 when the **Hyperdelic Housers** team, **Esko Routamaa**, **Tommi Grönlund** and **Mika Vainio**, organised the first garage raves.

Since then, the baton has been taken up by the likes of the Ruisrock Typpihappo Party, **Pan Sonic** by **Mika Vainio** and **Ilpo Väisänen**, with the rap invasion accelerated by **Pääkköset** and **MC Nikke T**, the Koneisto Festival and a continuum of visionary DJs. This history can be heard today on the constantly developing club scene, as well as in experimental electro and in down-to-earth rap. Based on the latest selection of mixes, there are dozens of

upcoming stars in the region.

The Kallio shakedown will be a continuation of the event held in February at Dynamo, Turku, which attracted crowds from Helsinki to assess the current state of Turku beats and styles. The line-up will include guest performers from Estonia, the fellow Capital of Culture.

The Night Moves club nights will include a live set by **Jori Hulkkonen**, precious vinyls by seasoned DJs and classic tracks without compromises.

"An eclectic mix of everything that makes up the Dynamo sound, from local classics to hidden treasures," reveals **Jussi Lehtinen** aka **DJ Fog**, the man behind the Dynamo and Monk clubs.

The beat will not stop at Helsinki. Turku will be jumping again in July, after which the club concept will be taken to London in September and Tallinn in October.

Matti Komulainen

Night Moves-Club Hopping With Turku 2011, Kuudes Linja & Siltanen 11 June 2010 at 10pm - 4am, Hämeentie 13, Helsinki: **Jori Hulkkonen** live, **Ionik**, **DJ Esko Routamaa**, **DJ Käki**, **Tuipe**, **Sheikki Sheikki DJ's**, **DJ Fog (TKU)**, **Sasse (TKU/BER)**, **Malcolm Lincoln** live, **Mustad Noodid** live, **Plektrum DJ's**, **Alari Orav (TLN)**, **Propaganda & Beige/Harmaa VJ's**. Free admission.

## SCANDINAVIAN ELEGANCE



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*“There would be no point in recreating an American entertainment movie. That subject matter is perfect for a long movie presented through a single screen.”*

*Eila-Liisa Ahtila went through several weeks of intensive work shooting the ‘The Annunciation’. It wasn’t until the set was being dismantled that she finally had a chance to relax.*





# Shared Pictures, Shared Emotions

The Finnish premiere of Eija-Liisa Ahtila's video installation 'Where is Where?' makes her one of the key artists for the Capital of Culture Year. The installation is part of the Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma collection and will be exhibited in Logomo during the spring of 2011.

**EIJA-LIISA AHTILA'S** new studio is still disorganised following a recent move. On the day of the interview, Ahtila is a happy woman: changing the location of her studio has significantly reduced the distance to work and, most importantly, the shoot for the artist's next work had just been completed.

"I worked with a group of amateur actors. That meant a certain amount of unpredictability and spontaneity, you never know how the day is going to pan out," says Ahtila.

The new work is not fully completed, but Ahtila is happy to discuss it. The three-screen video installation, 'The Annunciation' is based on a Christian theme which has been popular with a number of past Masters. For a while now, Ahtila has been working on a series of photographs that depict Christian iconography in a contemporary setting, but 'The Annunciation' warranted a story told through video.

Originally, the story was going to be small-scale, but Ahtila's works tend to expand.

"This work was intended to be a part of a series of smaller works titled 'Études,' which includes 'The Fishermen' that I did a few years ago. While writing the script, I realised that this work is no étude."

'**WHERE IS WHERE?**', in particular, is not a small piece. The installation is made up of six video screens, one of which leads the viewer into the story, one leads out of the story and the remaining screens tell the story.

Kiasma bought the world-renowned piece during the spring of 2009, but couldn't find a suitable venue until now. In Turku, Ahtila's installation will precede another Finnish premiere from Kiasma's collection: 'Small Boats' by the British artist Isaac Julien. Both works are part of the Africa theme for the ARS2011 exhibition.

Ahtila's and Julien's works are linked by the theme of colonialism. 'Where is Where?' is based on actual events which took place during the Algerian independence battles in late 1950s: two Algerian school boys react to oppression and violence by killing their French friend.

This shocking story may seem distant and irrelevant at first, but through the tragedy Ahtila draws a parallel to colonialism and Pan-European cultural tradition, of which Finland is a part.

"The story includes several contemporary issues, such as the coming together of the Arab and Western cultures, the resultant cultural colonialism and the situation when one culture holds power over the other. We can also reflect on where we stand today: we are European but what are our boundaries and how do we interpret historical events?"

**TRUE TO ITS NAME**, 'Where is Where?' raises questions and challenges interpretations. The viewer is surrounded by four screens, each showing a different view of the same event. The viewer will not be able to take it all in at once. The installation requires the viewer to be proactive and make decisions – just like in real life.

"In the beginning, the poet character brings the historical event into our time. The poet then steps aside, and the viewer must interpret what he or she has witnessed," explains Ahtila.

Ahtila produces both film and installation versions of her works, each with a different story.

"Using multiple images creates a different story than using a single image. Multiple images allow several points of view; it is visually more challenging, but opens new kinds of possibilities for seeing and doing."

For her films, Ahtila explores themes that touch large audiences: emotions and human drama on

separation; death and sexuality; and other important subjects. Although Ahtila's movies attract fairly large audiences, they do not compare to commercial productions.

Going commercial is not an option for Ahtila.

"There would be no point in recreating an American entertainment movie. That subject matter is perfect for a long movie presented through a single screen."

**EIJA-LIISA AHTILA** is openly European. In her opinion, Europe represents the best that Western culture has to offer. Her movies are in Finnish, with the exception of 'The Hour of Prayer', which was originally intended to be a soundtrack.

"I have learned my profession in English and I enjoyed studying in Los Angeles. However, as you grow older, your cynicism about mainstream culture over there increases. The multitude of cultures in Europe is more interesting."

Her unusual language can be a burden, but Ahtila wants to hold on to using Finnish.

"Large cultures are only moderately interested in other cultures. In a way, I live on the borderline; travelling the world offers perspective and makes me want to retain my identity."

During the Spring, Ahtila resigned from her position as a Professor at the Finnish Academy of Fine Arts. Currently she is focusing on her art, with an upcoming exhibition at Stockholm's Moderna Museet, and her doctoral dissertation, which discusses the issues of multi-image narration.

"Even though creating art takes up most of my time, it is important to raise awareness and debate on these topics," says Ahtila. ●

Elina Teerijoki



# Kristian Smeds Looks at Dostojevski Through Young Estonian Eyes



*The Estonian Brothers Karamazov includes 15 students, three of whom will become directors. By the time of the Turku premiere, most will have graduated. Marion Undusk ended up in a box while working on a cardboard horse.*

Juho Paavola

"**GOD IS LOVE AND DEATH,**" summarises **Smeds**.

**Dostojevski's** last novel has fascinated the internationally recognised theatre director for years. Now is the time to turn the inspirational and emotional text into a stage performance. Smeds' production for the autumn of 2011 will certainly take a personal and unique approach. A part of the Turku Capital of Culture programme, the play will be performed in Estonian and will also be performed in Tallinn, the other Capital of Culture in 2011, during the autumn.

"The Brothers Karamazov is a book that I hold quite dear. It includes the sacred and the evil in the same package," says Smeds, who has been building theatrical links between Finland and Estonia for years.

The project involves a large-scale cooperation that was initiated by **Peeter Jalakas**, the director for the Von Krahl Theatre. The Tallinn-based theatre has its own title class at the Viljandi Culture Academy, the other theatre school in Tallinn. Jalakas requested that Smeds direct a suitable play for the students. Smeds had previously modified *The Year of the Hare* by **Arto**

**Paasilinna** and *The Seagull* by **Anton Chekhov** for the Von Krahl Theatre.

Once the cooperation with the Smeds Ensemble was confirmed, the 2011 Capitals of Culture, Turku and Tallinn, were included in the project. Turku City Theatre is also involved through set designer **Jani Uljas**; and **Ismo Laakso**, who will conduct the music composed by the students.

"I concluded that the Brothers Karamazov would provide both a pedagogic and artistic challenge. The play includes the full gamut of theatrical techniques from dialog to music. It has extremes. I have not dramatised the novel, but the themes come from Dostojevski."

**SMEDS HAD A** front row seat observing talented young students from our southerly neighbour who could master as many as three instruments. The students were equally keen to absorb information and experiences and Smeds found

this highly energising and instructive.

The cooperation has already brought about an idea of the Karamazov actor who challenges traditional working methods.

"The Karamazov actor is vital, mentally strong and arrogant, but always aspiring to beauty and sanctity," says Smeds.

The director considers actors as artists that live their profession 24/7, and so he allocates enough time for them to prepare for the performances – something that is especially important for young actors. Mistakes are acceptable and even welcomed. The actors use the workshops to practice and to immerse themselves in the play's world by very practical methods – by tinkering about with cardboard props for

*The Karamazov actor is vital and arrogant, but aspires to beauty*

the stage set.

"Theatres which operate only in a corporate efficiency style produce trivial performances which un-



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*Kristian Smeds' fake  
dreadlocks reveal that the  
Viljandi Karamazov is not  
a facsimile edition of the  
Dostojevski novel.*

Capturing the essence of Dostojevski's 'the Brothers Karamazov', which runs in excess of a thousand pages, is not a simple task. However, despite having taken a more straightforward approach to literary classics in the past, Kristian Smeds is not afraid to try.



dermine both the audiences and the production team. We will slowly build a solid foundation that will carry the art gracefully."

According to Smeds, readers of classic works such as the Brothers Karamazov should take their time. The novel deepens and expands only with time. The same goes for the theatrical interpretation.

When Smeds and the group met for the third workshop in Tampere during April, a Russian copy of the Brothers Karamazov was circulated in the room. Smeds thought that the novel was not familiar for all Viljandi students – after all, reading has declined among the young people of Estonia as well.

"The classic novel is not a familiar medium for the younger generation, but the themes remain important. The themes are scattered all over the fragmented Internet reality."

The shared journey for Kristian Smeds and the Viljandi students started during the spring of 2008 with the first workshop in Tallinn. The students had enrolled at the Viljandi Culture Academy during the pre-

vious autumn. Since the first meeting, the group has made huge progress toward the premiere.

"There is a clear change. The students are more daring in their approach toward artistic independence."

**WHILE SMEDS HAS** not directed Finnish theatre students, he is still able to see cultural differences that are also reflected in more seasoned actors. In Estonia, acting has a lighter style than in Finland, where portraying strong emotions is everyday work for actors – for better or worse.

The group will next meet during April-May 2011. The drama will be finalised in August-September 2011.

The group has used the workshops to prepare some scenes that have also been tried out on the public. The group has not decided whether to include these in the final performance.

"The results of the quick workshop performance are not that important; the time we spend together is what counts." ●

Matti Wacklin

*The Brothers  
Karamazov will bring  
the two 2011 Capitals  
of Culture, Turku and  
Tallinn, together*

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\* Taloustutkimus Oy 9435 ST/le, Muuttopalvelu Niemi, jatkuva asiakaspalaute, kesäkuu 2009



# Cats Have Rights

The 2010 World Tour brought rock star Michal Monroe, of legendary Finnish band Hanoi Rocks, back to Turku to play a gig in his old home town.



Mari Lehto

All the Turku people I know, who have met you in person, say that you're a really nice guy. Rock icons are not normally known for their niceness. How have you managed this?

Being famous doesn't give you the right to be condescending toward others, actually quite the opposite! If fame had gone to my head, I would probably be out of the business by now. I think celebrities have a responsibility to set an example and treat others with respect and friendliness.

That's right, but, you ride your bicycle without wearing a helmet. That might set a bad example to your fans. If wearing a bicycle helmet became mandatory, would you wear one?

Actually, I'd rather not, unless I could find a really cool helmet.

Most bike helmets just look ridiculous!

Speaking of cool - you're a devoted cat person. What is the coolest feline music: the musical Cats, the Stray Cats, Cat Stevens, Super Furry Animals, CatCat or something else?

The Stray Cats, because that's proper rock and roll. However, my late cat, called Susi, loved to listen to Pink Floyd and the Doors.

Scientific experiments in the USA in 1957 involved feeding LSD to cats. The drug caused outbursts of rage for brief moments in the animals. Do you consider this experiment as ethical?

That's insane! Outrageous! Cruelty to animals! Nothing justifies that kind of human be-

haviour toward animals. People should take more responsibility and test their poisons on themselves.

Drugs are not for humans, either. One young man I met in Turku the other day claimed to speak "Norwegian and the language of animals" as his native language. What language do cats speak? Does it and music have something in common?

Cats and all animals seem to speak the same language throughout the world. Perhaps it would make more sense if people had just one global language as well.

Einari Lankinen, an author from Turku, once claimed that all Finnish songwriters - with the exception of Mikko Alatalo - have stolen their mu-

sic from him by using spying apparatus. How much of your songs feature material stolen from Lankinen's poems and songs?

I'm sorry to say, I've never heard of the man before.

Well. I've seen you sitting at the Kupittaa Park in the summer. Einari Lankinen used to go the same spot to write, as the spying apparatus could not reach that far. How do you explain this?

Musical inspiration can come when ever, where ever, indoors or outdoors. I try to write down my ideas as soon as possible. Usually I work with my music at home.

Jaakko Yli-Juonikas



**MICHAEL MONROE**  
(b. 1962)

- attained world fame during 1980-1985 and 2001-2009 as the lead singer for Hanoi Rocks

- the current Michael Monroe Band includes Sami Yaffa (bass), Ginger (guitar), Steve Conte (guitar) and Karl Rockfist (drums)

- in 2010 the band is touring Sweden and Japan

## We know the people of Turku... Or do we?

The Turku identity will finally be revealed to the general public with the **People of Turku** exhibition at the Serlachius Museum. The People of Turku exhibition will be open until 15 August 2010 at the Serlachius Museum Gustaf, Mänttä. After this, the exhibits will be sent in containers on a tour to be displayed around Finland. **Tour dates:** week 34 at Helsinki, week 36 at Rovaniemi, week 37 at Oulu, week 38 at Jyväskylä, week 39 at Lahti, week 40 at Tampere, summer of 2011 at Turku.



# Inside Medieval Walls

Turku's two most iconic buildings will become stages for art performances during the Capital of Culture year. The story of the Pirate Princess Alvilda will be performed as an opera at Turku Castle, and Turku Cathedral will host a special Easter dance performance, and Carl Heinrich Graun's Easter Oratorio.

"Turku Castle will be a challenging venue, but perfect for this production," says **Liisa Mattila**, producer for the Alvilda in Abo opera. The location is perfect because parts of the historical

events are actually set in Turku Castle. There are various versions of the libretto based on folk tradition, but all versions share the location of the events, "Abo, metropoli della Finlandia".



Soprano Mari Palo plays the pirate princess Alvilda.

Iloinen Liftari

The origin and rediscovery of the Alvilda opera is a fascinating story. The first version of the story, in which the daughter of a Gothic king abandons marriage and turns to piracy on the Baltic Sea, was originally recorded way back in 1070.

The story reached Italy in the 1500s. The fierce and wilful Alvilda created such a stir that ten operas were written to tell the story.

"Perhaps Alvilda appealed to the need for exotic characters in those times in Italy. There are several interpretations of this strong female character. The libretto depicts her as very beautiful, while some descriptions portray a manly and hirsute woman," explains Mattila.

Most of the different versions are now lost. For example, only a few arias remain of **Vivaldi's** interpretation of Alvilda. The Turku performance will be of the version composed by **Carlo Agostino Badia** in 1962.

Alvilda in Abo will premiere during August 2011 at the Turku Castle courtyard. The performance will not be a traditional opera, but will represent opera from the times of the original performances, when opera was not yet established as an artform.

"Alvilda can be described as a musical of the 1600s. It is light and fun," says Liisa Mattila.

**THERE IS ANOTHER** opera to be staged in Turku Castle: the folk opera 'Henrik and the Hammer of Witches.' The opera is based on true events, and tells the story of how that the remarkable scholastic abilities of a graduate student were deemed to be the work of the Devil. The story is set in Turku during the time of the witch hunts and will premiere on 27 August 2011.

The castle will also host a

number of art exhibitions. The 2011 programme includes the video triptych 'Mary and the Master' by **Saara Ekström** which takes inspiration from the works of master sculptors from the early medieval times. The photography exhibition, Inner Landscapes, will draw from Turku memories.

**TURKU CATHEDRAL** is a complex work of art in itself. During the Capital of Culture year the cathedral will become an arena for visual arts, dance and music.

During Easter 2011 Turku Cathedral will host the Finnish premiere of Carl Heinrich Graun's Easter Oratorio. The oratorio was written during the 1700s and will be performed by the Chorus Cathedralis Iuniorum from Turku, the Boy's Choir from Stockholm's Styrkyrkan and Tallinn's Baroque Orchestra.

Church music is, of course, right at home in churches, but how will the church accommodate modern dance? "Dance Theatre ERI has been given full artistic freedom for their work 'Passion' which will premiere during Easter 2011 at Turku Cathedral", explains **Jaana Rantala**, project assistant for the Turku and Kaarina Parish Union.

"In the performance, contemporary people discuss faith. Throughout Europe, old cathedrals are surrounded by modern life, without becoming any less holy."

Passion discusses the events that took place during Easter. The same theme will be present in the Turku Cathedral spring and summer exhibition 'The Last Supper' that will take a contemporary look at the theme. The most famous artist featured in the exhibition will be **Andy Warhol**.

Elina Teerijoki

## Together Forever



Marika Lamberg

**A NEW ROMANTIC** tradition was born in the Hungarian city of Pécs in early 1980s: as a public token of their feelings, couples in love would hang a lock with their names or initials on a gate in the centre of the city.

The tradition of hanging locks has since spread outside Hungary. Romance truly knows no borders. Amongst the cities famous for locks of love are Florence and Riga. Locks have also been seen in Finland, on the Frenckell Bridge in Tampere.

In fact, the sheer number of locks is starting to cause problems to these cities. In Hungary, one suggested solution for the problem is special lock fences, in much the same way that graffiti artists are provided with their own wall.

With approximately 153,000 residents, the City of Pécs is the 2010 European Capital of Culture together with Istanbul, Turkey, and the Essen and Ruhr region, Germany. The Pécs Capital of Culture year is based on the motto 'The Borderless City' that refers to the city's multi-cultural tradition and diverse cultural offerings.

Päivi Autere

[www.pecs2010.hu](http://www.pecs2010.hu)  
[www.istanbul2010.org](http://www.istanbul2010.org)  
[www.essen2010.com](http://www.essen2010.com)

## Column

### Finnish Life in Photography

*"The landscape is to the Finns what mountains are to the Swiss"*



Sheyi Bankale is co-curators of the exhibition, Alice in Wonderland and editor of Next Level art photography magazine.

Finns are marked by their own brand of nationalism. Their melancholic image can be juxtaposed with their great sense of tradition, solid values, conservatism, protectionism and also pride in the landscape, all of which constitute some kind of 'Finnishness'.

The landscape is to the Finns what mountains are to the Swiss - somewhere everyone goes to escape the realities of urban existence to feel good about themselves. As a result the interplay between landscape and tradition features heavily in the work of Finnish artists, who peel away and examine the notion of Finnishness.

In the 1990s Finland's cultural policy was remodelled, shifting away from melancholic socialist realism towards an

effectively contemporary nation, attracting artisans, artists and creatives, who, in turn, establish a scene. The language of photography was adopted and just as Alexander Rodchenko announced the death of painting so Elina Brotherus's The New Painting demonstrated that their future lay in art photography.

Looking further, the international reach of Finnish photography has long been a major part of the Finns' distinctive and collective story. The profile of the Finnish photo artist abroad oscillates between the poles of global and local ambitions.

There has been a rallying cry that Finnish photo artists have responded to as they step into the consciousness of the international marketplace.

Under the surface it is a much more complicated scenario, the value of conceptual imagery as Finnish heritage may be greater than its value as a material commodity.

The factors of chance and the time to experiment injected the fuel to push Finnish photography forward. Their ideas and imagery can appear illusive at first glance, but the more you allow your gaze to linger the more you begin to comprehend the local references and cultural ideals. Slowly but surely the sophistication of the art comes into focus.

The language of photography is important to the Finns as they develop new ways of communicating, revealing through the lens all that is unspoken about the nation.



# From the Trapeze to Wonderland

Turku 2011 will present the Capital of Culture audience with major productions rarely seen in Finland.



ArtTeatro

*Slava Volkov, World Champion in circus acrobatics, coaches the Cirque Dracula acrobats.*

**DURING MAY 2011**, the audience will witness a highly anticipated take off with the dance performance 'Borrowed Light' by one of the most famous dance groups in Finland, the Tero Saarinen Company. Borrowed Light will start its European tour on the Logomo stage. The performance, that discusses community and commitment, was previously performed at the Helsinki Festival in 2005.

"In my personal work and in the development of my working group, I have begun to understand the importance of the community. Today, we focus too much on individual achievements and on celebrity culture, and so people are becoming more estranged from each other," says dancer-choreographer **Tero Saarinen**.

'Borrowed Light' has touched audiences from New York to New Zealand. The work draws inspiration from the minimalist aesthetics of the Shaker religious sect which promotes pacifism and equality. Saarinen's distinctive choreography carries the performance, and the manic music of The Boston Camerata beautifully complements the piece.

'The Dancing Tower' also starts its tour at Logomo and will also be performed in Tallinn. The Finnish-Estonian-Russian dance performance will mark the 30th anniversary of the Turku-based AB Dance Company. Director and choreographer **Sasha Pepaljajev** will send dancers to the top of an extraordinary ten-meter tower that will come alive with the motion of the wheels powering the waterfall.

**DURING THE SUMMER** of 2011, the tradition of variety performances will return to Finland. Acrobats **Pauliina Räsänen** and **Slava Volkov**, of international Cirque du Soleil fame, will present audiences with the Cirque Dracula fantasy variety show.

"Variety performance art has not really existed in Finland since World War II. The Capital of Culture year gives us with the chance to carry out a large-scale performance in Finland," says Räsänen.

The venue is an art nouveau Belgian dance hall with colourful windows and velvet finishing which emphasises the tragic love story of Count Dracula. The show

includes several Cirque du Soleil artists.

"The master of acrobatics, **Ebon Grayman**, from the US, will play the part of Count Dracula. Our crew also features talented Scandinavian and Russian acrobats," explains Räsänen.

The performance will include the rare and demanding Russian beam acrobatic act, mastered by Slava Volkov.

The circus theme for the Capital of Culture will continue in August as the European circus schools come to Turku for the Future Circus festival. The Night of the Ancient Fires will feature 'The Elements', a spectacle in which Helsinki-based performers perform aerial acrobatics with a fire show, above the River Aura.

"We want to make the river a part of our show, as the River Aura is part of the essence of Turku," says dance artist **Kaisa Pesonen**, chairperson for the association for Helsinki Circus Professionals.

*Turku 2011 Programme provides surprising take offs throughout the year.*

**IN 2011, THE AUDIENCE** won't have to stand still. The Speak No Evil parade play will invite everyone who wants, to be a part of a story of the eternal struggle between good and evil.

"Modern times can be tough and oppressive. This art project helps to boost the communal spirit and increase the feeling of security. Taking even the smallest part will make each participator a part of the bigger, shared event," says **Julian Garner**, one of the Speak No Evil organisers.

Energó, a dramatised audiovisual performance will push the limits of our senses. The performance will describe the evolution of the universe and transform gases, liquids and solids into musical and visual worlds.

Energó is performed by the a cappella group Rajaton and a group of five musicians. The impressive visual effects will be created by **Ville Hyvönen**, whose previous works include the video set for **Kristian Smeds'** production of the Finnish classic 'The Unknown Soldier'



Themes:

2011 transformations

2011 take offs

2011 archipelago explorations

2011 personally

2011 memories and truths

This series will take a peek at the Turku 2011 Programme themes one by one.

#### 2011 take offs

*Runway's clear for experiences! Gather speed, accelerate and take off! Let your new-found wings fly you to other worlds and different dimensions, to places far away or maybe close to home. Fly yourself to something new and amazing. Dress code: Just an open mind.*

(Tuntematon Sotilas).

“Ideally, the audience will give themselves over to the emotional experience and go with the flow,” says **Ilkka Niemeläinen**, the composer for Energo.

The same advice applies to the ‘Alice in Wonderland’ narrative exhibition on contemporary photography, the largest photographic exhibition ever to be held in Finland. Several of the featured artists come from the Turku Arts Academy and the Lahti Institute of Design and Fine Arts.

“When viewed through photographs, the everyday world often seems very absurd. The exhibition combines a fantasy approach with the reality of modern society. At the same time, the exhibitions describe the human relationship with the Internet,” says curator **Anna-Kaisa Rastenberger** from the Finnish Museum of Photography.

**2011 WILL ALSO** be the year of multi-faceted children's culture. Long before the start of Capital of Culture year, professionals from various artistic fields will visit kindergartens and schools.

For example, since 2009, pupils in the lower grades of Turku high schools, working alongside theatre professionals, have been preparing the set design and the libretto for the Turku 2011 Children's Opera. The opera will be performed by professional musicians at the Turku Music Festival in August 2011.

The national Taikalamppu Network is preparing for the Capital of Culture year by organising art workshops throughout Finland.

“This is the first time we have the opportunity to organise a shared project that extends throughout the entire network,” says Director **Pilvi Kuitu** from the Pii Poo Children and Youth Cultural Centre.

The workshops will be led by international professionals, such as the Danish juggler **Jens Sigsgaard** and Norwegian movie director **Herman Greuel**. Kindling, the main event for the Taikalamppu Arts Centres will be organised in Turku on the Children's Rights Day, 20 November 2011. ●

Riina Mäentausta





## Logomo - the next step in a long history

The VR engineering workshop is a significant building in terms of cultural history, the cityscape and railway history.

- Built in 1876, with nine subsequent extensions, the latest of which was in 1979
- Used as an engineering workshop between 1876 and 2002
- Total floor space 17,500m<sup>2</sup>, in building plan 24,000m<sup>2</sup>

# Logomo: the Central Venue for Capital of Culture Major Productions

Mari Lehto

**LOGOMO**, the old engineering workshop for VR, the Finnish railway company, will become the centre of the Turku Capital of Culture year. Logomo has been selected as the location for long-running 2011 exhibitions and some of the major performances.

Logomo will be available to Turku 2011 for the entire year. The venue will be open to the public 7 days a week between 15 January and 15 December 2011.

The halls, which were originally intended for trains, are massive, with approximately 9,000 square metres reserved

for the Capital of Culture year.

“Logomo allows us to produce exhibitions and performances that would otherwise be impossible to organise. Even though the Turku 2011 events are spread throughout the city and its existing facilities, the old engineering workshop provides a unique centre for the Capital of Culture year and pulls together our extensive programme,” says **Suvi Innilä**, Programme Director for the Turku 2011 Foundation.

The Capital of Culture exhibitions and performances will be set in two wings of the old

engineering workshop. The other wing will feature five major exhibitions, on display for the entire Capital of Culture year. A performance stage, and an auditorium for an audience of 1,200, will be built in the other wing. Altogether, Logomo will host more than 50 performances during the Capital of Culture year. There will be musicals, concerts, dance, opera and a number of other events throughout the year.

The venue’s suitability was put to the test during late April, as Logomo hosted the Accordion Wrestling per-

formances by **Kimmo Pohjonen**. The pilot performance proved that even the rough, unfinished space worked like a dream when properly used. The acoustics of the hall are already amazingly good at the time of writing.

During 2011, approximately 150,000 visitors are expected to attend the Logomo exhibitions and performances. Travellers will be delighted with the central location of the venue, which lies close to the railway station, buses and city centre services.

Päivi Autere



At the Logomo announcement event, the AB Dance Company dancers performed a part of Sasha Pepalajev's choreography *The Stool*.

## Logomo exhibitions and performances in early 2011



Logomo illustration by Vapaavuori Architects

### EXHIBITIONS 15.1. - 15.12.2011

#### Fire! Fire!

This experiential title exhibition for the Capital of Culture year will introduce the audience to the world of flames. The Museum Centre of Turku and Heureka Overseas Productions

#### Only a Game?

This interactive exhibition for the entire family, organised by UEFA, will examine the passionate relationship Europe has with football. The exhibition will present some of the most prestigious awards and memorabilia from the past 50 years. Album. Free admittance.

#### Alice in Wonderland

The largest exhibition of contemporary photographic art ever organised in Finland. The Finnish Museum of Photography.

#### Kiasma: Eija-Liisa Ahtila and Isaac Julien / ARS11

This exhibition, by the Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art and the Kiasma Foundation, will present two media installations: Eija-Liisa Ahtila's video installation *Where is Where? - Missä on missä?*, 2008; and Isaac Julien's video installation *WESTERN UNION: Small Boats*, 2007. This is the Finnish premiere of both

these large-scale installations.

#### Tom of Finland

Artist Touko Laaksonen, aka Tom of Finland (1920-1991) was born in Kaarina, a neighbouring town to Turku. The Homotopia organisation from Liverpool, UK, will bring an extensive collection of Tom of Finland's works to Turku. Along with the exhibition, there will be public lectures on gay culture and its associated visual arts.

### PERFORMANCES DURING EARLY 2011

#### 1827 - Infernal Musical

A heavy metal musical unlike anything seen before tells the story of the Great Fire of Turku. Turun Nuori Teatteri.

Premiere 20 January 2011. Other performances: 22 January, 25 January, 27 January, 28 January, 29 January 2 February, 4 February and 5 February. See page 6.

#### Hair

Almost 200 performers in the musical 'Hair' will be ordinary, middle-aged Turku residents.

The City of Turku Family and Social Services

Performances during February 2011. See page 6.

#### Easter Joy St Matthew Passion by J. S. Bach

The Finnish premiere of the Mendelssohn version of Bach's Passion will be performed by the Maaria Chamber Choir, Turku YMCA Chamber Choir Adastra, Turku Cathedral Youth Choir, Turku Cathedral Boys Choir and the Oratorio orchestra. Soloists include Esa Ruuttunen (baritone) and Heikki Rainio (tenor). 9 March 2011

#### ENERGO

The a cappella group Rajaton and the UNI band will take the audience on a cosmic journey as part of a dramatic piece composed by Ilkka Niemeläinen. The performance will combine sound, light and technology. Produced by Kim Kuusi and MusicMakers.

Premiere 18 March 2011, three performances in total.

#### The Dancing Tower

The Turku AB Dance Company's 30th anniversary work

will combine dance, physical theatre and musical aspects and bring together artists from Finland, Russia, Estonia and the United States. Sasha Pepelyaev is responsible for the concept, direction and choreography of the work. The performers will include the Apparatus Theatre from Moscow and the Engineering Theatre AKHE from St. Petersburg. The centrepiece ten-metre tower is designed by architect Pavel Pepalajev from New York.

Premiere 14 April 2011. Other performances: 16 April, 20 April, 23 April, 24 April, 26 April, 28 April and 30 April 2011.

#### Tero Saarinen Company: Borrowed Light





This dance performance, praised worldwide by audiences and critics alike, will introduce dancers and the Boston Camerata musicians. Tero Saarinen will also facilitate a workshop for professional dancers during 2-5 May 2011.

Performances 6 - 7 May 2011 at Logomo.

Logomo  
Köydenpunojan-  
katu 14, Turku

Tickets:  
[www.lippu.fi](http://www.lippu.fi)



-  Urban city events
-  Exhibitions, art, design
-  Music and sound art
-  Children and childlike
-  Theatre, dance and circus
-  Cinema and word art
-  Education and development
-  Research

Much of the Turku 2011 Programme was created through open project applications. The programme includes approximately 130 separate projects with unique content. Together, these projects will deliver thousands of individual events, performances, happenings, exhibitions, workshops, seminars, and research and development projects.

This calendar lists events and projects that the general public can participate in, or reserve tickets for, during 2010.

There will be a number of parties working together in a number of individual projects. The programme list identifies the main party responsible for the project.

TURKU  
**2011**

# Event Calendar

June - November  
2010

## JUNE-JULY

### Narrated and Experienced Turku



River Aura cultural surroundings and Women of the City: Research, memories, and events and exhibitions on these themes. The Department of Cultural History at the University of Turku. | You can submit your memories of the Myllysilta Bridge in Turku at [turku2011@turku2011.fi](mailto:turku2011@turku2011.fi).

### Iki-Aura Time Warp



Local history will come alive with media content, produced by children in movie camps during the summer of 2010. ValoAurinko - lasten ja nuorten kulttuurin tukiyhdistys ry association | **20 - 25 June 2010** Movie Camp, Kisakeskus Sports Institute, Fiskars. **30 June - 3 July 2010** Medieval Market historical movie adventure day camp, at the Medieval Market and parish facilities, Turku. Additional information tel. 050 350 2044.

### Clapperboard - My Turku



Everyone is welcome to take part in an event making short films that can be premiered after no more than two hours! This short period will include the entire movie making process: conceptualising, filming and light editing. The participants will take home personal DVD copies of their movies. Frame Graphics Oy.

First Clapperboard workshops will be held in a studio that will be built in downtown Turku 1 July - 31 August 2010 Wed - Sun at 10am and 2pm.

## AUGUST

### Accordion Wrestling



Fight. Strength. Tension. Sweat. Wrestling. Kimmo Pohjonen / Popzoo | Tampere **19 - 22 August 2010**. See page 5.

### Koroinen - the Birthplace of Turku



Koroinen is a small cape two kilometres from downtown Turku., and is the birthplace of the City of Turku. During the summer of 2011, a play will be staged bringing the grand history of the Koroinen region to life. Pilot performances start during 2010. Homestead association Halinen-Räntämäki ry.

**14 August 12pm-10pm** Koroinen village festival, LUMO Centre, Koroistentie 2.

## SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

### You're beautiful!



This environmental artwork will plant Spring bulbs to create uplifting messages in the ground. Planting sessions during September-October.

### Nordiska Röster - Nordic Voices



The Festival of Stories will see professional European storytellers present new and enthralling tales in the traditional way. The Story Harvests organised in

schools will allow children to take part. Kulttuuriosuuskunta Koti cooperative and Syd-kustens landskapsförbund rf association.

Nordic Voices 2010 - Celebrating Life! **27 September - 5 October 2010**, street theatre event "Kultainen koskelo" **1 October 2010**, Story Harvests in schools starting from October 2010.

### Turku 2011 Garden Competition



One of the selection criteria for the most beautiful gardens in Turku is the use of the tulip Tulipa Aboa Turku. Tulipa Aboa Turku planting sessions will take place during October-November. Turun Pientalojen Keskusjärjestö ry property association, Turkuseura-Åbosamfundet ry and the City of Turku.

### 876 Shades of Darkness



The 876 Shades of Darkness will spread throughout the city as city spaces, exhibitions, theatre, animation and lectures. Turku Cultural Services office.

Many Faces of Death exhibition **22 October 2010 - 20 March 2011**, WAM, Turku.

## NOVEMBER

### 876 Shades of Darkness



Night of Reading, **12 November 2010**, Main Library, Turku. See page 6.

### Taikalamppu Kindling



A joint children's culture project by eleven Taikalamppu Arts Centres and the City of Turku. PiiPoo Cultural Centre for children and the young | Art project and Taikalamppu Kindling warm-up events **20 November 2010**.

## The Turku Grand Prix Downhill Race Is On!

Anything that will roll downhill, from bathtubs, pallets and trailers to specially tuned downhill racing cars, will be welcome to join the race.

**THE TURKU GRAND PRIX** Downhill Race, which will take place in the centre of the city, will attract all types of downhill vehicles. The race has two categories: downhill vehicles built by amateurs and racing vehicles built by professionals.

The participants are being encouraged to construct their vehicles from recycled materials and to adopt a fuel-free philosophy as a fun way to promote awareness of climate change.

The event will offer ecological and action-packed fun for the whole family. During the summer of 2010, this free urban event will be presented to the public, along with lots of other activities.

The plan is to make this R-Beat production an annual event.

The first Turku Grand Prix on **15 August 2010**, Turku Art Museum hill, Aurakatu, Turku



The entire Turku 2011 Programme is available at [www.turku2011.fi](http://www.turku2011.fi)

There are plenty of activities in the Turku region. You can find current events and activities at [www.turkukalenteri.fi](http://www.turkukalenteri.fi)





## Autumn 2010 workshops, community projects and competitions

Detailed information will be made available at [www.turku2011.fi](http://www.turku2011.fi).

### Artist as Neighbour



Multidisciplinary neighbourhood artists work together with residents to create artworks that make their ordinary surroundings delightful and livelier. Turku Cultural Services.

### Song Castle



Song Castle is an international co-writing workshop that will bring together song writers, record labels and publishers from various countries. 12-14 song writers from Finland will be selected for Song Castle. Application rounds for the Song Castle workshops will be organised by Music Export Finland during the autumn of 2010.

### Eurocultured



Eurocultured is a series of events featuring workshops with children and teenagers, artist residencies and a street culture festival that will take place in May 2011. Beginning in the autumn of 2010, European artists will organise workshops for children and the young, with

workshop topics ranging from animation to music and graffiti art. Spearfish Ltd.

### Musicam Video



Musicam Video will explore new methods of performance by bringing music video makers, video artists and classical music performers together. Shared symposiums held during the spring of 2010 and early 2011 will include concerts, research, projection and discussion between artists from various art genres and with the general public. Cross-artistic Poike ry association.

### Contemporary Art Archipelago



This contemporary art exhibition which will take place during 2011 in the archipelago will be preceded in 2010 by artists working in the archipelago and multidisciplinary public events in Korppoo and Turku. The Town of Västärholm.

### Act Environmentally! - Youth by the Baltic Sea



Environmental education events and workshops will be held

in schools and youth centres across Southwest Finland during 2010-2011. Performance Sirkusyhdistys ry. association.

### Poetry Portraits



The literary group Tapiiri will create poetry portraits for residents of Turku homes for the elderly and the Saramäki, amongst others. Some of the poetry portraits will be published to the general public at a number of events. Writers' association Kirjoittajyhdistys Kapustarinta ry.

### Polyglot



NISI MASA - the network of young European cinema will hold a short film competition during the autumn of 2010. Young movie makers can participate by producing a documentary portrait or a video poem. The best contestants will be invited to attend a two-week movie workshop organised in the Turku archipelago during 3 - 15 June 2011.

### Story Rugs



Rag rugs can tell us the colourful tales of their weaver's resourcefulness, thriftiness and aesthetic eye. The project, being produced by the Crafts Association of Southwest Finland, will include rug-making training sessions, exhibitions and storytelling evenings in Arts and Crafts Centres starting in 2010.



### People of Turku

The interactive and experiential travelling exhibition will present the City of Turku and its people to the rest of Finland. This humorously mischievous exhibition will tell the story of "the Turku tribe" using an anthropologists approach, introducing the tribe's habits and culture. The exhibition will expand as the audiences from the host cities are given the opportunity to share their thoughts on Turku and the people of Turku. The videotaped testimonials will provide audiences in Turku with the chance to find out what other Finns think of them during the summer of 2011.

The People of Turku exhibition until 15 August 2010 at the Serlachius Museum Gustaf, Mänttä.

People of Turku at various locations: Week 34: Helsinki, Kiasma square | Week 36: Rovaniemi, Lordi square | Week 37: Oulu, Market Square | Week 38: Jyväskylä, pedestrian street | Week 39: Lahti, Market Square | Week 40: Tampere, Central Square, Summer 2011 Turku



Niina Airaksinen

### SOJIKU - Contemporary Dance Series

Dance for the camera, the third installation in the series exploring Japanese aesthetics, contrasts and minimalism, will present a video installation and photograph series which will be shot in Japan in the autumn of 2010. Niina Airaksinen and Cultural Youth Centre - Kulttuurinen nuorisokeskus ry association.



Tuukka Paikkari

### Clay in the City

Clay in the City will use ceramics to improve the look of some of local eyesores: an air conditioning facility, an electric distribution facility and a water treatment station. Designed by artist Pekka Paikkari, sculptor Kim Simonsson and artist Karin Widnäs. The artists will provide previews of their work on the city streets as early as 2010.



## Silja Europa The Cruise Ship of Culture 2011

In 2011 Silja Europa becomes an official Culture Cruise ship of Turku, the European Capital of Culture 2011! Enjoy the cultural experiences in Turku and discover the uniqueness of the Scandinavian archipelago with the elegant and relaxed atmosphere on board Silja Line. More about the culture program will be revealed during the autumn 2010. Follow the information on our webpages [www.tallinksilja.com/en](http://www.tallinksilja.com/en)







Do you want to be a part of the opening ceremonies? Read more on how you can participate at [www.turku2011.fi/avajaiset](http://www.turku2011.fi/avajaiset)

## Walk the Plank to headline Opening Ceremonies

**TURKU WILL OPEN** the Capital of Culture year with a three-day weekend full of festivities and will be the largest individual event of the year. Concerts and attractions for the entire family will draw audiences to the city centre, and on Sunday the festivities will continue in the city suburbs and across the region.

The Walk the Plank group from the UK, in cooperation with local artists and city volunteers, will mount an unprecedented spectacle to mark the main event of the opening ceremonies. About 2,000 Turku residents will take part in the show and the audience is expected to be in the tens of thousands.

The Walk the Plank group was selected as the main act for Saturday as the group has extensive experience in organising thrilling international outdoor performances at major cultural and sports events. The group was responsible for the opening performance at the Liverpool Capital of Culture year in 2008.

The organisers want the Turku Capital of Culture opening ceremonies to be open for all, therefore, it's imperative that they should be outdoors. The goal is to stage an event that can be seen and heard from near and

far. As if the task at hand wasn't hard enough, the winter conditions are bound to bring their share of challenges.

Fortunately, the UK-based group has plenty of experience of operating in difficult weather and has promised that the show will go on, whatever the conditions.

"In fact, cold is not that bad - humidity is the main challenge. But we've worked around that before", says **Liz Pugh**, producer for Walk the Plank.

The opening performance will be held next to the Forum Marinum Centre on either side of the River Aura and above the river as well. The show will include aerial acrobatics, music, lights, pyrotechnics and fireworks.

The theme for the performance will be Communication and will draw inspiration from the entire history of Turku, from messaging fires to today's telecommunications.

The 30-minute performance will also be broadcasted.

**14 - 16 January 2011: events in the city centre, city districts and around the region**  
**15 January 2011: main opening event, Forum Marinum**

### My Events

Highlights from the Turku 2011 programme.



Rauno Johansson

## Jonatan Johansson

Jonatan Johansson is a football professional who has recently played in Scotland, England and Sweden. Now, after 14 years, he's returned to FC TPS in Finland.

### Only a Game?

It's great to see football included in the programme. The exhibition description highlights passion, and that is exactly what this sport is about. Photographs, trophies and memorabilia will help people understand the history of European football. On top of that, the exhibition is free of charge!

### Curated Expedition to the Baltic Sea

I come from Parainen where the sea is an integral part of the town. Highlighting the Baltic Sea situation and the related art projects are a great idea. The soundscapes in Turku and the archipelago seem quite exciting. The marine view combined with underwater soundscapes will be a great experience.

### Turku - St. Petersburg - Cologne

These three traditional European cities should make truly photogenic locations. With the local young people capturing their everyday lives in these cities in pictures, it will be fascinating to see the locations they've discovered in their own home towns. I come from a small town, but I have lived and played football in London, Glasgow and Malmö, amongst others, which, like Turku, St. Petersburg and Cologne, are all successful football cities.



Robert Seger

## Krista Kosonen

Actress Krista Kosonen is well known for her many roles in movies, television and theatre performances. She will play the title role in Anna Karenina, in a new production of the hit play during the autumn in the Turku City Theatre.

### Islands' Triennial

The Finnish archipelago is one of the most beautiful places in the world. I love the Turku archipelago in particular. I believe that people living in such enchanting surroundings should create beautiful and inspiring art.

### New Baltic Drama

This event should not be missed. The Baltic Sea is in trouble, so I think it's great to see the topic being addressed in new drama. I am intrigued by these new plays, and I hope to see all of them if my schedule allows.

### Tero Saarinen Company: Borrowed Light

I have seen Hunt by Tero Saarinen, and words cannot properly express how wonderful the performance was. I strongly recommend this performance - especially for those who have never seen a dance performance before!

Also, I would not miss the Students' Theatre Festival and the Across darkness lecture series.

## Turku 2011 e-shop has now been opened!

Welcome to explore the Turku 2011 collection. Buy for yourself or give as a gift - splendid memory from year of culture 2011!

[www.turku2011shop.fi](http://www.turku2011shop.fi)



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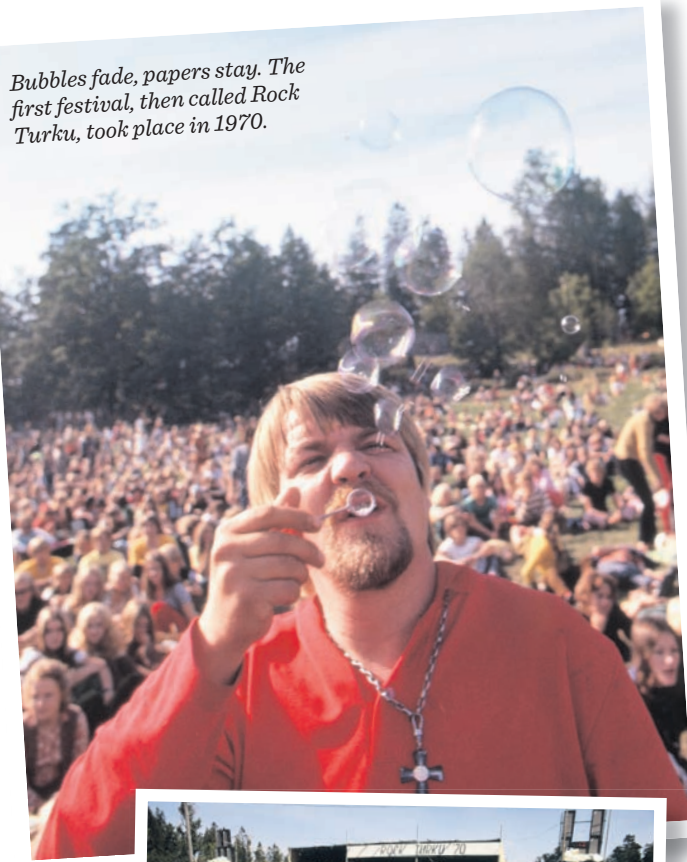


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Bubbles fade, papers stay. The first festival, then called Rock Turku, took place in 1970.



Jussi Aalto

## Ruisrock Turns 40

### Indie and Oldies at the Folkpark

**RUISROCK HAS BEEN** rocking since 1970. It is the oldest rock festival in Finland and has the second longest unbroken run of all the rock festivals in the world.

**Juhani Merimaa** may have missed the early parties, but since then the festival promoter has more than made up for the missed festivals. 9 -11 July will mark the 10th Ruisrock Festival organised by Merimaa.

"The first Ruisrock Festivals in 1970 and especially the one in 1971 were something never seen before in Finland. My friends still rave about those times and I haven't really forgiven myself for not being there. I didn't become an active Ruisrock visitor until the 80s, when attending the festival became more or less like work for me," says Merimaa.

Ruisrock has reached a significant milestone. History sets high standards, so organising an interesting line-up is becoming more and more challenging.

"This year, we have booked a

wide variety of artists, including a surprise comeback by **Don Huonot**. The line-up includes international stars as well as emerging bands making their Finnish debut. We intend Ruisrock 2010 to go on living up to the glorious history of the festival."

There is a lot of history to live up to. Building on the idealism of the 1960s, the festival has introduced up-and-coming new acts, like **The Clash** and **U2**. The Folkpark has also hosted bands that have defined their own genres, from **Nirvana** to **Bob Dylan**; from **The Beastie Boys** to **Björk**; and from **David Bowie** to **Metallica**.

Naturally, the line-up has included top Finnish names, starting with **Wigwam**, that played the very first festival, to **Tasavallan Presidentti**, **Rauli Badding Somerjoki** and **Kalevala**.

Sideshowes include street theatre, world music, skating, reggae, hip hop and the alternative Typpihappo Party.

The anniversary festival will present acts that will really bring on the memories. Ska group, **The Specials** and blues rock outfit, **Canned Heat**, are returning to Ruisrock.

An attention-grabbing line-up guarantees the festival's success and will bring even more people to Turku. For many, Ruisrock is their first contact with the city.

The setting is the trump card for Ruisrock. Few festivals take place in such an idyllic marine setting.

Merimaa agrees. "In my opinion, Ruisrock is the best festival venue in Finland and is up there with the best of the international locations."

Matti Komulainen

Ruisrock 9-11.7.2010

[www.ruisrock.fi](http://www.ruisrock.fi)

Ruisrock 1970-2010 exhibition

15 June - 30 September 2010

Sibelius Museum

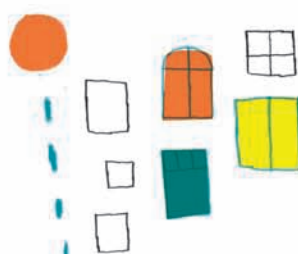
Piispankatu 17, Turku

[www.sibeliusmuseum.abo.fi](http://www.sibeliusmuseum.abo.fi)

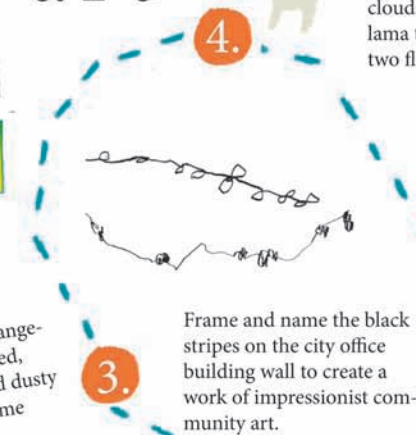
### SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 1:

## Discover the art

Cut out the picture frame along the dotted line and start to view the world around you as a work of art. Arrange the city stories, sights and details inside the frames one by one. Photograph the art you discover through the frames and send the images to [taidetta@turku365.fi](mailto:taidetta@turku365.fi)



1. Discover a massive arrangement of square, rounded, small, large, lattice and dusty windows, all in the same street corner.



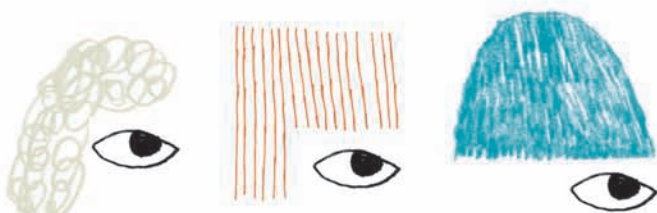
3. Frame and name the black stripes on the city office building wall to create a work of impressionist community art.

4.

Read poetry written on the sky with clouds and learn a moral story of a lama that could not choose between two fluffy pillows.

2.

Find and collect a set of ten different strands of hair from the crowd.



5. Find an ancient tree that is celebrating its anniversary by wearing a bow tie for each decade.

Ps.

**Turku<sup>365</sup>** is an urban art project that runs for the entire year 2011. With 140 individual works of art, Turku 365 extends from trains to parks, from bridges to secret locations in the city and from supermarket queues to public toilets. As Albert Einstein put it: There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle.



**Column**

Topi Lehtipuu is an internationally acclaimed tenor and the artistic director for the Turku Music Festival.

**I'm All Ears**

I sense the world with my ears. I'm approaching Turku like a bat approaches its prey; I shriek and listen to what the echo reveals. What is the sound of Turku?

Turku Cathedral is divinely wide, the echo goes on forever. The space resonates with intimacy and infinity; the details of the music become blurred as if to remind one of the long arcs of life.

The vast majority of church music is composed for spaces such as this. Fascinated by the arches, inspired by the holiness, one of

*"It's as if a classical nymph might jump out of the bushes at any second and sing captivating songs with a distinctive Turku accent."*

the few continuous inspirations for a musician. The only medieval basilica in Finland creates an umbilical cord with the Central European cultural tradition; this space resonates with the sounds of Turku and with Western culture. Which one feeds the other?

When you walk inside the walls of the Kakola prison, you almost expect to come across a brawl or even a riot around the next corner; something within me wants to break free.

The acoustics of the Philadelphia Hall make me both shudder and think. What is the prisoner's song? The dreams and defiance of the lyrics reach a crescendo because they cannot escape the prison walls: "...the soul spread its wings and flew over the quiet land, as if returning home" (Schumann/Eichendorff: Mondnacht). The Kakola prison resonates with longing and difficult resolutions.

A walk along the River Aura, between the Cathedral and the

Aura Bridges on a warm August evening; now that would make a prisoner sing.

The library yard by night, the Small Market, the amusingly low and sturdy Pinella Dorian pillars, the homely CaféArt and any of the benches by the river - they all offer an invitation to make music in the darkness of the magical night. It's as if a classical nymph might jump out of the bushes at any second and sing captivating songs with a distinctive Turku accent.

From across the river, a response might be heard from a haunting saxophone - a satyr, naturally - the sounds loud and clear. The river becomes a messenger, a boundary that yearns to be crossed, from Åbo to Turku, from the University to the market, from the stage to the audience, from the bank to the school, and vice versa. That's the sound of Turku.

*Topi Lehtipuu*

## Luostarinmäki Anniversary Celebrations Present Historical Handicrafts

**IN SEPTEMBER 1827**, a great fire unlike anything before, burned Turku to the ground. Almost the entire city was lost in flames. The Luostarinmäki wooden house district that mainly housed handicrafts workers was spared.

Even today, the 200-year-old houses stand on their original locations in Luostarinmäki. June 2010 will witness the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Luostarinmäki Handicrafts Museum, an outdoor museum built in the unique Luostarinmäki area.

Handicraft workers and their skills will be the focus and the celebrations will continue throughout the year. According to researcher **Leena Vuorio**, the coming summer will provide a great opportunity to get to know different handicraft professions and techniques.

"A printer, a potter, a carpenter and a cloth maker will be available throughout the summer. A traditional renovator will work on the houses and visitors will be able to see activities like splash painting."

On Thursdays, visitors will have the chance to try out

different techniques and materials themselves. The techniques will include carding wool, carving bark boats and fork crocheting. Music will play an important role with traditional and contemporary folk music and folk dancing performances on Sundays.

Leena Vuorio emphasises the wide variety of the Luostarinmäki offering.

"When you peek into tiny huts and see craftsmen busy at work, you'll feel like you're taking a step back in time. The museum offers something for each of your senses. You can listen to the sound of the hand looms or bark horns, taste sweet strawberry bonbons and take in the wonderful fragrance of summer flowers.

*Taina Pietikäinen*

**Luostarinmäki Handicrafts Museum, Vartiovuorenkatu 2, Turku. 4.5.-5.9. and 18.9.-19.9. Tue-Sun 10am to 6pm. www.turunmuseokeskus.fi**

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\*TNS Atlas 2009 (gross readership more than 1.7 million)

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**Kaikkialle ulottuvassa kiireessä on hyvä huomata, miten taide kestää aikaa, kulutusta ja tulkintoja."**

**Riitta Monto, päätoimittaja**



Turun Sanomat on Turku 2011 Euroopan kulttuuripääkaupungin virallinen yhteistyöyhtymä

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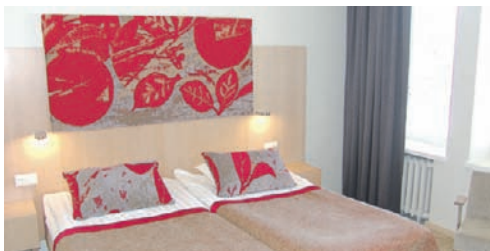
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**ELINA AALTO**  
(b. 1976)

- interior designer
- founded Imu Design in 2002
- awarded 2007 Environmental Art Design award
- awarded the 2009 Bryggman grant
- designs in Turku include the Ruisrock Festival VIP pavilion

Raija Kerttula-Rantanen

*"The selection in the project shop changes from time to time, so Turku residents should check back regularly" says Elina Aalto.*

## The Corner Shop Will Set the Scene for 2011

**A WEALTH OF** Capital of Culture information is right around the Corner. Turku 2011 is making all manner of information on the Capital of Culture year available for Turku residents, tourists and visitors, at the impressive art nouveau building with arched windows, right in Turku city centre.

As you enter, let your eyes wander past the information desk and chocolate counter to the Design Shop that presents the best that Turku, Finnish and international contemporary design have to offer.

Designer **Elina Aalto** is behind the Design Shop concept. Aalto's previous works include the internationally known black-out roller blinds portraying city silhouettes. Working with Turku 2011, Aalto has identified and selected companies and designers to showcase their products at the Design Shop.

"Through my own Imu Design, I have curated collections for several years and I know a lot of designers. As a designer myself, I have a really good feel for the collections that people are interested in."

The three-month sales periods are carefully themed and Aalto is excited about the concept, new to Turku, of changing collections in the shop.

Currently, the store catalogue includes products based on intelligent innovation, recycling and ecology. The theme includes designs by Globe Hope, MUM's, Mifuko and the Turku-based Kiertäkö Design cooperative.

In July, the shop will be taken over by Turku Design

Now and the remainder of the year is reserved for children's themes.

**THE RIVER AURA**, heart of Turku, flows right outside 2011 Corner. It is almost as if the sturdy building was built in 1901 to safe guard the river and the Sappalinnahill that lies across it. This building, the nearby Market Hall, the former Bank of Finland office and the entire section of stone buildings are a part of Turku's architectural history.

The 2011 Corner is for seeing friends, having short meetings or just taking a break. It is also possible to meet the Capital of Culture performers at the Corner, as the project participants will be using 2011 Corner to meet up and obtain information and guidance for their productions.

An essential part of the Corner concept is Cafe 2011 by restaurant Hermanni and Konvehteria Oy. Visit Cafe 2011 to enjoy lunch or very individual confectionery delights.

The cafe features classic furniture by **Alvar Aalto**, such as coffee tables and chairs. Aalto's presence inspired the overall interior design by Artek.

When the weather permits, the cafe will extend onto the street, creating a lovely international atmosphere.

Raija Kerttula-Rantanen

**2011 Corner**  
Kristiinankatu 1, Turku

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*Marja Tyrni, the beloved home baker and the Finnish Sketch Character of the Year, will present Turku attractions in her own personal and hysterical manner as part of the Turku Touring summer campaign at [www.lomaturussa.fi](http://www.lomaturussa.fi)*



# First Class Tourist Information Services

**TURKU TOURING SERVICE** Points will be distributing information guides throughout the year as well as general tourist information for the entire Southwest Finland region. Visitors, especially those from outside Finland, should be pleasantly surprised to find that it's all entirely free-of-charge.

The Information Service Points are not limiting themselves to just providing brochures: visitors will enjoy a full range of tourist services. Ruisrock Festival accommodation packages are currently the most popular items at the Turku Touring online store, and other popular favourites will be sold over the counter including bicycle and cabin rentals, tours, and other commercial services.

The high season for customer service begins in late spring and will reach its peak during July and August. At peak times, travel advisors will be working non-stop to provide visitors with information services in a dozen different languages.

Surprisingly the clients even include local Turku residents.

"We are something like the information desk for the entire city," says Travel Advisor **Jeni Valtakoski**.

The locals are interested in theatre, events and concerts as well as in opportunities for trekking and other forms of exercises. People also look up information for out of town friends and relatives.

"Cycling maps are among the most popular items."

According to Valtakoski, the archipelago has become more popular with the new road network in the area, and attracts visitors from home and abroad.

One of the most popular attractions for this summer will surely be a tour of the former Kakola prison. The travel advisors think that another hit for this summer will be the Shipyard Cruise. The cruise will take tourists along the River Aura where they will hear about the Finnish ship building industry, admire the amazing scenery and see the huge 'Allure of the Seas' cruise ship currently being built.

The Turku Touring concept aims to provide clients with everything they need, regardless of whether they are

festival guests, shopping enthusiasts or congress organisers. The Turku Touring congress services have significantly increased the number of conferences organized in Turku, a development that is further accelerated by the Capital of Culture status.

Turku Touring is well prepared to provide a VIP service for Capital of Culture visitors – a five star service, to be precise, with this prestigious customer service award gained in 2008 from Suomen ry, the association for Finnish Travel Organizations.

Raija Kerttula-Rantanen



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