



Helsinki City Lab Private City

When we think of a city, we immediately imagine public spaces: streets, squares, museums and shopping malls. However, as much as it is a public space, for its residents the city is an accumulation of private spaces. This hidden vast network opens up only when you gain trust of the city residents. In this Lab, we will meet and spend time with Helsinki residents in their private spaces.

For many of us in the art field, at some point a conflict emerges between private and public, or professional, lives. How do we balance the families and careers? How do we define ourselves outside of the professional realm? Do we have a right for private life? How do we define and deal with private in art and in politics? We asked Helsinki hosts to share their views and strategies on this subject.

In the evenings, we will dive into the old fashioned and slow Helsinki, with its saunas, nostalgic karaoke bars and legendary dancing halls.

Practical requirements:

For the dancing hall, you might consider bringing a proper polka dot dress and your best pair of dancing shoes:))

For the sauna, bring your swimming suit

We will spend some time outside, and Finnish summer being unpredictable, please take some windproof / waterproof clothes.

Schedule:

TUE June 4

Arrival day

WED June 5

10.00 - Gathering at the hotel lobby, Production Assistant Tero will meet you there

Remember to bring your bathing suit, we will not be returning to the hotel before the sauna!

A coffee at Eva Neklyaeva's home, introduction to Helsinki Lab

Address: Haarniskatie 9 B 18

One of the Global City Local City project organisers, Eva Neklyaeva (born 1980, Minsk, Belarus) invites the group into her home. She's been for long ashamed that she never got to decorate it, so you will be the first guests in years. Eva will tell her story and introduce the theme of Helsinki Lab.

12.30-13.30 Lunch at the local boat club

14.00-17.00 A walk in Töölö neighbourhood with Jukka "Hyde" Hytti

Hyde (born 1961) is a theatre producer and director, now working as Executive Producer of International Projects at the Tinfo, Finnish Theatre Info Finland. He is one of the founders of Baltic Circle and author of the only manual on theatre production published in Finland. Hyde is a former social youth worker and he plays in one of the few Finnish cricket teams.

17:00–19:30 An afternoon with Maija Hirvanen's family

Address: Maurinkatu 14 a 6

One of the Global City Local City artists, Maija Hirvanen invites the group to her own home, to meet her husband, media artist and activist Juha Huuskonen and daughter Aava. We will also witness the renovation of the water pipes in their apartment.

20:30-24:00 Sauna and dinner

Poliisien kesäkoti (Police summer cottage)

Address Kyyluodontie, Lauttasaari

THU June 6

9:30 Gathering at the hotel lobby, leave for Apple Tree House

10-12.30 A morning with Joonas Pekkanen at the Apple Tree House
Address: Lapinlahdentie 1

Joonas Pekkanen, 35 years, is involved in a number of community based initiatives that emanate from the new culture of doing, sharing and being open. Pekkanen is the founder and chairman of Open Ministry, on the board of a community farming cooperative, founder of a crowd-funding effort to resurrect an old movie theater, on the board of Open Knowledge Finland association, in the committee for the Finnish Open Government Partnership, in the core group of the local time-banking collective and a member of the Mustarinda association. Pekkanen is originally studied finance and law. Pekkanen was a start-up entrepreneur for 10 years prior to finding his mission in developing new ways of interaction facilitated by new technologies.

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch at Omenapuutalo

14.00 - 17.00 A walk with Rakel Liekki
Ekokolo, Address: Toinen linja 31

Rakel Liekki (b.1979) is a visual artist and a journalist.

Liekki believes that the most important task for an artist is to interact within the society. She is not afraid of being political or ashamed of being naive, therefore her work often views the world through either black and white or ridiculously pink glasses. Never inclined to play it safe and neutral and fearlessly standing her ground has earned Rakel both a following of die-hard fans as well as her fair share death threats.

Rakel often plays with the boundaries of art and popular culture as well as the boundaries between artist and art. She has for example explored and experienced pornography, both through study and working within the industry. Her study of objectification of the artist in a piece of art has consequently instated her place as the most famous porn star in Finland. Liekki has collaborated with Mikko Hynninen and Antti Hietala in processing her partly imaginary character in Fantasy #1 for a porn star performance, which was played in Theatre.Now festival in Kiasma 2006.

18.00-20.00 Dinner

Sandron kulma, Kolmas linja 17

20.00-23.00 A walk with Jussi Lähde

Jussi Lähde is editor-in-chief, author, playwright and an active part taker in societal discussions.

Lähde has worked as a spokesman for president Martti Ahtisaari, as a development director for major tv-channel and as creative director on Nordisk Film&TV.

Lähde has published 11 books, most of them covering the relations between politics, language, power and human factors.

Lähde is also the lead singer in a rockband "The Working County"

FRI June 7

9:15 Gathering at the hotel lobby and leave for Vartiosaari ferry

10.00 Departure by boat from Hakaniemi harbour to Vartiosaari

A day with Tellervo Kalleinen and Oliver Kochta

We will meet Tellervo and Oliver in their house in Vartiosaari island, eat soup and have a walk.

Tellervo Kalleinen (*1975) is a Helsinki based visual artist working with film, performance and events. She has also completed a professional education in Chinese Medicine (1996-2001). Oliver Kochta-Kalleinen (1971) has a degree from the Hochschule für Bildende Kunst, Hamburg, 2001 and he was as well studying in Finnish Academy of Fine Arts 1998-99.

Their long term collaboration started in 2003 when they organized the First Summit of Micronations in Helsinki in the role of the curators of Amorph!03-performance festival. Since that they have made many participatory cinematic and performative projects portraying people's stories, fantasies and dreams.

They are member of the groups YKON (since 2005), which investigates contemporary utopias using reality games as a tool and The Speech Karaoke Action Group (since 2010), which is a project of 13 artists creating karaoke workshops and events around existing speeches.

ca. 15–18 Free time

18:00 Gathering at the hotel lobby and leave for Helsinki Pavi Dancehall

19.00 Dancehall Helsinki pavi

Address Honkanummentie 6, Vantaa (outside of Helsinki)

Regional bus 731 from Railway station / Sörnäinen.

Put on your dancing shoes on and wear a sweet dress!

SAT June 8

10:30 Gathering at the hotel lobby (Producer Hanna will meet you there) and leave for Pihlajasaari

11:30 Pihlajasaari ferry from Merisatama

12-3pm Workshop with 10 x 10 in Pihlajasaari

One year ago an Estonian immigrant builder in Finland (whose name remains unknown to public) jumped from the ferry overboard into freezing sea. The rescue squad with boats and helicopters tried to find him but without result. Everybody thought he was dead. But actually he managed to swim on Pihlajasaare island which was just 100 meters away from the ship. There he broke into an empty summer house to find shelter. The whole island was seasonally empty. In the house he spent 3 weeks surviving only on potato chips, cookies and drinking melted snow. During this workshop we will be working as folklorists looking for any information, stories, rumors etc about this event.

3-6pm Wrap-up discussion and late lunch in Pihlajasaari
Restaurant Pihlajasaari

18:15 Ferry from Pihlajasaari

21:00 Gathering at hotel lobby and leave for Populus karaoke bar
(it's a 10 min walk from the hotel)

Evening: karaoke, Populus
Address Aleksis Kiven katu 22
(About 10-15 minutes from the hotel on foot)

SUN June 9

Departure day

10:00 Gathering at the hotel and leave for the harbour

11:30 Viking Line ferry to Tallinn from Katajanokka harbour

Lunch at the ferry, Bistro Buffet

14:00 Arrival in Tallinn