

**Media release – embargoed until 1 pm EET on 24 February 2022**

## **The XXVI Mänttä Art Festival features a diverse selection of artists from a broad cultural field, including many prominent musicians and writers.**

The list of artists represented at the Mänttä Art Festival in summer 2022 includes not only leading names in the visual arts, but also an exceptional number of contributors whose creative focus lies elsewhere. These musicians, writers, and composers have been selected by curator **Markus Kåhre**, who did not wish to limit the exhibition in terms of a theme. There will be 25 artists or groups of artists – a total of 38 individual artists – contributing to the Mänttä Art Festival.

“The theme of the exhibition is showcasing excellent works of art that communicate with each other. Without a binding theme, the audience can experience the exhibition in more individual ways and make up their own stories”, Kåhre believes.

“I have collaborated with creators of various forms of art myself, and that is why I have invited not only brilliant visual artists, but also leading Finnish musicians, such as classical musicians **Emil Holmström**, **Eriikka Maalismaa**, and **Petri Kumela**, and jazz musicians **Mikko Innanen** and **Antti Lötjönen**, to contribute to the exhibition”, Kåhre says. **Kati Raitinen**, cello soloist at the Royal Swedish Opera in Stockholm, will create a sound installation in collaboration with **Christian Lindblad**, while contributors from literary and theatrical circles will include leading names such as **Laura Ruohonen**.

According to Kåhre, a key criterion in the selection of artists was that they should be prepared to step out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves. The musicians have accepted the challenge whole-heartedly, excited to think up experimental ideas for the exhibition. Composer **Antti Auvinen** will showcase a video piece at the Art Festival, while many others are interested in the architecture of the Pekilo Exhibition Centre and will exhibit pieces that include sound in one way or another.

The list of visual artists, too, consists of countless names known for their excellent work, from **Elina Brotherus** and **Kalle Nio** to **Vesa-Pekka Rannikko**, **Lauri Astala**, and **Jussi Niva**.

The senior exhibitor this summer will be Mänttä Art Festival veteran **Radoslaw Gryta**, whose works were last seen at the festival in 2013. His contribution, as well as that of **Vesa-Pekka Rannikko**, consists of two parts, one located in the Pekilo Exhibition Centre and the other in Mänttä Church. The piece by Post Theatre Collective, with **David Kozma** as its artistic director, deals with Mänttä’s history as a wood industry town producing sanitary paper. The five women who make up the group *Artemisia Vulgaris* will let loose their diverse skills in the performing arts on Taavetinsaari, in the vicinity of the Serlachius Museum Gösta. Sculptor **Emma Helle**’s works will also be exhibited there.

“I hope that each visitor will be personally touched by the exhibition in one way or another, and that they will be left hungry for more artistic experiences”, Markus Kåhre says.

The Mänttä Art Festival is the largest modern art event in Finland, and its merits have been recognised by the Ministry of Education and Culture in the form of the Finland Award (Suomi-palkinto). The XXVI Mänttä Art Festival will be open daily from 12 June to 31 August 2022.

### **The list of XXVI Mänttä Art Festival Artists**

- Henna Aho
- Artemisia Vulgaris (Niina Lehtonen Braun, Mi Duncker, Anne Hiekkaranta, Mimosa Pale & Ilona Valkonen)
- Lauri Astala
- Antti Auvinen
- Elina Brotherus
- Radoslaw Gryta
- Emma Helle
- Emil Holmström
- Siiri Hänninen & Tara Valkonen
- Mikko Innanen
- Lasse Juuti
- Petri Kumela & Antti Lötjönen
- Eriikka Maalismaa
- Kalle Nio
- Nio Rautiainen Toikka (Leena Nio, Taneli Rautiainen & Jenni Toikka)
- Jussi Niva
- Eeva Park
- Post Theatre Collective (David Kozma, Saku Kämäräinen, Pietu Pietiäinen & Bitu Razavi)
- Kati Raitinen & Christian Lindblad
- Vesa-Pekka Rannikko
- Pasi Rauhala & Lauri Wuolio
- Laura Ruohonen
- Päivi Takala
- Pauliina Turakka Purhonen
- Man Yau

## Further information

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